

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

May 1st, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 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 Chair Ben Hurwitz, and Commissioner Herb Townsend were present for the meeting.

Minutes:

Commissioners decided to table the minutes from the April 20th, 2018 until the next meeting.

Road Report – Bruce Smith:

Road Supervisor Bruce Smith entered the chambers at 9:00 a.m.

Smith and the Commissioners discussed the water levels in Ringling and the surrounding areas and the potential effects to the culverts and bridges. Smith updated the Commissioners on the grader maintenance occurring and the replacement for the air to air component on the 2011 Kenworth. Discussion ended on the topic of preparation of roads for the magnesium chloride.

Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp:

Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 9:30 a.m.

Lopp introduced the new deputy Jermi West to the Commissioners. Lopp then updated the Commissioners about positive responses to the “*Every 15 Minutes*” presentation which was conducted on April 26th, 2018. Lopp also updated the Commissioners about his preliminary research for Detention Officer school and costs the county would incur to re-open the jail facility to house prisoners past three days. Lopp will report back as he finds out more information on the topic.

Public Hearing – Budget Amendment – Dayna Ogle:

Clerk and Recorder Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Ogle discussed with holding off on budget amendments at this time and complete all amendments during June 2018. Commissioners agreed to wait and complete all budget amendments during June 2018.

Chamber of Commerce Update – Kelly Huffield:

Kelly Huffield entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Huffield updated the Commissioners about the Barn Quilt Trail the Chamber of Commerce has been establishing throughout Meagher County. Currently there are 50 quilts on the Meagher County Trail map with more being added. Huffield then updated the Commissioners about adding small signs that state “*Home of the Red Ants Pants Music Festival*” to the existing county line signs and the City of White Sulphur Springs signs. Commissioners asked to be updated on the cost of adding a sign to the existing county signs if it is decided to do so on the county borders.

CTEP Update – Brian Obert:

Montana Business Association Connection Representative Brian Obert entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Obert updated the Commissioners about the Federal Land Access Grants and the designation of Meagher County as an opportunity zone. Obert and the Commissioners discussed that the designation of Meagher County being an opportunity zone and the potential to bring investors into the county or city. Obert stated that at this time it is still very new legislation so it is uncertain the complete outcomes of what could happen.

Obert and the Commissioners then discussed the bill from the City of White Sulphur Springs about a reimbursement for half of the match that was paid for the CTEP monies. Commissioners stated they only felt responsible for paying a match towards the work that was completed on the courthouse grounds. Obert understood and would send the commissioners documentation for the work completed on the courthouse grounds.

Lunch

Extension Report – Bob Sager:

Extension Agent Bob Sager entered the chambers at 1:30 p.m. 4H Council member Annie Lester entered the chambers at 1:35 p.m.

Sager and Lester updated the Commissioners on the reasons behind changing door position and sizes to the 4H Building. Commissioners, Sager, and Lester discussed the other costs that the council would incur in addition to the building structure cost itself. Commissioners agreed to allow the 4H Council to contact MQS Inc. with their changes to the 4H Building plans. Sager then updated the Commissioners about the letter that himself and the 4H Council will be presenting to the City Council later in the day for abandoning the alley way the barn may be constructed on. Sager ended discussion with the positive feedback he has been receiving from his newspaper articles in the Meagher County News.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Insurance Policy Updates – Julie Blockey:

Julie Blockey entered the chambers at 3:00 p.m.

Blockey presented the Commissioners with 2018 renewal rate packets for the Pacific Source Health Insurance . Blockey stated that the overall rate increase was about 2% percent for all plans. Discussion then took place about creating a virtual notebook for the county employees to access the insurance information and forms. Commissioners and Blockey set open enrollment up for Wednesday May 23rd, 2018 from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. for employees to sign up for their perspective insurance plans.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #54328 through Check #54379 totaling \$24,920.67. Check #12432 through Check #12455 totaling \$46,823.88 were presented prior to the meeting for payroll. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, May 8th, 2018.

CLERK & RECORDER

CHAIRMAN

SEAL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Assistant to the Clerk & Recorder Rebekah Luchterhand
Distributed May 8th, 2018 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Townsend, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle