

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

September 3rd, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 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:

Approval of the August 21 minutes was tabled until September 10th, 2024

Monthly Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp

Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 9:00 a.m.

Sheriff Lopp reported that in August, the Sheriff's office received a total of 653 contacts, including 292 incoming calls, 36 emergency 9-1-1 calls, and 325 in person visits.

Lopp mentioned that Labor Day weekend was uneventful.

Lopp discussed with the Commissioners the upcoming hunting season and the prospect of a new Game Warden in Meagher County.

Monthly Road Report / Fire Report – Jake Kusek

Road Supervisor / Fire Chief Jake Kusek entered the chambers at 9:35 a.m.

Kusek discussed recent fires in Meagher County and stated he wanted to keep fire restrictions in place as long as the hot and dry weather persists.

Kusek noted that the county's gravel pits and surrounding roads are covered with Knapweed. Kusek has hired Greg Masser to spray the gravel pits aiming to eradicate the invasive weed.

Commissioner Galt raised a question about the Weed Department obtaining fuel from the county shop. Kusek assured that there should be no issues with the Weed Department accessing fuel from this source.

Ambulance RFP – Opening

Ambulance Board Member, Jack Berg entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Ambulance Board Member, Jack Berg was presented with 3 sealed Request for Proposal (RFP).

The three (3) proposals were from:

Apgar Ambulance for \$327,530.00

Professional Sales and Service for \$327,164.00

Sawtooth Emergency Vehicles for \$349,000.00 after recommended discounts \$329,195.00

Berg will take the RFPs to the Ambulance Board for further discussion. The Ambulance Board will bring their recommendation to the Commissioners on September 17th, 2024.

Weed Board- Phil Rostad, Wally Bailey

Weed Board Members Phil Rostad and Wally Bailey and Chief Finance Officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Brewer explained that Road Supervisor, Jake Kusek hired someone to spray the county gravel pits due to the severe Knapweed infestation. Brewer confirmed that the Weed Department was informed that County property is the top priority.

Rostad, Bailey and the Commissioners discussed the Weed Department's budget and billing practices. The Weed Board will meet with the Weed Department employees later in the week.

Colonial Life Presentation – Gabe Hansen-Perez

No Show

Mid Montana Insurance Agent Agreement

Mid Montana Insurance Agent, Jodi Tierney entered the chambers at 11:30 a.m.

Tierney and Commission Chairman Rod Brewer signed the service agreement between Meagher County and Mid Montana Insurance.

Library Budget – Rachel Wahlstrom, Glenda Ritchie

Co-Director, Rachel Wahlstrom and Library Board Member, Glenda Ritchie, Chief Finance Officer Dayan Ogle entered the chambers at 12:00 p.m.

Wahlstrom, Ritchie, Ogle and the Commissioners reviewed the library budget. Wahlstrom will meet with the City of White Sulphur Springs at 1:00 p.m. to request additional funding to help balance the library budget.

Preliminary Budget Hearing – Dayna Ogle

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

Ogle presented the Commissioners with the preliminary budget for FY24.25. Ogle is waiting to hear back from Library Co-Director Rachel Wahlstrom regarding her meeting with the City of White Sulphur Springs. Final Budget Hearing will be held Tuesday September 10th, 2024.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Claim Check #61794 through Check #61813 totaling \$ 26,312.34 and electronic check #-99836 through electronic check #-99834 totaling \$2,392.93. All Checks were signed as presented.

Commissioners were also presented with payroll check#14104 through check#14110 totaling \$35,141.18 and electronic check# -84945 through electronic check# -84885 totaling \$183,165.70. All checks were signed as presented

Meeting Adjourned:

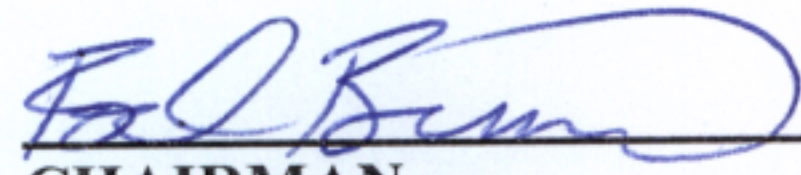
Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, September 10, 2024.



CLERK & RECORDER



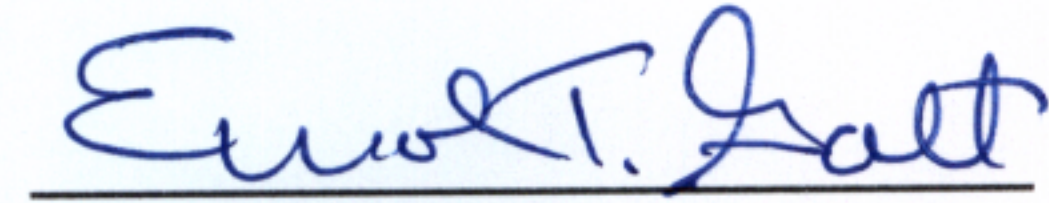
CHAIRMAN

SEAL





VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Commission Clerk Jennifer Deems
Distributed September 10th, 2024 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Galt, and Clerk & Recorder West