

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

November 7th, 2023

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chair Rod Brewer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Rod Brewer, Vice-chair Ben Hurwitz and Commissioner Errol Galt were present for the meeting.

Claims Review / Minutes Review:

ACTION #1

Chair Brewer moved to approve the Minutes from October 17th, 2023. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and minutes were approved.

Non-Agenda Item - Building Update – Bill Dutton / Rosie Spaulding

Rosie Spaulding and Bill Dutton Entered the chambers at 8:39 a.m.

Spaulding presented the Commissioners with two quotes from Frontline Glass to replace the front doors on the Courthouse. Spaulding stated she is currently in the process of contacting Frontline Glass to ascertain the price difference between the two quotes.

Additionally, Spaulding acquired a quote from True Door Company. However, this quote does not include the glass above the door, any necessary components or installation.

Spaulding contacted Todd Young, TY Construction. He provided an estimate for the installation, assuming that all measurements and preparations are in place.

Spaulding will compile all the information and present it to the Commission on November 14th.

Dutton reported that the back door lock continues to be a problem, keys are getting stuck in the lock. Although it has been temporarily fixed, Dutton recommended considering a replacement for the door next year.

Spaulding stated the boiler inspection went well and all boilers are in good condition and properly set up.

Road / Fire Report – Jake Kusek

Jake Kusek entered the chambers at 8:40 p.m. and Bryan Holtz entered the chambers at 8:45 a.m.

Kusek stated he was contacted by Sean Ringer, Montana Department of Transportation, regarding renting some space in the Meagher County Shop to put their plows in when the weather turns cold until the state shop is finished.

Holtz discussed the grader replacement. Holtz recommended the John Deere premium Circle, a slightly bigger machine. The Premium Circle allows for more Torque and speed, improved performance and accuracy with reduced wear and less maintenance. Larger tires allow for more

traction. Holtz also stated, instead of the joystick he would prefer the old style “antler rack”. Kusek stated he thought the John Deere graders worked perfect for road maintenance.

Kusek stated he needs to speak with County Attorney Burt Hurwitz to discuss the Volseth Gravel Pit and see where we are in the permitting process. There are several county roads that need gravel, including the Smith River Road and Cottonwood Creek Road.

Kusek informed the Commissioners that there are about 10 culverts in Meagher County that need to be replaced. They are decaying and starting to crumble. Commissioner Galt inquired about the cost. Kusek stated that he will need to get prices on the size of culverts that need to be replaced.

Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp

Sheriff Lopp entered the chambers at 9:27 a.m.

Lopp stated that he has had Search and Rescue calls since opening day of hunting season.

However there have been no long searches. Lopp stated that on opening weekend of hunting season, Game Warden Tanner Mitchell wrote 14 tickets.

Lopp stated at the Sheriff’s sale, half of the vehicles impounded were sold and the Sheriff’s Office will be working on disposing of the remaining vehicles. Lopp stated that only 4-5 people showed up to the sale but did have a couple people call after the sale.

Open Sealed Bid – 216 Ford Interceptor

No bids were received for the 2016 Ford Interceptor. Commissioners requested that Commission Clerk Jennifer Deems place the 2016 Ford Interceptor for sale online on Craigslist and Facebook.

Open Sealed Bids – 1989 GMC Cab and Chassis

Finance officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Ogle presented the Commission with one bid from Bryan Holtz for \$501.00

ACTION #2

Resolution FY 23.24 #46

Commissioner Brewer moved to accept the bid for \$501.00 from Bryan Holtz on the 1989 GMC cab and Chassis. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The bid was accepted.

Open Sealed Bid – 1990 Military Trailer #2722

No bids were received for the 1990 Military Trailer #2722

Ogle presented the Commissioner with an offer from Paul Walker to purchase a trailer for \$505.00

ACTION #3

Resolution FY23.24 #47

Commissioner Galt moved to accept the offer of \$505.00 from Paul Walker for the 1990 Military Trailer #2722. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The offer was accepted.

Open Sealed Bid – 1990 Military Trailer #2723

No bids were received for the 1990 Military Trailer #2723

Ogle presented the Commission with an offer from Ken Ogle to purchase a trailer for \$505.00

ACTION #4

Resolution FY23.24 #48

Commissioner Galt moved to accept the offer of \$505.00 from Ken Ogle for the 1990 Military trailer #2723. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The offer was accepted.

Montana Business Assistance Council (MBAC) – Eric Seidensticker

Erin Seidensticker and Katherine Anderson entered the chambers at 10:50 a.m.

Seidensticker started by introducing himself and Katherine Anderson and explained that MBAC is currently recertifying with Broadwater and Lewis and Clark Counties as the lead economic development organization. The State of Montana is encouraging MBAC to get a new resolution due to the name change from Gateway Development to Montana Business Assistance Council. Seidensticker stated they will continue to focus on helping the businesses in Meagher County with a variety of needs. MBAC is requesting Commissioner's support to continue helping businesses throughout Meagher County with no cost to residents. Seidensticker stated MBAC is requesting a new resolution to solidify their relationship with Meagher County. Hurwitz explained that the Commissioners would like to get periodic reports from MBAC to verify their work in the community.

ACTION #5

Commissioner Galt moved to approve the resolution to support the Montana Business Assistance Council. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

RESOLUTION FY 23.24 #49
A RESOLUTION FOR MEAGHER COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE MONTANA BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CONNECTION.

WHEREAS, Meagher County supports Montana Business Assistance Connection, Inc. ("MBAC") being one of the Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) within the state of Montana, serving Meagher County

WHEREAS, as a CRDC, MBAC will focus on its renewed 5-year regional comprehensive economic development strategy. MBAC will continue to offer concept development, business plan and application assistance, market analysis, expansion and relocation services, and basic financial concepts services to our region; and

WHEREAS, MBAC offers to its region, loan funds from local, state, and federal government revolving loan funds; and

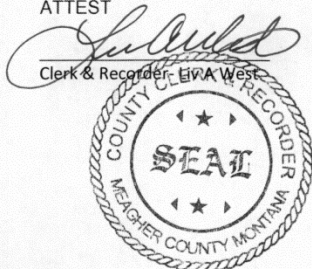
WHEREAS, MBAC's economic development strategy will continue to focus on preserving and creating jobs through:

- Retention and expansion by assisting regional businesses with problems, issues, and opportunities by providing high quality business planning, counseling, education, and information with a focus on improving and implementing analytical skills, improving competitiveness, and increasing profitability; and offer or link regional business owners with appropriate resources and new markets,
- Access to capital by working with regional banks to provide capital to qualifying micro, small, and other promising businesses in the,
- Attracting and promoting regional businesses, markets, and the quality of life inside and outside the state by providing high quality, tailored and timely responses and follow-up to requests for economic and market information, increasing national and global awareness of regional economic opportunities and assets via the Internet and Industry Trade Shows,
- Advocating for business climate changes using research-based information at the state and local level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Meagher County hereby supports Montana Business Assistance Connection, as the lead economic development organization for Meagher County, as a Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) within the State of Montana.

Dated this 7th day of November, 2023

ATTEST



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chairman – Rod Brewer

Commissioner – Ben Hurwitz

Commissioner – Errol Galt

Public Comment / Claims Approval:

Sheri Roth and Dave Allderdice entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Roth stated she came to discuss the Tax Appeal Process. Roth filed her AB26 on time and requested to be present when the property was reassessed. Roth recently received a notice from the Department of Revenue stating they will not be reassessing their property and that the field agent's comment on the letter stated "After a field review of the property and talking with the property owner and a review of recent land sales he will not be adjusting it." Roth stated, they were never contacted for the reassessment and when they received their tax bill the taxable value was double what they purchased the property for in April of this year. The increase to their property taxes was paid in protest. Roth asked the commission what can be done to get a proper assessment. County Attorney Hurwitz presented a post card sent out by the DOR stating they would not get everyone's appeal completed before property taxes are due at the end of

November and that people should pay their taxes in protest. Hurwitz stated the Treasurer’s office was not notified of the mailing from the DOR.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check# 60825 through Check# 60865 totaling \$68,110.30. All Checks were signed as presented.

On October 29th, 2023 Commissioner Brewer signed payroll check#13977 through check#13986 and check #13995 through check #14010. Totaling 48,362.86 and electronic Check#-85505 through Check# -85556 Totaling \$151,683.57. All checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, November 14th, 2023

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken and formatted by Clerk to the Commission Jennifer Deems.
Distributed November 14th, 2023 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder Liv West.