

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

October 15th, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

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

Commissioners Present:

Vice-Charmain 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 October 8th, 2024. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Monthly Library Report- Rachel Wahlstrom

Library Co-Director Rachel Wahlstrom entered the chambers at 9 a.m.

Wahlstrom stated that she, Claudia Blanchard, and Cassi Zimmerman attended the Montana Library Associations 2024 Fall Retreat at Chico Hot Springs October 6th and 7th. The two-day professional development event included various sessions, division meetings, and presentations by library peers.

Wahlstrom also mentioned that she and Co Director Shannon Washburn will be attending a Strategic Planning Training Session at the Livingston library on Tuesday October 22, 2024. Wahlstrom noted that having a strategic plan is a state requirement for the library.

Wahlstrom reported a good number of older children attending story time, largely due to the increase in home school students. Wahlstrom explained that the Hoopla digital media service offers a large variety of content including specific classes like dance and baking. The classes change frequently, providing children opportunities to explore different interests.

Airport Improvements – Lance Bower / Airport Board

Robert Peccia & Associates (RPA) Lance Bowser and Matt Wilder entered the chambers at 9:20 a.m. Airport Board President Kurt Burns, Board Member Sam Berg, and White Sulphur Springs Mayor Rick Nelson entered the chambers at 9:25 a.m.

Bowser started by going over FAA funding summary. Bowser discussed FY 25.26 FAA grants are 90% FAA and 10% local share and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds were a 5-year bill with slightly fluctuating amounts and the FY25.26 are not out yet.

Aeronautics grant request based on final amount needed to reimburse the hospital. The instrument approach procedure publication is scheduled for October 31, 2024.

Bowser discussed the runway improvements and the possibility of zoning or extending air space easements around the airport to accommodate larger aircraft. Bowser will reach out to appropriate land owners to discuss this.

Homemaker/ Respite Care Program Discussion – Dayna Ogle

Chief Finance Officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 10:30

Chief Finance Officer Dayna Ogle informed the Commissioners about ongoing discussions with County Health Nurse Eva Kerr and County Attorney Burt Hurwitz regarding the implementation of a fee schedule for the Respite Care and Homemaker programs. Due to increased demand, the current monthly funding for these programs is insufficient. The Respite Care Program is allocated 15 hours per month, and the Homemaker Program is allocated 32 hours per month. Any hours exceeding these allocations will be billed at \$25.00 per hour.

Action#2

Resolution FY24.25 #33A

**Meagher County
Resolution FY 24.25 # 33A**

A RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT A FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE RESPIT CARE AND HOMEMAKER PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, Meagher County Health Department is currently sponsoring a Respite Care and Homemaker program and,

WHEREAS, the need for the Respit Care and Homemaker programs have exceeded their current monthly funding and,

WHEREAS, Meagher County will implement the following fees schedule for the Respit and homemaker programs:

Respit Care program hours exceeding 15 hours per month will be billed at \$25/hour.


Homemaker program hours exceeding 32 hours per month will be billed at \$25/hour.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Meagher Commissioner will implement a fee schedule for the Respit Care and Homemaker program as stated above effective November 1, 2024 .

Dated this 15th day of October 2024

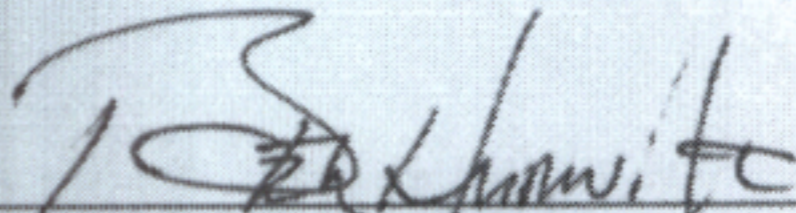
Attest:

Board of County Commissioners:



Liv A West
Clerk & Recorder


Chairman Rod Brewer



Commissioner Ben Hurwitz

Action #3

Resolution FY24.25 #33B

Commissioner Galt moved to accept the bid from Shauna Porter in the amount of \$83 for the fuel tank. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

ADA Fair Housing Resolution – Dayna Ogle

Chief Finance Officer Dayne Ogle entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Ogle presented the Commissioners with ADA Fair Housing Resolutions for signature.

Action #4

Resolution FY 24.25 #34

Meagher County
Resolution FY 24.25 # *34*

Fair Housing Resolution

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners desires to give meaning to the guarantees of equal rights contained in the Constitution and laws of this State and the United States, and to encourage and bring about mutual self-respect and understanding among all citizens and groups in Meagher County; and,

Whereas, under the Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; and,

Whereas, under the Montana State Fair Housing Law, Title 49-2-305, MCA, it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, sex, religion, color, age, physical or mental handicap or national origin;

Therefore, be it resolved the Meagher County, Montana makes a firm commitment to do all within its power to eliminate prejudice, intolerance, disorder and discrimination in housing.

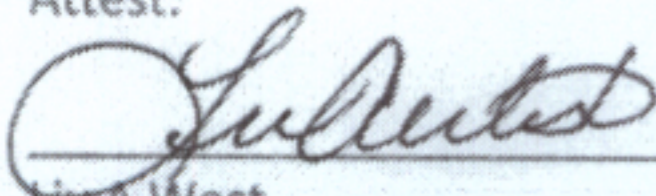
Therefore, be it also resolved that a Fair Housing Law poster which has the "Equal Housing Opportunity" logo will be displayed at the County Courthouse.

Therefore, be it also resolved that the following procedures will be used to accomplish the purpose of the aforementioned resolution:

1. The Board of County Commissioners shall inform all County employees of the County's commitment to fair housing.
2. The Board of County Commissioners will post this resolution in County buildings and other public places and publicize it.
3. The Board of County Commissioners shall direct all employees to forward immediately to the Commission Chairman any reports they receive of housing discrimination.
4. The Commission Chair shall forward such complaints to the Montana Human Rights Commission, Department of Labor and Industry, P.O. Box 1728, Helena, Montana 59624-1728, within 10 days of receipt of said complaint.

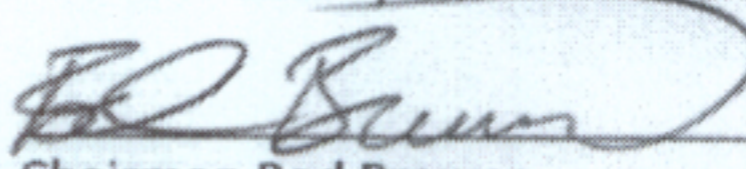
Dated this 8th day of October 2024

Attest:


Liv A West

Clerk & Recorder
CLERK

Board of County Commissioners:


Chairman Rod Brewer

Action #5

Resolution FY24.25 #35

Meagher County
Resolution FY 24.25 # 35

SECTION 504 and ADA COMPLAINT RESOLUTION PROCEDURES and ADA COMPLAINT FORM

Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990* (ADA) provide comprehensive civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, public accommodations, state and local government services and programs, and telecommunications. Title II of the ADA states, in part, that:

No otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation, denied the benefits of, or subject to discrimination in programs or activities sponsored by a public entity.

Meagher County has adopted this complaint procedure to provide prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the U.S. Department of Justice regulations implementing Title II of the ADA.

Any individual who believes that she/he or a specific class of individuals with disabilities has been subjected to unlawful discrimination on the basis of that disability by Meagher County or any of Meagher County's contractors or suppliers may, by himself or herself or by an authorized representative, file a written complaint.

Complaints or questions should be addressed to: Human Resource Office 406-547-3023. Montana Relay System for the Deaf: Dial 711 or 1-800-253-4091 to use Montana Relay. The Human Resource Office has been designated to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*.

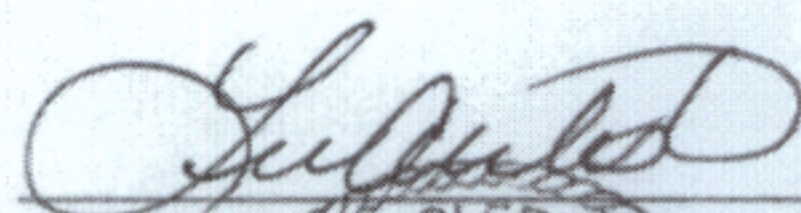
1. The complaint must be filed in writing and contain the name, address, and telephone number of the individual or representative filing the complaint; a description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the department of the nature and date of the alleged violation; the signature of the complainant or authorized representative; and a description of the corrective action that is being sought. Complaints filed on behalf of a third party must identify the alleged victims of the discrimination. Complaints may be filed on the attached complaint form.
2. The complaint must be received within 20 calendar days after the alleged violation occurs. This time may be extended, as determined by the Section 504/ADA Coordinator, for good cause shown.
3. The Meagher County shall promptly conduct an informal investigation of the complaint. Interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to submit information relevant to the complaint.
4. A written response will be issued and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than 30 calendar days after completion of the investigation.
5. Meagher County will maintain the files and records relating to the complaint and its investigation according to the records retention schedule for personnel documents found in Chapter 800, *Montana Operations Manual*, Volume I.

6. Nothing in this complaint resolution procedure shall be construed as preventing an individual from pursuit of other remedies, including filing a formal complaint with the Montana Human Rights Commission, with any federal agency the individual believes is appropriate, or with the U.S. Department of Justice. The time limit for filing a formal complaint is 180 days after the alleged incident. This procedure also does not preclude the individual's right to file a lawsuit in federal district court.

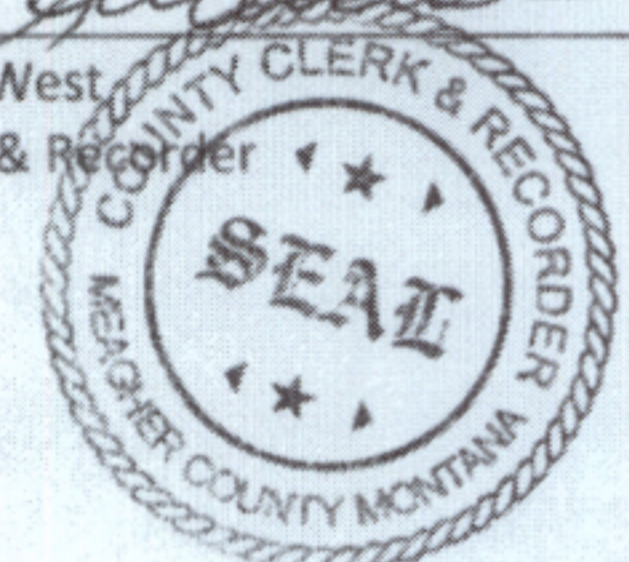
Dated this 8th day of October 2024

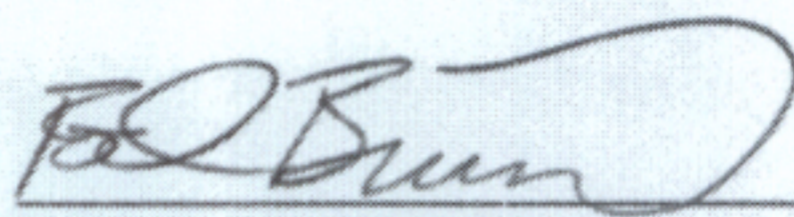
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Board of County Commissioners:

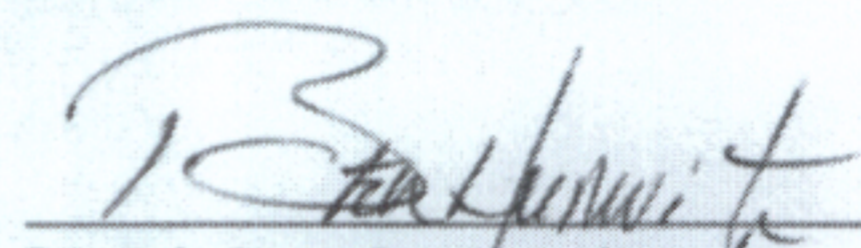


Liv A West
Clerk & Recorder

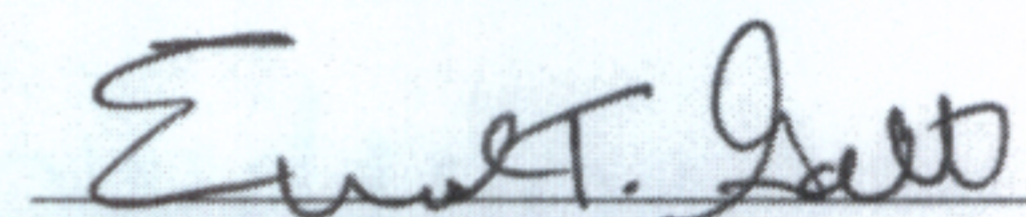




Chairman Rod Brewer



Commissioner Ben Hurwitz



Commissioner Errol Galt

Road Report – Jake Kusek

Road Supervisor Jake Kusek and RDO Equipment Sales Professional Damon Van Diest entered the chambers at 10:45.

Kusek explained that the CAT Grader is currently still in Great Falls waiting to be repaired. Van Diest presented a lease proposal for a 2025 John Deere 672G motor grader. Van Diest explained that the prices for John Deere Graders will go up significantly on November 1st.

Action #6

Resolution FY24.25 #36

Galt moved to accept the bid to lease 2025 John Deere 672G Grader from RDO Equipment for \$479,900.00. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

Kusek informed the Commissioners that a bridge at Martinsdale is being closed due to its poor condition. Kusek also stated there is a bridge in Ringling that only has a 5-ton weight limit and may also be closed soon.

Public Hearing Budget Amendment – Dayna Ogle

Chief Finance Officer Dayan Ogle entered the chambers at 11:41 a.m.

Ogle presented Commissioners with two funds that over spent their budgeted authority.

*Solid Waste Fund (2500) over budget by \$660.00 the overage will be offset by cash on hand.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check #61905 through Check #61930 totaling \$ 22,625.37 and Electronic Check # -99793 through -99787 totaling \$3,310.57. All checks signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Wednesday, November 6th, 2024.

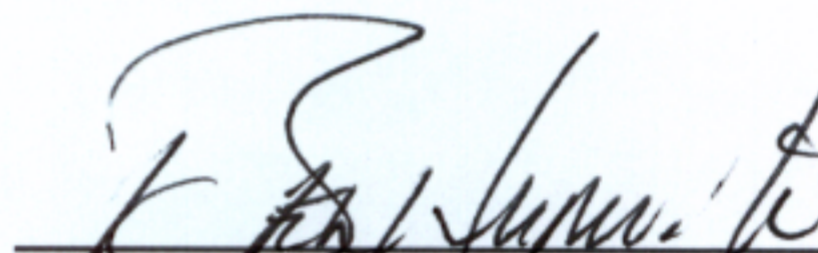


CLERK & RECORDER

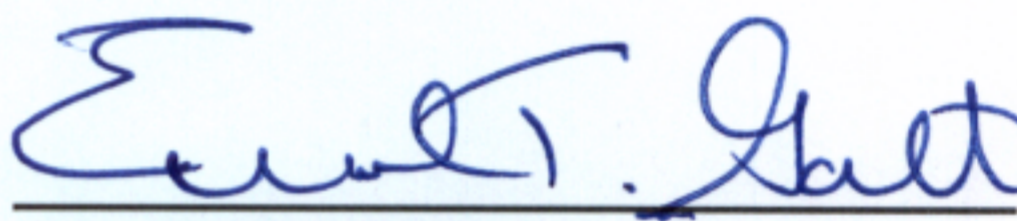
CHAIRMAN

SEAL





VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Commission Clerk Jennifer Deems
Distributed Wednesday November 6th, 2024 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder West