

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS**

**MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA**

**Tuesday**

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

**Meeting Called to Order:**

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

**Commissioners Present:**

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

**Claims Review / Minutes Review:**

**ACTION #1**

Commissioner Galt moved to approve the minutes from November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

**Mountainview Medical Center – Rob Brandt**

Mountainview Medical Center CEO, Rob Brandt entered the chambers at 8:53 a.m.

Brandt provided the Commissioners with an update on the new Mountainview Medical Center facility. Brandt announced that the USDA approved all contracts on November 12, 2024. The funding for the new facility comes from the USDA, Benefis Health Care, and a construction loan from Brevara Bank.

Brandt also mentioned that the Hospital Board is awaiting a priority agreement, which will determine the order of repayment among creditors in the event of a default.

Additionally, Brandt stated the Hospital Board has requested to resume collecting the 8 permanently voted hospital mills in the Fall of 2025. The Board understands that with the collection of these mills, a Hospital District Board will be established to oversee the distribution of the funds.

**Monthly Report County Health Nurse – Eva Kerr**

County Health Nurse, Eva Kerr entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Kerr purchased a new refrigerator and freezer for vaccine storage, noting that both are maintaining temperatures and functioning well.

Kerr mentioned that she is currently administering flu shots and had kept her office open late to accommodate county employees, though turnout was low. Kerr also reported administering 30 Covid-19 vaccines.



### **Board of Health Update – Eva Kerr**

County Health Nurse Eva Kerr and Board Member Sandy Harris entered the chambers at 10:25 a.m.

Kerr announced that Mayor Rick Nelson was unable to attend due to other commitments. However, Nelson wanted the Commissioners to know that the City of White Sulphur Springs has successfully completed the water main replacement from the water tank to Townsend's pivot.

Kerr reported two dog bites, one cat bite, and a bat exposure involving a vulnerable population, which tested negative for rabies.

Kerr mentioned that the Board is still in the process of finding a new sanitarian. Sean Hill from Yellowstone Environmental would like to discontinue his work in Meagher County. Hill has recommended a company from Bozeman for Kerr and County Attorney Burt Hurwitz to meet with.

Kerr informed the Commissioners that she continues to serve as the Health Officer. Kerr and Attorney Hurwitz will soon meet with the Public Health Institute to address some concerns

### **Monthly County Attorney Report – Burt Hurwitz**

County Attorney, Burt Hurwitz entered the chambers at 10:40 a.m.

Attorney Hurwitz reviewed the circumstances of the trial that concluded on November 8, 2024. He praised Victim Advocate Laura Taylor for her exceptional attentiveness and support to the victim's family and witnesses throughout the trial. Hurwitz also mentioned that he has distributed surveys to the jurors to gather feedback on potential improvements.

Hurwitz noted that his next trial will likely be postponed until January.

He informed the Commissioners about an issue regarding access on the Butte Creek Road. Established around 150 years ago, the current road may not align with the original path.

### **Monthly Library Report – Rachel Wahlstrom**

Library Co-Director Rachel Wahlstrom entered the chambers at 11:45 a.m.

Wahlstrom presented the library's annual report to the Commissioners, which she also submits to the state. Wahlstrom highlighted that 42 new library cards were issued this year, bringing the total number of cardholders in Meagher County to 903—nearly half of the county's population. The library saw an increase of 601 patrons compared to last year. Additionally, the library offered 85 programs this year, nine more than the previous year.

### **Clerk & Recorder Update – Liv West**

Clerk & Recorder, Liv West entered the chambers at 9:11 a.m.

West informed the Commissioners that Deputy Clerk & Recorder Brandi Dreidlein has completed her 6-month probation and has done exceptionally well. West requested that Dreidlein's wage be increase to 90% of the Clerk & Recorder wage, bringing it to \$25.17.

ACTION# 2

### **Resolution FY24.25 #42**

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the wage increase for Deputy Clerk & Recorder to \$25.17. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is



**Claims Approved:**

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check #61986 through Check #62011 totaling \$26,553.21 and electronic check #-99770 through electronic check #-99762 totaling \$9,320.42. All Checks were signed as presented

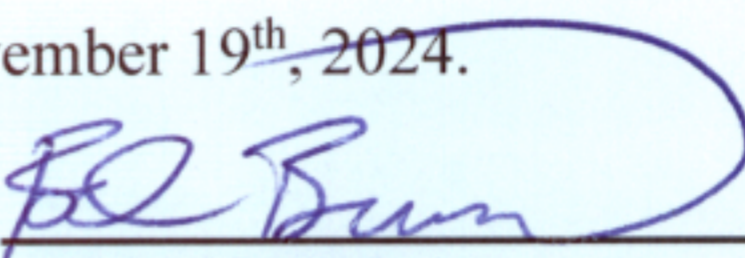
**Meeting Adjourned:**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

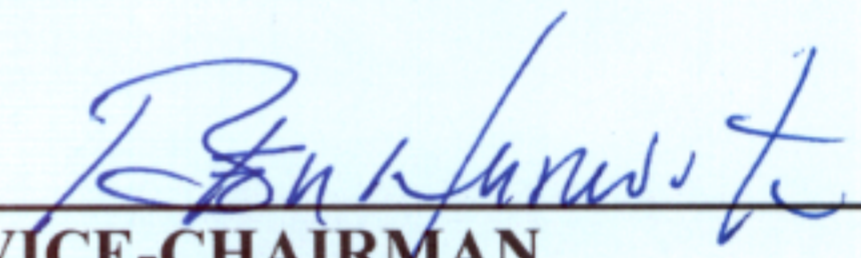
Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK & RECORDER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

SEAL



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Commission Clerk Jennifer Deems  
Distributed November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder West