

*Macque L. Bohlen*

146

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

March 5, 2024

Commissioners Scott Miller, Scott Blain, and Bill Bullock, and Administrative Officer Angela Newell were present.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners discussed the Wind Impact Fee, maintenance costs of roads accessing the wind farm (roughly \$6M over 30 years), and the meeting with the Town of Bridger next week regarding possible impacts from the wind farm.

Commissioners discussed trucking costs for FFP Case loader (\$9K).

Commissioners discussed brand mark mockups.

9:00 Jennifer Drinkwalter met to discuss the use of County Roads for a tour June 23-28<sup>th</sup> and a Gravel Road Race August 25<sup>th</sup>. The events will be using the parking area adjacent to the Rodeo grounds and have gone through permitting with the City and Subleasing with the Rodeo Association. Discussed Road Encroachment permitting for County Roads used. Drinkwalter noted that grading within days of the event can create hazards for cyclists, Bullock noted the base encroachment fee of \$100 would apply. Bullock moved to approve the encroachment for both events with the receipt of an encroachment permit, a \$100 fee, and a copy of the organizers' liability insurance.

Bullock moved to approve Commissioners' Proceedings for February 20, 2024; Blain seconded; motion carried.

Bullock moved to accept District Court End of Period Disbursement, Clerk and Recorder Monthly Deposit Reconciliation; Treasurer Cash Report for February 2024; Blain seconded; motion carried.

9:40 Bullock moved to close the meeting for a personnel issue; Blain seconded; motion carried. 9:50 meeting reopened.

Commissioners discussed Joliet Grader bids the differences in plow prices and delivery times, the Asphalt Inventory / Maintenance Plan and options to evaluate current asphalt roads, and Courthouse electrical issues that have effected dispatch.

10:30 Geospatial Information Systems Coordinator / Fire Warden Tom Kohley met for his monthly update. Discussed surplus FFP equipment delivery costs. Kohley reviewed his report (attached). Kohley also discussed the School District map project he has been working on to help establish historical boundaries for various special districts that were based on school district boundaries when they were created.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

March 5, 2024 (cont.)

Kohley noted that in 1956 the Superintendent of Schools established school district boundaries for 26 school districts which has shrunk to 9 Districts through about 85 boundary changes. Discussed Fuel Tax Maps.

Ronnie Reed in attendance discussed N. Sage Creek Road damage on the road which Nixon has declined to prosecute criminally and the new 4x4 business. Reed also requested a dead end sign be placed on Taylor Road,

11:22 Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator Cyrina Allen met for her monthly update (attached). Discussed the FEMA meeting last week noting A&E reports for Grove Creek damages under DR4745 would be eligible FEMA Public Assistance costs. The County could then seek mitigation funding to do repairs for the final solution. Bullock moved to go forward with an A&E Study for Grove Creek; Blain seconded; and discussed possible solutions and issues with funding availability, and concerns about whether the study will result in an acceptable project. Miller noted the road is a bus route and it has taken considerable effort to keep the road band-aided. Discussion of study and project timelines. Motion carried.

11:40 Public Health Director Erin Cross met for her monthly update and reviewed her written report (attached). Discussed allocating Community Health Equity Grant (CHEG) funds to rent the Fromberg Senior Center to provide mental health services. Cross noted Beartooth Billings Clinic is losing their therapist and there is a significant patient load to be absorbed, she looking at options with the Mental Health Center.

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Airport Interlocal Agreement. Jacque Papez, Mayor Dave Westwood, Dennison Butler, Bo Ewald, Steve Smith, Phil Nardinger, Denise Rivette, Terry Durbin, and Elanor Guerrero. Discussion of efforts/discussions to date with Westwood noting he believes there is a consensus is that both parties want to keep the airport in operation for public safety benefits to both City and County as a perpetual resource. Westwood presented a summary document of goals. Blain noted would like to ensure the Joliet District is represented in the Airport Board makeup. Discussion of conversations with Mayor DeRudder, Westwood believes he has a good understanding of what DeRudder's goals are. Papez asked about the boundary; Westwood noted the City council has proposed a boundary, but it has not been accepted by the County; the questions of what is the airport boundary and what is the Joint Airport Board's control over that area are the two biggest questions outstanding. The City Council's objective is to minimize the control ceded to another entity while ensuring the proper operations of an airport.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

March 5, 2024 (cont.)

Discussion of the various boundaries being considered and what geographic markers could be used to establish an easily recognizable boundary. Westwood noted Council has expressed concerns about the future protection of the walking trail system. Discussion about the status of City Ordinances that define the airport in zoning overlays and the most recent Ordinance which defines the airport much more narrowly than the zoning Ordinance which gives zoning control to the Joint Airport Board. Westwood noted it is the City's goal is to constrain the airport to the area required for airport operations and to take additional actions to protect the adjacent land. The City is considering addressing Ordinance 776 and zoning control over the boundary outlined in that Ordinance. Ewald noted Airport Board approved an "easement" for the walking trail system in 2010. There was a discussion of what protections could be put in place to preserve the trail system such as a Memorandum of Understanding; Butler was concerned trail system could be fenced out by the Airport Board.

Discussion of the County's proposed changes to the Interlocal Agreement specifically the proposed changes to the dissolution clause; the City is concerned the County could terminate the agreement and City would still on the hook for all investments in the airport. Papez noted the draft language was meant to clear up questions on what and how airport assets were valued. Discussion of improvements that are fixed to the property, how those items are valued, and how they would be handled in a termination. The county is concerned that without County protection it could be a windfall to the City with improvements made significantly at County taxpayer expense which increase the value of the City's land. Westwood is concerned that the County could terminate the agreement and the City would have to "buy out" the County. If the City terminates Westwood does not have concerns about making the County whole; but wants to make sure the City isn't on the hook in the event the County terminates the Agreement. Westwood asked if the dissolution clause could recognize the value of the land and improvements to the land in the event the County terminates. Papez proposed creating separate termination clauses for Municipal termination vs. County termination. Miller noted with the public's investment in the airports it is irresponsible for either entity to terminate the agreement; Smith noted FAA assurances would also be a disincentive to terminate. Papez noted interlocal could have more general language and then specific improvements could be addressed in an addendum.

The discussion shifted to the airport boundary and Rodeo Association lease. Westwood is evaluating the possibility of creating parkland to protect the area surrounding the airport. The City is in discussions directly with the Rodeo Association regarding the "parking" area north of their property. Westwood noted a park designation is much more difficult to overturn and can not be overturned unilaterally.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

March 5, 2024 (cont.)

Miller asked if a park designation could limit parking if someone wanted to plant grass and turn it into a "green space"; Miller would like to make sure it is clear that camping, vehicle parking, trailer parking, and ski joring are allowed to continue.

Westwood noted with FAA funding grass runways would be designated as landing areas to be used at a pilot's discretion not a formal "runway." Nardinger noted the current process to utilize the space is confusing and a disincentive for large events that currently have to deal with 2, 3, or 4 entities depending on the areas being used. Westwood noted the limitation of lease language as approved in the interlocal agreement and the City wants the area to follow City land use policy. 2:05

Commissioner Bill Bullock joined the meeting. Discussion of how entities sublease the land, Nardinger noted the Rodeo Association's desire to streamline the process for event organizers. He feels the City is not honoring the lease with the Airport Board by requiring event organizers to also go through City permitting.

Papez suggested the Interlocal Agreement revisions start with the County's redline with additional edits discussed today regarding the dissolution clause.

Discussion of Liability insurance and request to add City as an additional insured.

Discussion of Courthouse electrical issues, possible relocation of Dispatch to Personal Services Building, and costs involved in shoring up electricity at the Courthouse vs. PSB to support dispatch.

Adjourned.

ATTEST:

  
Clerk & Recorder

  
Commission Presiding Officer

Respectfully submitted: Angela Newell, Administrative Officer

# GIS/Addressing/Fire Warden Briefing to County Commissioner

~~February 6, 2024~~

March 5

- GIS
- Submitted MGIA grant application to MT State Library for GPS base station (\$30,985 MGIA funds requested)
  - Met with new Red Lodge Public Works Director to discuss GIS program
  - Worked on school district transactions and developed slides to summarize project
  - Developed Web map and reviewed fuel tax designations

- County Permitting
- New addresses issued/documentation provided: 8 County, 0 City of Red Lodge,
  - Road approach permits: 3
  - Reviewed all Group 1 and 2 development permits and provided comments to Planning Dept
  - Attended Bramble, Truxillo subdivision preliminary review meetings

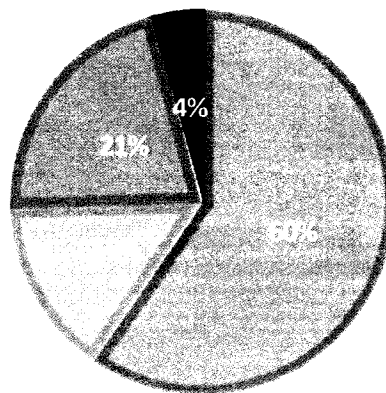
- Fire Warden
- Met with Scott Griswold & Election Administrator to discuss RFD#2 annexation
  - Selected from FAMLN award of \$968. Status of award uncertain.
  - Joliet Rural Fire District awarded \$15,770 for radios through Volunteer Assistance Grant
  - Summarized # fires, acres burned, ignition source for 2021-2023 fires in County (see below)
  - Met with Big Sky Deputy Fire Chief to discuss Home Hardening workshop
  - Launched marketing campaign for Home Hardening Workshop scheduled for April 6
  - Dropping HMGP Post-Fire grant application due to lack of interested from Red Lodge Mountain

- Miscellaneous
- Attended meeting with Rebel River to discuss branding/Website
  - Updated content for public monitor at Admin building

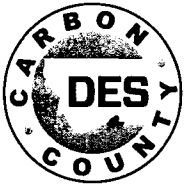
- Discussion / Action Items
- RFD#2 Annexation
  - School Districts

## CAUSE OF CARBON COUNTY FIRES 2021-2023

■ HUMAN CAUSED   ■ NATURAL   ■ UNDETERMINED   ■ UNCLASSIFIED



YEAR	TOTAL FIRES	HUMAN CAUSED	NATURAL	UNDETERMINED	UNCLASSIFIED	TOTAL ACRES	NOTES
2021	41	19	10	10	2	36,628	Robertson Draw Fire 29885 Ac.; Crooked Creek Fire 4141 Ac.; Harris 2500 Ac.
2022	27	17	3	5	2	946	Deep Draw Fire 823 Ac. (approx. half of which was in Carbon)
2023	26	20	1	5	0	63	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>37,636</b>	



# Monthly DES Update to County Commissioners

## March 5th, 2024

### Incidents

- Spring 2022 Flood-update
  - In closeout phase for county projects
  - CMZ floodplain mapping...not sure if they are regulatory
- Spring/Summer 2023 Bridger Road District Damages
  - Working with Angela, Sam, and FEMA PDMG on projects
  - Grove Creek Architecture and Engineering Report????
- NWS Briefings-as needed per the NWS
- Working with FS to get RAWs station setup just south of Vista Point.
- SNOTEL-monitors reading 50-78%

### Grants

#### Emergency Management Planning Grants (EMPG)

- FY2023-24 EMPG
  - Awarded \$101,980 (\$50,990 county cash match)
  - Completing quarterly submissions as required
- FY2021 EMPG ARPA Grant (Submitted as FY22 EMPG Reverted Funds)
  - Awarded \$5400 (\$2700 cost match split) for Mobile EOC radio and EOC radio cache.
  - Finishing up last set of orders for EOC radios

#### Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- DR4655 Mitigation grant apps
  - Joliet Sewer Lagoons
    - Submitted to State DES and now FEMA
  - County projects-Road and Bridge Infrastructure Master Plan
    - Submitted to State DES and now FEMA
  - Sand Creek Canal
    - Submitted to State DES and now FEMA
    - Waiting on agreement signatures from Mark Giesick (Ditch Board) and Dylan Sedlacek (cash match donation)
  - Rock Creek Clear Creek Ditch
    - Still working with Conservation, DNRC, State DES, and the Dept. of Commerce

#### State Homeland Security Grant Program

- FY21 Microwave Project
  - Grant closeout request complete.

#### Other Grant Opportunities

- USDA Grants
  - Water Infrastructure Grant Opportunity
    - Over \$8 million available
  - Community Facilities Disaster Repair Grant Opportunity
    - Up to \$50 million available

#### 911 Communications

- Radio Committee meetings monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
  - Radio Committee working on new tower site information
  - Joliet priority, then Roscoe and Warren
    - Working on basics: location/property, foundation, building, power, etc....
- ProQA is finally in the implementation phase
  - Dispatch policy and procedures currently be approved by a representative from Fire, Law, and EMS.

- Go Live projected late March 2024

#### Training /Exercises/Education

- Attended MACo February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>
- Assisted with ICS300 in Billings February 29<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>
- Preparedness Summit Cleveland, OH March 25-28<sup>th</sup>
- EMI FEMA Emmitsburg, Maryland April 8-12<sup>th</sup>

#### Emergency Operations Plan

- Working with LEPC Planning Subcommittee with plans to start update this winter

#### Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Monthly Eastern Regional Hazard Plan meetings with State DES and Wood Consulting
  - Public review and comment period started yesterday March 4<sup>th</sup> and is open through March 18<sup>th</sup>. Link will be added to Carbon Alert social media today.

#### LEPC

- Next meeting April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- Planning and Outreach committee's meeting on off months

#### Public Health Officer

- Attempting monthly meetings with PH Director and Sanitarian

#### Miscellaneous

- Monthly IPAWS tests
- Bi-Monthly State DES Coordinator calls
- Helping with new county website implementation
- Ski-Joring digital trailers and barricades
- Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>, Pipeline meeting at Big Horn Resort 11:30am
- Cyrina will be in Great Falls for daughter's dance competition Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup>. Available by phone if needed.

## Public Information-regular duties

- Promoting CodeRED via social media and local newspaper, flyers to common places
- Working on an emergency notification testing schedule
- Setting up demos with other ENS platforms
- Building out social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram to get larger audience and coverage
- Building media relationships
- Flood and general disaster preparedness for communities
- Monitors NWS for any weather sharing
- Monitors other emergency management platforms (Local, State, and Federal) to share preparedness tools
- Helps other departments with PIO duties, including PH, Sanitarian's Office, Safety Coordinator, etc.
- Involved in new website implementation

### Goals:

- Regular hours to be Tuesday and Wednesday 8:30am-4pm, and Thursday 8:30am-3pm
  - Overtime to be pre-approved by DES
    - Incidents or deadline specific duties that come outside of normal hours
  - Most work coming from PH and DES at this time
  - Goal is to help other county departments as needed/as trained
- Become familiar with Carbon County operations, goals, and local government responsibilities
- Become familiar with media outlets to help decipher media requests