

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

July 7, 14 and 21, 2015

Tuesday

July 7, 2015

8:44 a.m. – 4:06 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Townsend called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Herb Townsend, Commissioner Rod Brewer, and Commissioner Ben Hurwitz.

Commissioners received a phone call from David Voldseth:

Mr. Voldseth asked the Commissioners if there was any way they could help complete the gravel crushing project at his pit near Lenep. Voldseth stated it would be nice to see the equipment removed and have the process finished. Commissioner Hurwitz expressed that the Commissioners would do their best to seek a quick resolve and get Sierra Rock & Dirt to finish the work and remove the equipment as soon as possible.

Road Report – Bruce Smith:

Road Supervisor, Bruce Smith presented the results of the vehicle count on Smith River Road to the Commissioners. The portable vehicle volume counter was set up at the corner of Johnston's mail box from May 18 – June 15, 2015 with a total of 3,257 vehicles. The portable counter was then moved back to the edge of highway 360 from June 15 – July 7 with a total of 4,411 vehicles. Based on previous data collected by the road crew, the results indicate that three quarters of the traffic on Smith River Road is from recreational floaters. The Commissioners would like to pursue assistance in maintaining the road from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Smith reiterated that he feels no gravel road is able to withstand such a high volume of traffic. There was also discussion around trying to get the state to take over the road and pave it. Smith voiced concern that Meagher County wouldn't be able to maintain an asphalt road. The Commissioners agreed and it was discussed that the state would have to be responsible for the maintenance if a portion of Smith River Road were paved. Commissioner Townsend said the process would have to start by contacting the Department of Transportation. Commissioner Hurwitz questioned Smith about what to do in the meantime. Applying mag chloride next year is a possibility to help with dust control. The estimated cost to complete a desired 8 mile portion of the road is \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00 per year. The Commissioner's agreed they would like to have John Taillie, from MFWP, attend a Commission meeting to discuss Meagher County receiving more financial support from MFWP for this project. Administrative Assistant, Kate Jones, will contact Mr. Taillie to coordinate a date and time.

Commissioner Hurwitz updated Smith on the phone call the Commissioners had received from David Voldseth about the gravel crushing project at the Voldseth pit near Lenep. Smith was unsure why it has taken Sierra Rock & Dirt this long to finish the contracted amount of gravel crushing. There was discussion over the matter and it was decided that Smith would ask Otto Ohlson to go measure the new pile of gravel as soon as possible. Smith will also inquire with Clerk & Recorder, Dayna Ogle, to see how much the County has already paid Sierra Rock & Gravel, in comparison to the amount of gravel that hasn't been measured yet.

Smith presented a request to give the road department's new employee, Jake Kusek, a raise in the amount of \$0.62 per hour. Smith said Kusek has performed extremely well and efficiently and that he is very polite. In addition Kusek has shown himself to be a valuable asset to the road crew and the County. It was verified according to the Meagher County Employee Handbook and Ogle, that an employee who is still on probation may receive a raise. The Commissioners all approve of the request.

Action #1

RESOLUTION 2015 - #70

Commissioner Townsend moved that effective June 27, 2015 Jake Kusek receive a wage increase of \$0.62 per hour. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved

Smith reported that the washout on Lingshire road has been filled, and seems to be done settling and now safe for driving on. Smith said the road crew is day lighting a corner on the Lingshire Road and will continue to add extra fill to the area as a method of reinforcement and eventually widening that section of the road.

Commissioner Hurwitz asked Smith about the extra pit run that was separated out at Bodell's pit. Smith agrees the County should also purchase the pit run to be utilized by the road crew.

Sheriff Lopp entered the meeting.

There was a conflict between Smith and a landowner on Fox Wood Lane. Smith stated that in the future if there is another conflict, he is going to call the Sheriff immediately, opposed to engaging this particular landowner in a conversation because history has shown a pattern of escalating quickly. The Commissioners all expressed that Smith had done a very good job handling the conflict, as well as fixing Fox Wood Lane.

Sheriff's Report – Jon Lopp:

Sheriff Lopp presented and discussed his monthly report with the Commissioners. Sheriff Lopp stated that the 4th of July weekend had been extremely busy. The Sheriff's Department had at least one person detained every night over the holiday weekend. One detainee had to be transferred to Great Falls to a "safe cell" because he was a danger to himself and the Deputies. All the arrests from the weekend will be prosecuted by the Meagher County Attorney.

Sheriff Lopp updated the Commissioners that the grant from Montana Department of Transportation, for 54 hours of over-time during the Red Ants Pants Music Festival, was approved. The grant money will be used to pay the wages of the Reserve Deputy during the festival. Sheriff Lopp also reported that the grant for the DUI Task force had been approved.

County Attorney, Kimberly Deschene entered the meeting.

Sheriff Lopp also notified the Commissioners that the City's Law Enforcement contract with the Sheriff's Department had expired on June 30, 2015. The City had advised Sheriff Lopp that they are discussing trying to get their budget to work in order to have their own Law Enforcement. If not, they will work on getting a new contract for the Sheriff's Department. However they are still working on finishing the City's budget. The City council didn't have a definitive answer in respect to when the contract would be ready.

County Attorney, Kimberly Deschene left the meeting.

Health Nurse – Eva Kerr, RN:

Eva Kerr presented and discussed her monthly report with the Commissioners. Kerr said she is continuing to work on the compliance with varicella records. There are about thirty records that need to be verified. Mountain View Medical Center has a standing order for patients to have their blood drawn to test for immunity.

Kerr also reported there are two ongoing cases of Hepatitis C. As well as three cases of Campylobacteriosis, which causes nausea & diarrhea and sometimes leads to hospitalization. The cause was identified to be from close proximity of cattle, and was contracted during branding season.

Kerr updated the Commissioners that the Home Maker Program is going well. The Program has two new clients and one of them had an emergency that the Home Maker staff was key in helping to resolve.

Board of Health:

Members present were Sanitarian, Deen Pomeroy via conference call, and Eva Kerr, County Health Nurse. Eva read the Board of Health Report for Pomeroy and the Commissioners' knowledge and discussion. The Truck Wreck Policy was reviewed and two phone numbers were corrected.

Kerr provided the Commissioners with a copy of the By-Laws for the Meagher County Board of Health. Pomeroy had received a copy via email. No one saw any changes needed, it was then signed by all the Commissioners.

Pomeroy said Broadwater County has asked if he is willing to be their back up Sanitarian. The Commissioners stated they would approve of it if it is agreeable to Pomeroy. There has been no correspondence received from Broadwater County yet, and Pomeroy feels they should make the first contact in this matter.

Pomeroy updated the Commissioners on the status of the Food Service License renewals for all the food establishments in Meagher County. He will be sending notices of renewal out in October.

Minutes:

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Townsend seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

County Attorney Report – Kimberly Deschene:

County Attorney Kimberly Deschene came in to present her monthly report to the Commissioners. Deschene reported that it's been very busy lately. She reviewed the current issues and cases that she is working on.

Deschene presented the Commissioners with a request for a budget increase of \$10,000.00 for prosecution services this year due to increases in conflict of interest and mental health cases. The Commissioners feel they would only like to have an emergency fund available if the need arises. However nothing final was decided.

Deschene discussed the formal request for a Coroner's inquest she received from Sheriff Lopp. The Commissioners feel it is time to be done with the situation and asked Deschene to do all that she can to ensure this issue doesn't persist. The Commissioners are willing to express the same to Sheriff Lopp if need be.

Deschene gave the Commissioners her opinion that the County should work with Bob Anderson to make a plan for removing contaminates based on the results from test well near the County Shop, as opposed to continued monitoring. The Commissioners all agreed they would like to get a cost estimate for contaminate removal/resolve.

Area Manager Region 4 (A) – Judy Tice & Rocky Haralson, Regional Manager:

Judy Tice, area manager, and Rocky Haralson regional manager came in to follow up on any questions the Commissioners might have in regards to the new cycle of tax assessments and legislative changes. Tax appraisals have changed from a previous six year cycle, to a two year cycle. Timber is still on a six year cycle. Haralson stated that the purpose of the two year cycle is to hopefully keep the peak and valley of the housing market to a minimum. A two year cycle is anticipated to follow the market very closely. Also the assessment results that property owners receive will now be much easier for the tax payer to read and understand. Owners have 30 days after the assessment notice to file an AB26 which is an informal review. The assessments will be dated for July 22, 2015 this year. Haralson stated that the DOR will accept late AB26's however they wouldn't take an affect until the next year.

There was discussion in regards to protested tax money. Haralson expressed that it is high risk to use protested tax money. Because if a settlement is granted, the money has to be given back. The large utility companies commonly litigate.

Judy Tice stated that the new appraiser, Ray Muscarlla, seems to be doing well out in the community. Ray is able to complete commercial, residential and agricultural appraisals. The other DOR employee that comes to Meagher County, June Pack, will be able to complete residential appraisal as soon as she finishes some additional training.

The last subject that was addressed by Haralson was that there would be a fully comprehensive review off all tax exemptions to verify that anyone receiving an exemption, are still eligible for the exemption this year.

Lunch/LEPC:

The Commissioners left the courthouse for lunch at 12:05, and returned at 1:15.

Clerk & Recorder – Dayna Ogle – FY 15.16 Resolutions/Payroll Update:

Dayna Ogle presented the Commissioners with the changes from House Bill 123, which will become law on October 1, 2015. It is a lengthy bill which significantly revises and reorganizes Montana public records law. The main highlight is that any time a residing officer of public agency closes a meeting to discuss matters of individual privacy or litigation strategy, minutes of such closed meeting shall be taken. These minutes are not available for public inspection except pursuant to a court order. However the new law doesn't state where the minutes of a closed meeting should be retained, to resolve this issue, MACo recommends that minutes from a closed meeting be secured in the County Attorney's Office. Additionally it was discussed that MACo recommends matters not directly related to County personnel or litigation in which the County is a party should be part of a written, confidential report.

Ogle presented the Commissioners with a request to “Commit” Restricted Cash in the Health Alert Network (HAN) fund 2974, for/to a biohazardous outbreak.

Action #2

RESOLUTION 2015 - #71

Commissioner Brewer moved to commit the Restricted Cash in fund 2974 HAN to the Biohazard Outbreak. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved.

Ogle asked the Commissioners for future reference, if they would want an injured employee to use all of their sick and vacation hours before being placed on Family Medical Leave. The Law states that they can be run at the same time or separately. All the Commissioners decided they would want Ogle to run them separate from one another in order to give an injured employee the most time possible to heal and return to work.

Ogle presented the Commissioners with Julie Blockey’s request to pay Pacific Source to administer Cobra for the various other benefits the County offers to its employee’s The cost is approximately \$600.00 per year. Commissioner Hurwitz said he would like to call Blockey and ask some more specific questions before the Commission makes a decision. In addition, Ogle informed the Commissioners about some issues she has been having with Blockey and the staff at Southwestern Montana Financial Center. During open enrollment, Blockey failed to sit down with each employee to discuss their individual needs, as she had stated she would to Commissioner Townsend. Blockey and her staff also did not provide Ogle with accurate enrollment and cancelation information, so employee’s payroll was off this month and will take considerable effort to correct. Several employees experienced difficulty at the doctors or picking up prescriptions because SWFC had not renewed their health insurance plan yet. Overall satisfaction with using Julie Blockey and Southwestern Financial, is low. The Commissioners also expressed disappointment in hearing about the issues. Commissioner Hurwitz said he would talk to Julie Blockey about the issues and lack of satisfaction. Commissioner Townsend said he feels the County should do an RFP in January for a new insurance broker.

Maebeth Seidlitz entered the meeting.

Ogle said the budget is looking good so far for the close of FY 14.15. However the Commissioners’ budget did go slightly over in a few specific funds, however overall no one went completely over budget.

The first payment from Intercap loan for the ambulance building, was received on July 2, 2015. There is just under half of the total \$120,000.00 remaining for the Engineers’ work on solving the foundation issues. Commissioner Hurwitz informed everyone that Allen Stansbury had not been out to do anymore work on the ambulance building do to some health issues.

Dispatch Update – Maebeth Seidlitz:

Dispatch Supervisor, Maebeth Seidlitz came in to update the Commissioners about the ongoing workman’s comp case for one of the County’s employees. Seidlitz expressed that she feels it will likely be a long time, if at all, until the employee is able to return to work. Commissioner Hurwitz asked if the employee is close to retirement and Seidlitz stated that the employee is not able to retire with PERS at this time because it is a 30 year retirement plan. Seidlitz expressed a great need to fill the position and would like to do it by posting a temporary full time position in house. This means the position would be filled by a part time dispatcher. Which would then create a need for a temporary part time position that would be opened to the public. According to

the Meagher County Employee Handbook, on page 42, someone who is on a temporary position status may receive the benefits that fit the temporary position's entitlement to benefits. The two positions will remain in a temporary status until the employee is either able to return to their previous work position, or the workman's comp case is completed and closed.

Action #3

RESOLUTION 2015 - #72

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to create a full time temporary dispatch position, to be filled in house. The job opening will be posted for 7 days, and applications will be accepted until July 14, 2015. Commissioner Brewer Seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved.

Action #4

RESOLUTION 2015 - #73

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to create a part time temporary dispatch position and that it be advertised locally. Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved.

Chamber of Commerce President – Buddy Hanrahan:

Mr. Hanrahan came in to present the White Sulphur Springs, Main Street Decorative Lighting Project. A hand out was provided to the Commissioners, detailing the project and two light post styles. Hanrahan has been to a City Council meeting, and stated that the City is still trying to decide to what extent they are able to participate. Hanrahan has gone door to door to all the business owners and was able to get some donations for the project. There was also discussion about considering putting the project on the ballot this fall in order to get the tax payers' opinion on the project.

The Commissioners expressed their support of the project and stated they would be willing to dedicate the two lights that would be in front of the County Court House. They also questioned if CTEP money could be used for the project. Hanrahan said that the project qualifies for CTEP money, however timelines inhibit the ability to use CTEP funds.

Ambulance Grant Application:

All necessary documents were previously signed due to the deadline. The status was discussed and Commissioner Townsend confirmed that he had signed the documents with the Clerk & Recorder, Dayna Ogle.

Planning Board Chairman – Nico Cantalupo:

Mr. Cantalupo stopped in to inquire with the Commissioners if the County had a landfill license, the information was needed for the growth policy. Administrative Assistant, Kate Jones provided Cantalupo with a copy of the current solid waste licenses that the County has.

Road Department Supervisor – Bruce Smith:

Smith stopped back in to discuss the contract with Sierra Rock & Gravel and funds already exchanged for crushing gravel. The Commissioner's would like to have the pile measured before

proceeding any further. Smith stated he had left Ohlson a message asking him to go measure the gravel pile as soon as possible.

Montana National Guard - CW4 John Joyce:

Chief Joyce, from the Helena Montana National Guard, came to present a project that would replace the headstones of former service members that are in disrepair at the Mayn Cemetery. The first step in the process is have permission to identify the service member's headstones. The Commissioners all agreed that would be fine. Then Chief Joyce will look for any remaining known family members. Next Joyce will submit the needed information to the VA, and they will make new headstones. The cost to Meagher County is only a little time from the Sexton of the Cemetery to help Chief Joyce with research and proper replacement, and the Clerk & Recorder's Office for record searches. There is at least one Medal of Honor recipient that could be replaced with a specific Medal of Honor Headstone. Joyce stated all the labor for placing the headstones would be done with volunteers. The goal is to have it done by Memorial Day, 2016.

The Commissioners all expressed their thankfulness and approval of the project. They also all said they would be willing to help pay for the concrete needed.

Airport - Kurt Burns:

Mr. Burns stopped in to ask the Commissioners if the road department could mow the runways at the Airport because the lights are starting to be obscured from the tall grass at higher elevations. Commissioner Hurwitz said he would call Bruce Smith, and have someone do it as soon as possible. There was discussion and clarification that in the future the Commission needs to be notified when the mowing needs to be done, before it is a dire need. Commissioner Hurwitz also said they will hire it done this time if the road crew isn't able to do it soon enough because of the urgency. Everyone agreed.

Public Comment:

Tom Kuglin, reporter, and Tom Bridge, photographer, from the Helena Independent Record, came in to ask the Commissioners what their feelings and opinions of the Tintina Copper Mine are. Kuglin and Bridge stated they had just been on the guided tour for the mine. The Commissioners all expressed that they feel the mining will be done safely. The "old days" have changed and mining companies are monitored and held to standards that protect the environment while achieving the mining process. Commissioner Hurwitz said he prefers to see copper mined stateside where it will be monitored and done safely as opposed to imported from countries that don't follow guidelines. Additionally, all the Commissioners agreed that there has been thorough research done to ensure that the pollutants are minimal. Commissioner Townsend stated they would welcome someone to present scientific proof that it isn't safe, instead of all the speculation. Kuglin asked if there is concern from the Commissioners that the CEO is from out of state. Commissioner Hurwitz replied that he feels Jerry Zieg looked for help because there was a high potential the environmentalist would cause a small local investor big issues. The Commissioners all agreed that they feel good about the out of state investors because they are experienced copper miners from Australia. Kuglin asked if there are concerns about the number of people it would bring to town. Commissioner Townsend expressed he believes in free enterprise for the infrastructure. The Commissioners all agreed they feel safety from the Hard Rock Impact Mining Act, because it addresses issues like man camps. The County is also working on a Growth Policy in anticipation of the increase in infrastructure and population. Additionally the employee shifts will allow them the option and ability to have their families live elsewhere like Helena or Great Falls if need. It was stated by Commissioner Brewer that the industry of Meagher County could use the boost. It is the Commissioners' belief that the Community is excited and supportive. Most of the opposition is coming from out of town and

out of state. Bridge asked if the Smith River Floaters are a benefit to the County utilizing local businesses. The Commissioners expressed that they are just the opposite because of the burden of maintaining Smith River Road. In addition to the fact that most of the Floaters already have all the supplies they need and camp out at the river instead of staying locally in Hotels.

Claims Approved:

The Commissioners were presented with Payroll and Liability Checks - #011335 through Check #011374 totaling \$54,859.84. They were also presented with Check #50427 through Check #50434 totaling \$48,129.43 for F.Y. 14.15. Additionally they were presented Check #50488 through Check #50500 totaling \$90,809.04 for F.Y 15.16. All checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, July 14, 2015.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Administrative Assistant to Clerk & Recorder, Kate Jones
Distributed July 14, 2015 to Chairman Townsend, Commissioner Hurwitz, Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle.

Tuesday
July 14, 2015
8:40 a.m. – 11:31 a.m.
Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Townsend called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Herb Townsend, Commissioner Rod Brewer, and Commissioner Ben Hurwitz.

Treasurers Report - Sue Phelan:

Treasurer, Sue Phelan, presented the Commissioners with the monthly cash sheet for review and signatures. The Commissioners all signed the report as presented.

Commissioner Hurwitz addressed Phelan about the Commissioners meeting with the regional and area managers from the Department of Revenue on July 7, 2015. There was discussion about the protested taxes from Altel. Phelan stated that Meagher County does not spend any funds from protested taxes. Phelan advised that currently public protested taxes are approximately \$30,000.00, primarily from the Farm Bureau.

Phelan told the Commissioners that she and Deputy Treasurer, Shauna Porter, are still very busy. They have both worked some weekends trying to catch up. The Commissioners inquired about the new employee for the part time Motor Vehicle TAC position. Phelan said that due to extenuating circumstances the new employee is unsure when she will be able to start working. However Phelan expressed she feels the new employee will work out very well once she is able to start. Commissioner Hurwitz asked if Tary Buckingham had come in to help yet. Phelan updated the Commissioners that Buckingham has said she is willing to come help on the one Friday's when Porter is in Chemo. Phelan also stated that she doesn't believe looking for a temporary summer employee would be very successful due to the fact all of the high school and college students already have jobs.

Commissioner Townsend asked Phelan if she knew anything about the new school bill, and if there is an estimate on the percentage taxes will change. Phelan stated that she did not know what the percentage of change would be at this point. As of July 1, 2015 Meagher County became all one school district and will be taxed as such. Everyone agreed that the school needs to be updated, however the question is what will happen if the Tintina Copper Mine fails to go through. There was discussion about scaling back the plans if need be, and doing the best the County could, in the event the mining project fails.

The Honorable Paula Wildman- Justice of the Peace:

Paul Wildman came in to let the Commissioners know that she has an out of state wedding to attend, and get the Commissioners prior approval to do so. The Commissioners all agreed that would absolutely be fine.

Cemetery – Open Bids:

Cemetery Board members present to open the Mayn Cemetery underground sprinkler system bids were Cindy Mesecher and Chuck Lucas; also in attendance was Cemetery Sexton, Gene Harris and Sandy Harris.

Chairman Townsend opened the two sealed bids that were submitted to the Clerk & Records Office.

1. The Garden Shop, Mr. Hal Haugan of White Sulphur Springs, MT for \$ 109,266.00.

2. Nelson Underground Sprinkler & Landscape, Mr. Mark Nelson of Whitehall, MT for \$88,800.00.

Mesecher updated that the total money available to the Cemetery is \$110, 121.74. There was discussion on the specific details for each of the bids and qualifications. Cemetery Sexton, Gene Harris told the Commissioners that Nelson comes highly recommended by Townsend Tree and that he feels it would be the best choice to accept his bid and services.

County Attorney entered the meeting.

Commissioner Brewer said he would like to ensure we hold the last payment until the job is completed and accepted by the Cemetery Board and Harris. The bid from Nelson outlined payment terms of 1/3 at the beginning of the project, 1/3 half way through, and the final 1/3 upon completion of the underground sprinkler system. In addition that it is ensured Nelson provides the proper licensing and liability insurance. The Commissioners are agreeable to hiring Nelson.

Action#1

RESOLUTION 2015 - #74

Commissioner Brewer moved to accept the bid submitted by Nelson Underground Sprinkler & Landscape, Mr. Mark Nelson of Whitehall, MT for the Underground Sprinkler System at Mayn Cemetery, in the amount for \$88.800.00. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved.

County Attorney left the meeting.

The discussion was to have the original portion of the Cemetery completed first and depending on time and availability of Nelson, to also complete the Doig addition this year.

The Cemetery Board expressed many thanks to the Commissioners for their help and support throughout the sprinkler system project.

Meagher County Public TV – Brenda Hawkins:

Brenda Hawkins, Treasure of the Meagher County Public TV, came in to present the year-end report. Also in attendance was her husband Charles Hawkins. Mrs. Hawkins presented the FY 14.15 yearly report for Meagher County Public TV Station. The report and next year's budget was discussed between the Commissioner and Hawkins.

Clerk & Recorder, Dayna Ogle entered the room.

There was discussion regarding the new cost of \$1,000.00 last year for offsite tech support. Commissioner Brewer asked if it was a one-time payment, and Hawkins stated that it will be an annual cost from now on because of switching to digital service. The public has expressed to Hawkins that it is thankful and happy with the Public TV service provided now. Hawkins also said they made cost saving efforts like shutting down the building during the winter, to reduce the cost of heating.

Hawkins said that in the next year she is planning to convert some of the old programing to digital. With the appropriate consent they will be able to broadcast it for the public to enjoy. Commissioner Brewer asked if they had to send old footage out to be digitized at an additional cost; Hawkins said she can do it in house, it just takes time. The TV station is approaching its 30th anniversary next August.

Action #2

RESOLUTION 2015 - #75

Commissioner Brewer moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement to Provide Educational Television Service for FY 15.16. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. It is therefore resolved.

Chairman Townsend signed the Memorandum of Agreement to Provide Educational Television Service.

Clerk & Recorder, Dayna Ogle:

Ogle presented the Commissioners with a written request and quote in the amount of \$688.00, from Townsend Electric to install an emergency off switch outside the boiler room in the new Ambulance building. The Commissioners all approved.

Minutes:

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Fire/ DES – Rick Seidlitz:

Fire Chief, Rick Seidlitz reported that he had just returned from a fire in Cape Horn, Idaho. Seidlitz said he left the Wildland Fire early because of extenuating circumstances that needed his attention here this week.

Seidlitz discussed an issue from a recent Wildland fire in Meagher County. A miscommunication occurred between Seidlitz and two of the Meagher County volunteer firefighters. Seidlitz is taking some time to let the situation calm down, therefore, he will be able to make an objective decision on the appropriate course of action. The Commissioners expressed they are glad to have him as Fire Chief and trust him to make the best choice on behalf of the Meagher County Fire Department.

Commissioner Hurwitz asked about Title II money and the likelihood that we could get it again. Seidlitz said it would require that Meagher County be part of the RAC (Rural Advisory Committee) from Judith Basin. Seidlitz has spoken with our Forrest Service Ranger, Carrol Hatfield recently; however she hasn't been in to talk to the Commissioners about Title II funds yet. Seidlitz stated he will follow up on the status with Hatfield. Approval to have Meagher County reviewed to receive Title II funds would thereby give opportunity for Title III funds. These funds could be used to maintain any roads leading to the Forrest Service.

Seidlitz asked Commissioner Brewer if he would help coordinate a fire meeting for the Ringling volunteer fireman to go over the Fire Trucks. This would provide everyone with a refresher on the equipment in case of a fire this summer. Commissioner Brewer said he would be happy to coordinate with everyone as soon as Seidlitz provides a date and time.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #50501 through Check #50516 totaling \$ 11,968.01 for FY 14.15. Additionally presented with Check #50517 through Check #50535 totaling \$75,116.56 for FY 15.16. All Claims were presented as signed.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, July 21, 2015.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Administrative Assistant to Clerk & Recorder, Kate Jones
Distributed July 21, 2015 to Chairman Townsend, Commissioner Hurwitz, Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle.

Tuesday
July 21, 2015
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chair Commissioner Townsend called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Herb Townsend, Commissioner Ben Hurwitz, and Commissioner Rod Brewer.

Minutes:

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2015 meeting.
Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Clerk & Recorded – Dayna Ogle, Budget Workshop:

Clerk and Recorder, Dayna Ogle presented preliminary budgets for the Commissioners to review.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #50536 through Check #50537 totaling \$3,841.00.
They were also presented with Check#50538 through Check #50564 totaling \$50,102.85.
All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, August 4, 2015.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Administrative Assistant to Clerk & Recorder, Kate Jones
Distributed August 4, 2015 to Chairman Townsend, Commissioner Hurwitz, Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle.