

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

October 3rd, 2023

8:30 a.m. – 12:45p.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 and Commissioner Errol Galt were present for the meeting.

Claims Review / Minutes Review:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Galt moved to approve the Minutes from September 19th, 2023. Chair Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and minutes were approved.

Road / fire Report – Jake Kusek

Jake Kusek entered the chambers at 8:40 p.m.

Jake started by presenting the Commissioners with quotes for leasing a 2023 John Deere 672G Grader through RDO Equipment Company, with an estimated delivery date of 11-12 months. RDO will not take the CAT 143H grader as a trade in. The 143H machine would be sold at a public sale and the proceeds going to offset the cost of the lease. Kusek valued the 143H Grader at \$30,000 - \$50,000. Kusek stated there was a factory recall on the JD672G graders, RDO completed the repairs on the two graders. The Commissioners tabled the decision.

Kusek stated a beaver dam is blocking the culvert on Sheep Creek. Kusek is working with the landowner to construct a fence with multiple angles to detour the beavers from building at the culvert while still allowing water to pass through.

Kusek requested the Commission lift the Open Burning Ban effective immediately.

Commissioner Galt inquired about installing the new street signs in Martinsdale. Kusek stated it is on the schedule after the fall blading is completed. Galt stated he will provide a post pounder for the 16 signs that need to be installed.

Action #2

Resolution #37

Commissioner Galt moved to lift the Open Burn Ban effective immediately. Chair Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp

Sheriff Lopp entered the chambers at 9:24 a.m.

Chair Brewer inquired about the inmates held in Broadwater County. Lopp stated there is one inmate from the City of White Sulphur Springs. The county incurs the cost for all inmates whose violations occur in the county, per Montana Code Annotated 7-32-2242 (2)(B)

Sheriff Lopp requested to put out for bid two 1990 Military Utility Trailers with canvas covers. Lopp set a minimum bid at \$1500. Lopp confirmed the sale for the abandoned vehicles will be held on October 21st.

Action #3

Resolution FY 23.24 #38

Commissioner Galt moved to approve the sale of the two 1990 Military Trailers. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Lopp stated his staff is continuing online drone training through The Pilot Institute. Lopp is purchasing a smaller version of the drone for pilots to practice flying prior to flying the large drone. Charlie Willet is also willing to train pilots to fly the drome. When the training is complete there will be 5 people licensed to fly the drone. Lopp stated he is working with the Fire Department to train on thermal imaging.

Martinsdale Water & Sewer Project – Jim Maddox

Jim Maddox and Kathy Berg entered the chambers at 9:40 a.m.

Maddox started by thanking the Commission for their support of the Martinsdale Water and Sewer Project. Berg stated they have secured enough grants to fully cover the cost of Phase 1. Phase 1 consists of approximately 4800 lineal feet of new 6” diameter PVC water main line. replacement of all 88 service meters in the water system, relocation of twenty meters into new meter pits at the property lines and installation of a flow meter on the tank outlet. Specifications are currently in design phase with a planned bid date of December / January and construction is planned to begin April – May 2024.

Commissioner Galt asked if there was a contingency plan should the bids come in over the estimated cost. Maddox stated there is no contingency plan at this point, however they did request to put the money they received from the Bair Grant into a contingency fund.

Commissioner Galt discussed with Berg and Maddox the possibility of dissolving he Martinsdale TV District. They agreed to contact the Martinsdale community and get their feedback on this issue.

Commissioner Galt also had a discussion with Maddox and Berg about the history of the Martinsdale Special Lighting District. They explored different options for the future of the district.

Open Sealed Bids – RFP – On Call Engineering Services

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

Ogle presented the Commission with one RFP for ON Call Engineering Services from Great West Engineering. Ogle will work with Great West on an agreement and payment terms.

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Action #4**Resolution FY 23.24 #39**

Brewer Moved to accept Great West ON Call Engineering's RFP. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The bid was accepted.

Open Sealed Bids – 2011 Ford F150

Ogle presented the Commission with one bid from Sheryl McGuire for \$2050.00

Action #5**Resolution FY 23.24 #40**

Commissioner Galt moved to accept the bid for \$2050.00 from McGuire and Chair Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The bid was accepted.

Senator Steve Daines Representative– Eliza McLaughlin

Field officer Eliza McLaughlin entered the chambers at 11:55 a.m.

McLaughlin met with the commissioners to introduce herself and ask what Senator Danes can do for Meagher County.

Public Hearing - Budget Amendment:

Finance Officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 12:00 p.m.

Ogle and the Commissioners reviewed budget amendments for the Library and DMV/ County Attorney Assistant position.

The Second Public Hearing is scheduled for October 10th, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Treasurer Maura Kusek entered the chambers at 12:15p.m.

Commissioner discussed with Kusek and Ogle the State Equalization, County High School Equalization and County Elementary Equalization mills. Multiple counties are considering levying 77.89 mills pursuant to MCA 15-10-420 rather than the 95 mills requested by the Department of Revenue. The Commission tabled the discussion until October 10th at 1:30 p.m.

Surplus Property – Request to Sell:

Finance Officer Dayna Ogle entered the Chambers at 12:30 p.m.

Ogle presented the Commission with a request to sell the 1986 GMC 4x4 Fire truck (cab and chassis) with a minimum bid of \$500, the 2016 Ford Interceptor with a blown motor with a minimum bid of \$3000, and 2 1990 Military utility trailers with a minimum bid of \$1500 each.

Action# 6**Resolution FY 23.24 #41**

Chair Brewer approved a Call for bid on the 1986 GMC 4x4 cab & chassis only with a minimum bid of \$500 and the 2016 Ford Interceptor with a minimum bid of \$2000. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Sealed bids will be accepted through 4:00 p.m. November 6th, 2023. Sealed bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Meagher County Commissioners on November 7th, 2023 starting at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment / Claims Approval:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check# 60736 through Check# 60777 totaling \$91,543.19. All Checks were signed as presented.
Commissioners were presented with electronic Payroll Check# -85608 through Check# -85569 totaling \$183,186.29 and check# 13955 through Check#13965 totaling \$64,989.42. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, October 10th, 2023.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Chief Financial Officer Dayna Ogle/ formatted by Clerk to the Commission Jennifer Deems.
Distributed August 22nd, 2023 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder Liv West.