

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

April 2nd, 2019

12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chair Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

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

Minutes:

Commissioners tabled approving minutes until their next scheduled meeting.

Clerk & Recorder – Worker's Comp Review – Dayna Ogle:

Clerk and Recorder Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 1:00 p.m.

Ogle presented the Commissioners with the changes in MACo Worker's Comp by-laws. Commissioners and Ogle then discussed the recent Worker's Compensation Audit conducted on the County.

Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp:

Sheriff Lopp was unable to attend and rescheduled his report for the next Commission meeting.

Meagher County Stewardship Council – Becky Townsend:

Becky Townsend, Gordon Doig, and Katie Boedecker is the chairman entered the chambers at 2:00 p.m.

Boedecker presented the Commissioners with the Mission Statement of the Meagher County Stewardship Council. Commissioners, Boedecker, Doig, and Townsend discussed the goals of the Meagher County Stewardship Council, current board members and members, and their current work with Sandfire America on the Black Butte Copper Project.

Rocky Mountain Economic Development Group Update – Rob Gilmore:

Kimberly Deschene entered the chambers at 2:30 p.m. and Rob Gilmore called in at 2:30 p.m.

Gilmore updated the Commissioners about the business interactions Rocky Mountain Economic Development Group (RMDG) is doing within White Sulphur Springs and Meagher County. He stated that currently RMDG is working with the Gordon Butte Hydro-Project and one restaurant in town. Gilmore and the Commissioners then discussed the housing needs and the planning options that would be available for Meagher County and White Sulphur Springs.

Sheriff Inter-Local Agreement Draft Review – Burt Hurwitz:

Mayor Rick Nelson, County Attorney Burt Hurwitz, and Clerk & Recorder Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 3:00 p.m. City Council Member Rob Brandt and Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 3:10 p.m.

County Attorney Hurwitz explained the new presented draft of the Sheriff Inter-Local Agreement. This draft contained changes from the City Council meeting that was held on Monday April 1st, 2019. Commissioners, County Attorney Hurwitz, and Ogle discussed the changes to the policy, which were minor. Discussion then turned towards the financing of the agreement. County Attorney Hurwitz stated that the City Council members would like to have a set amount of money stated within the agreement to allow for certainty in budgeting. Mayor Nelson and Brandt joined the discussion stating that a base figure plus inflation would be ideal. All those present discussed if the monetary amount should reflect the wages and benefits of the lowest paid officer or an entry level office. Ogle stated that a spreadsheet would be created by the next meeting to show the cost of the paid officer employed by the county. Discussion ended with a request from the Commissioners that the agreement be changed from a 5-year auto-renewing term to a 2-year auto-renewing term.

It was found that additional research will need to be completed to determine how the Special Police Force District was formed, which entity has ownership of the district, and if changes can be made to the district. Specifically, the process of how to make changes if applicable.

County Attorney Agreement:

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz presented an agreement between Meagher County and Church Harris Johnson & Williams PC, where he is a part-time shareholder. The agreement is for splitting the cost of Westlaw subscription, State Bar License Fee, secretarial assistance, and a part-time health insurance benefit contribution.

ACTION#1

Resolution 2019 - 14

Commissioners moved to sign the Agreement as presented with Church Harris Johnson & Williams PC. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. The agreement was signed. Chair Hurwitz abstained from the matter.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #55521 through Check #55545 totaling \$20,844.99. Payroll Check #12717 through Check #12741 were totaling \$58,358.84 were pre-presented. Claim Check #55492 through Check #55520 totaling \$36,812.26 were also pre-presented. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

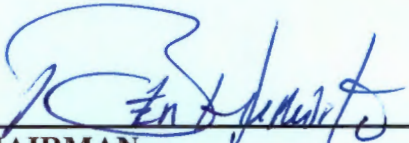
Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, April 9th, 2019.



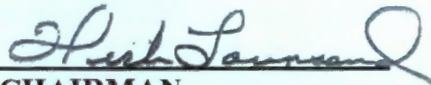
CLERK & RECORDER




CHAIRMAN

SEAL





VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Assistant to the Clerk & Recorder Rebekah Luchterhand
Distributed April 9th, 2019 to Chairman Hurwitz, Vice Chair Townsend, and Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday
April 9th, 2019
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chair Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

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

Minutes:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Brewer moved to approve the Minutes from March 19th, 2019 meeting with minor revisions and the Minutes from April 2nd, 2019. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. A voted was taken and minutes were approved.

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 the Health Report for March 2019. Kerr updated the Commissioners about vaccinations conducted for the 6th through 12th graders in the school. Kerr is planning a Safe Sitter Class in May of 2019 and a new program called Safe Home. Commissioners and Kerr then discussed the high volume of Influenza cases reported in March of 2019.

Board of Health – Eva Kerr R.N. and Sean Hill:

Health Nurse Eva Kerr R.N., Sanitarian Sean Hill, Sandy Harris entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m. Mayor Rick Nelson was unable to attend the meeting.

Kerr presented the Board of Health Report. Kerr stated that from January through March there were 13 cases of Influenza A, 3 cases of Influenza B, 2 hospitalizations from Influenza, and many more that presented flu like symptoms. During the week of March 10th through March 16th there was a large amount of the student body out due to flu like symptoms and was peak numbers for the community. Discussion took place about multiple strands of Influenza that had hit the community and state during that time.

Kerr and Hill then reported on the March 13th semi-truck wreck containing cheese. They discussed state reporting and procedures and assistance from DES Coordinator Rick Seidlitz.

Fire/DES Report – Rick Seidlitz:

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

Seidlitz and the Commissioners discussed the current power outage that started at about 8 a.m. that morning. Seidlitz reported on the flooding in Ringling and the nine-mile junction. Seidlitz stated that the lower dam on Badger Creek had failed again; which is a private reservoir; Commissioners and Seidlitz discussed the regulations for private reservoirs and other areas of concern for flooding. Lastly they discussed the pay raise for the half time DES Coordinator position.

Extension Report – Bob Sager:

Extension Agent Bob Sager entered the chambers at 11:30 a.m.

Sager presented the Commissioner with a written report. Commissioners and Sager discussed the upcoming presentation, on Soil Inoculants, on Thursday April 12th, 2019. Sager will also be holding a Tree Workshop in early May 2019.

LEPC Lunch

Sheriff Report – Jon Lopp:

Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 1:30 p.m.

Lopp presented the Commissioners with the Complaint Report for March 2019. Lopp stated to the Commissioners that the new patrol vehicle would be available in May 2019. Lopp and the Commissioners discussed the power outage and flooding in Ringling. Northwestern energy assured the Commissioners they will contact the Meagher County Sheriff with the correct information the next time there is an outage.

Non-Agenda Item – State of Emergency:

Fire Chief/DES Coordinator Rick Seidlitz entered the chambers at 1:50 p.m.

Seidlitz requested that the Commissioners declare a state of emergency for Meagher County due to the prolonged power outage. The power outage has created concerns for resident's welfare within the County.

ACTION #2

Resolution 2019 – 15

Chair Hurwitz moved to declare a State of Emergency for Meagher County due to the power outage. The declaration of emergency will end when Northwestern Energy has restored power to Meagher County. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved and Meagher County is in a State of Emergency until power is restored.

Treasurer Report – Shauna Porter:

Treasurer Shauna Porter entered the chambers at 2:00 p.m.

Porter presented the Commissioners with the March 2019 Cash Sheet for signature. Porter and the Commissioners briefly discussed the cash sheet.

Jess Secrest entered the chambers at 2:15 p.m. Secrest updated the Commissioners about the road work that the Meagher County Sportsmen Association is going to be completing. Secrest requested about 40 to 50 yards of gravel. The Commissioners stated that Secrest discuss the matter with Road Supervisor Bruce Smith and to look into pit run.

3rd Quarter Budget Review – Dayna Ogle:

Clerk and Recorder Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 2:30 p.m.

Ogle and the Commissioners discussed funds that have spent 75% or more of their budget.

Sandfire America – Black Butte Copper Project – Nancy Schlepp:

Sandfire America representative Nancy Schlepp, Sandfire America CEO Rob Scargill, new Sandfire America CFO John McGonigle, Sheriff Jon Lopp, Treasurer Shauna Porter, and Deputy Treasurer Maura Kusek entered the chambers at 3:00 p.m.

Schlepp and Scargill introduced the new Chief Financial Officer John McGonigle. Scargill and Schlepp then updated the Commissioners about the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Study Report, which is 30 days into the 60-day comment period. Once the comment period is complete DEQ will take approximately 2 to 3 months to review all the comments submitted. Sandfire America expects a record of decision from DEQ in August 2019. Also discussed was the potential for a lawsuit, the process of filing an injunction, the route Fergus Electric will take to the mine and the current plan for construction.

2020 Census Job Opportunities – Susan Sharp:

Susan Sharp from the United States Census Bureau entered the chambers at 3:30 p.m.

Sharp presented the Commissioners with information about the upcoming 2020 United States Census. Sharp explained that the bureau is looking for employees from local communities to hire during the time. Sharp and the Commissioners discussed the job opportunity and how the census paperwork would be completed online. More information about the working for during the 2020 Census can be found in the Clerk and Recorder's Office.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #55546 through Check #55571 totaling \$20,. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

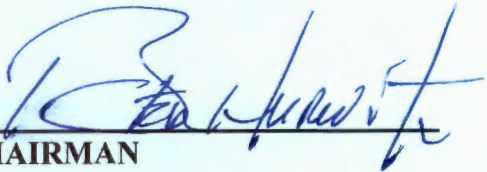
Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, April 16th, 2019.



CLERK & RECORDER



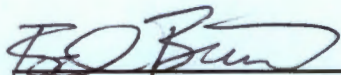
CHAIRMAN



VICE-CHAIRMAN

SEAL





COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Assistant to the Clerk & Recorder Rebekah Luchterhand
Distributed April 16th, 2019 to Chairman Hurwitz, Vice Chair Townsend, and Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

April 16th, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chair Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

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

Minutes:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Brewer moved to approve the Minutes from April 9th, 2019 meeting with minor revisions. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and minutes were approved.

IT Update – Jim McDanel:

IT Supervisor Jim McDanel was unable to attend, report rescheduled until next meeting.

County Attorney Report – Burt Hurwitz:

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz entered the chambers at 2:00 p.m.

County Attorney Hurwitz presented the Commissioners with a report for March 2019. County Attorney Hurwitz and the Commissioners discussed the preparations and costs of the upcoming jury trial on April 29th, 2019.

Road Report – Bruce Smith:

Road Supervisor Bruce Smith and Foreman Tim Collins entered the chambers at 2:25 p.m.

Smith, Collins, and the Commissioners discussed the road repair work being completed in Ringling. Discussion took place about placing a culvert on 1st Ave in Ringling to help with water flow. Smith then stated to the Commissioners that he is retiring from Meagher County on May 23rd, 2019. Discussion took place about placing ads in the Meagher County News for hiring a Road Crew member. Discussion ended about the routine maintenance on county equipment and specific equipment repairs to budget for in Fiscal Year 19.20.

Preliminary Building Budget – Dayna Ogle:

Clerk and Recorder Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 3:00 p.m.

Ogle and the Commissioners discussed painting of the courthouse and using building reserve funds to pay for the project. Commissioners requested that Ogle place a call for bid in the Meagher County to paint the Courthouse.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #55573 through Check #55596 totaling \$18,582.35. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

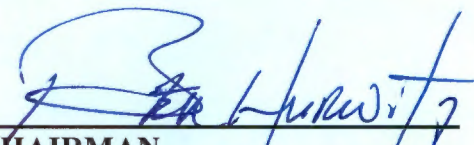
Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, May 7th, 2019.



CLERK & RECORDER




CHAIRMAN

SEAL





VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Assistant to the Clerk & Recorder Rebekah Luchterhand
Distributed May 7th, 2019 to Chairman Hurwitz, Vice Chair Townsend, and Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Ogle