

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

January 14th, 2024

1:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Ben Hurwitz and Commissioner Rod Brewer were present for the meeting.

Minutes:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Brewer moved to approve the minutes from January 7th, 2025. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Public Hearing – Budget Amendment – Dayna Ogle

Chief Financial Officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 1:10 p.m.

This was the second public hearing on the budget amendment, which includes the acquisition cost of the leased John Deere Motor Grader and proceeds from the loan agreement.

Ogle provided a 2nd quarter budget review for fiscal year 24.25.

ACTION #2

Resolution FY 24.25 #54

Resolution 2024 - #54

Budget Amendment

WHEREAS, the 2023.2024 budget has been set and,

WHEREAS, the Road Fund (2110) purchased two CAT Motor Graders and,

WHEREAS, the Road Fund (2110) budgeted for the principal payments for the purchases in the original budget and,

WHEREAS, the Road Fund (2110) had unexpected expenses associated with the entry to post the acquisition of a capital asset in the accounting software in the amount of \$488,000 and,

WHEREAS, the Road Fund (2110) had unexpected revenue associated with the entry to post loan proceeds in the amount of \$488,000.


NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN AND HEREBY RESOLVED that the Meagher County Board of Commissioners are amending the budget in the Road Fund (2110) for the unexpected revenue and expense associated with the entry in the accounting software to post the acquisition of capital asset and loan proceeds in the amount of \$488,000 (four hundred eighty eight thousand dollars and no cents) effective June 30, 2024.

Dated this 7th day of January 2025

Prepared by:

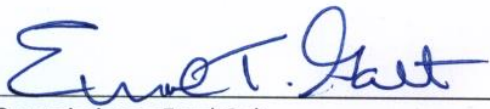
Board of County Commissioners:



Dayna Dagle
Chief Financial Officer


Chairman Ben Hurwitz

Attest:


Liv A. West
Clerk & Recorder


Commissioner Errol Galt


Commissioner Rod Brewer

Monthly County Attorney – Burt Hurwitz

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz and Crime Victim Advocate Laura Taylor entered the chambers at 2:15 p.m.

Hurwitz elaborated on the recent Supreme Court decision in the case of Trout Unlimited vs. DNRC and Tintina Montana Inc. The Supreme Court upheld the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's (DNRC) interpretation of the Montana Water Use Act (MWUA). This ruling affirmed that the DNRC's classification of mine dewatering as neither a beneficial use nor waste water and was consistent with legislative intent and did not violate the Montana Constitution.

Attorney Hurwitz informed the Commissioners that the new District Court Judge, Adam Larson, was sworn in on January 3rd. Hurwitz mentioned that the handling of cases will change moving

forward. Judge Larson will have designated dates each month to be in Meagher County for case reviews and trials.

Hurwitz reported that one of his domestic violence cases has been settled, while another has been removed from the calendar due to a motion to dismiss being filed.

Taylor presented the commissioners with a report detailing the number of victims she has assisted in Meagher County. She explained that her initial goal, when applying for the grant, was to serve 20 victims by June 2026. However, in the previous quarter alone, she has served 55 victims.

Health Nurse Report – Eva Kerr:

County Health Nurse Eva Kerr entered the chambers at 3:04 p.m.

Kerr notified the Commissioners that United Health Care will not reimburse the County Health Department for vaccines previously purchased. However, Kerr mentioned that the County Health Department is now registered with United Health Care, ensuring that future vaccine purchases will be reimbursed.

Kerr reported receiving new guidance from the Area IV Agency on Aging, indicating that, according to the Older Americans Act (OAA), a federal statute enacted in 1965, services shall be available to all older adults regardless of their ability to pay. Therefore, the County Health Department cannot charge for services provided by the Homemaker and Respite Care programs. Kerr stated hours will need to be limited to ensure her staff stays within its grant budget.

Kerr stated the White Sulphur Springs school and the Montana Hospital Association has requested her to teach CPR and Stop the Bleed courses to the older students. CPR will be taught by Eva Kerr and Laura Taylor and Stop the Bleed will be taught by Deputy Cody Wilson.

Board of Health:

County Health Nurse Eva Kerr, Sandy Harris, County Attorney Burt Hurwitz entered the chambers at 3:30 p.m. County Sanitarian Sean Hill attended via Zoom.

Kerr presented the Commissioners with a quarterly report and also an end of the year report. From October through December the County has seen ten (10) patients with Influenza A, one (1) Influenza B, one (1) Influenza hospitalization and four (4) patients with Covid-19. Total cases for the 2023 – 2024 season were thirty-eight (38) Covid 19, twenty-nine (29) Influenza A, with two (2) hospitalizations, three (3) Influenza B with two (2) hospitalizations; twelve (12) Animal bites with one (1) post exposure recommendation, two (2) Campylobacteriosis; one (1) Shiga Toxin- producing E. Coli; one (1) Giardiasis; one (1) varicella; and one (1) Salmonella. This report highlights some of the challenges faced by Meagher County over the past year.

Sanitarian Sean Hill expressed his intention to move on from Meagher County due to time constraints, which prevent him from dedicating the necessary time to Sanitarian services that Meagher County deserves. He has provided County Health Nurse Eva Kerr and County Attorney Burt Hurwitz with the contact information of a Sanitarian from Bozeman, whom Hill has trained and who is interested in the position.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check # 62234 through Check# 62258 totaling \$16,624.87. and electronic check# -99720 through electronic check# -99714 totaling \$1,037.25. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, January 21st, 2024.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Clerk to the Commission Jennifer Deems
Distributed January 21st, 2024 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder Liv West.