

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA**

**Tuesday**

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 1:30 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:**

Chairman Rod Brewer, Vice Chairman Ben Hurwitz, and Commissioner Herb Townsend were present for the meeting.

**Minutes:**

**ACTION #1**

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the Minutes from September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with minor revisions. Chair Brewer seconded the motion. A vote was taken and minutes were approved.

**Extension Report – Bob Sager:**

Extension Agent Bob Sager entered the chambers at 9:00 a.m.

Sager and the Commissioners discussed the Beef Producers dinner presentation. Sager discussed upcoming winter meetings, specifically the Forest Management meeting scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Sager and the Commissioners ended discussion about the next steps being taken for electricity to the new 4H Building.

**Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp:**

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

Lopp presented the Complaint Report for September 2018. Commissioners and Lopp discussed the complaint report. Lopp and the Commissioners discussed the idea for a part-time School Resource Officer and the impact of a new deputy with the Black Butte Copper Project.

**Building Update – Bill Simmons:**

Building Supervisor Bill Simmons entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Simmons stated to the Commissioners that the new thermostats are working but the steam traps within the heaters are faulty. Simmons presented an estimate from JTech LLC for the replacement of the steam traps. Commissioners and Simmons discussed the cost associated with replacing the steam traps, wear and tear on the boiler from the non-functioning traps, and the rate in which heating fuel is being used. Commissioners stated to Simmons to try and receive estimates from local businesses to compare costs. Commissioners agreed to the replacement of steam traps in the Courthouse.

**Department of Revenue – Closing Office:**

Rosalind Olson and Ray Masee entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Olsen stated that the Department of Revenue office in the Courthouse on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Commissioners, Olson, and Masee discussed the process of the office closure and the changes to how the Department of Revenue will serve the members of Meagher County.

**Hard Rock Mine Impact Plan – Harold Blattie**

Clerk and Recorder Dayna Ogle, Treasurer Shauna Porter, Deputy Treasurer Maura Kusek, MACo Deputy Director Jason Rittal, and Former MACo Executive Director Harold Blattie entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Townsend requested that Blattie review the Hard Rock Mining Impact Plan submitted by the Black Butte Copper Project. Blattie and Rittal both reviewed the draft plan to help the Commissioners identify any unforeseen pit-falls for the county. Blattie focused on the use of estimated figures within the plan, discrepancies in number values, non-statements of loads to be hauled, and the responsibility of the County to contact the other effective parties for their comments.

Concluding discussion Blattie and Rittal gave recommendation that the County should hire a specific consultant to review the plan and draft a response letter in detail the comments that the County, School, and City of White Sulphur Springs have towards the plan that has been submitted.

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment.

**Claims Approved:**

Commissioners were presented with Check #54905 through Check #54942 totaling \$26,428.60. All Checks were signed as presented.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

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**CLERK & RECORDER**

**SEAL**

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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**COMMISSIONER**



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA**

**Tuesday**

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 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:**

Chairman Rod Brewer, Vice Chairman Ben Hurwitz, and Commissioner Herb Townsend were present for the meeting.

**Minutes:**

**ACTION #1**

Chair Brewer moved to approve the Minutes from October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 with minor revisions. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and minutes were approved.

*Building Supervisor Bill Simmons updated the Commissioners that Paddock Heating is to start the installation of the Courthouse steam traps on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.*

**Treasurer Report – Shauna Porter:**

*Treasurer Shauna Porter rescheduled the report for the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting.*

**County Attorney Report – Rebecca Swandal:**

County Attorney Rebecca Swandal was called via conference call at 9:30 a.m.

Swandal and the Commissioners discussed the Gibbs verse State Case. Swandal also updated the Commissioners about misdemeanor tickets and a few DUI cases.

**Health Nurse Report – Eva Kerr R.N.:**

Health Nurse Eva Kerr R.N. entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Kerr presented the Commissioners with a Health Report for September 2018. Kerr stated that the Homemaker program is to receive a total of \$12,000 this year instead of the usual \$10,000. Kerr stated that the board honored her request for the additional funding. Commissioners and Kerr discussed the upcoming flu season and flu shot clinics to be held within the community.

**Board of Health – Eva Kerr R.N.:**

Sanitarian Sean Hill, Health Nurse Eva Kerr R.N., Mayor Rick Nelson, Sandy Harris, and the Commissioners were present for the meeting.

Kerr stated that from July 2018 through September 2018 there were three (3) cases of Chlamydia and two (2) dog bites. No communicable diseases were reported from the Red Ants Pants Music Festival. Kerr updated all members that next quarter there will be a tabletop training lunch on responses to communicable diseases.

Hill updated those present on an increase of septic permits issued within the county. Discussion then changed to the expansion of the water and sewer lines within the city to hook up a permanent short-term housing facility. Mayor Nelson updated that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approved the connection for the facility and it is currently being installed. Mayor Nelson also stated that from the expansion of the line a new fire hydrant will be on the east side of 6<sup>th</sup> and Hancock.

**Fire/DES Report – Rick Seidlitz:**

Fire Chief Rick Seidlitz entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Seidlitz updated the Commissioners on the current winterization of the Wildland Fire Trucks taking place. Commissioners and Seidlitz discussed drafting building plans for a fire building in Ringling.

**LEPC Lunch**

**Combining Animal Control – Mayor Rick Nelson:**

Mayor Rick Nelson, Council Member Mike Eby, Council Member Sara Driemeyer, and City Employee Rocky Vinton entered the chambers at 1:30 p.m.

Mayor Nelson proposed to the Commissioners a joint Animal Control Employee Position for the County and City. Mayor Nelson and Vinton addressed that the City Animal Control currently is dealing with a large volume of county dogs. Specifically, ranch dogs being picked up on county roads and brought to town. Mayor Nelson and Vinton expressed how this is impacting the City on both a financial and productivity level. Commissioners and those present discussed the positives and negatives of Joint Animal Control Officer. Commissioners requested that Mayor Nelson return with a cost analysis for the County before any further decisions are to be made.

**Predator Control:**

Commissioners discussed the current state of the coyote and wolf population within Meagher County. Commissioners are reevaluating the Predator Control Memorandums of Understanding that are currently held with the Montana Stockgrower's Association for sheep and cattle.

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment.

**Claims Approved:**

Commissioners were presented with Check #54943 through Check #54971 totaling \$26,428.60. All Checks were signed as presented.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

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**CLERK & RECORDER**

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**CHAIRMAN**

**SEAL**

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**VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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**COMMISSIONER**

Note: Minutes taken by Assistant to the Clerk & Recorder Rebekah Luchterhand  
Distributed October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to Chairman Brewer, Vice Chair Hurwitz, and Commissioner Townsend, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle