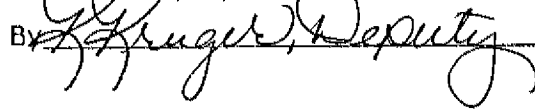


By  Deputy

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## COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

October 24, 2024

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

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance.

8:35 Public Comment. Steve Morgan appeared to discuss sanitation restrictions on a parcel of property he owns on North Two Bear Road for well and ground water review. He began the process on July 2, 2024. He is being told by County Sanitarian, Barbara Krizek that groundwater monitoring will need to be performed over the next year through September or October of 2025. Discussion was held regarding the concerns of the County Sanitarian, the system Morgan's engineers designed, and the County's review process, and Krizek's desire for additional groundwater monitoring which Morgan believes is unreasonable, Blain agreed to look into the matter. Morgan thanked the Commissioners and left the meeting. Seeing no further discussion, Presiding Officer Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:00 Employee Time Status Review.

9:30 City of Red Lodge. Red Lodge City Mayor Dave Westwood joined the meeting. Westwood provided an update on the Planning Board and City's Future Land Use Map. Although there are good reasons for having one, the Future Land Use Map is not a statutory requirement. Contract City Planner Jeremy Fadness and Contract County Planner, Forrest Mandeville have been meeting and plan to present their conversations at a future meeting. Westwood advised there have been two requests from property owners outside of the city limits to annex into the City within the last month. He believes the properties in question are acceptable for annexation to the City.

Westwood had questions regarding the C-PACE loan program for alternative energy funding. C-Pace loans are paid back through a special tax assessment. Westwood asked what red flags the County saw in the program when it was presented to them. Bullock's concern was whether it allows funding a hardline installed traditional natural gas, propane, fossil fuel backup if the alternative energy source happens to fail. The organization that presented to the County has not come back with an answer. Newell said there were also administrative concerns regarding taxation and how those loans would affect the priority of the County taxes in the event of default. Both Mayor Westwood and Commissioner Blain questioned why the City and/or the County need to be involved at all.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

October 24, 2024 (cont.)

Westwood reported on the Airport discussion held at the last Standing Committee meeting and noted the status of the court case regarding development in the runway protection zone.

10:00 County Attorney. County Attorney Alex Nixon joined the meeting. Discussed the Renaissance Fair Lease Agreement, Nixon will follow up with Fair Secretary Sally Birkelo. Also discussed was the sentencing in the Polakoff case, Polakoff has been remanded to the State Department of Corrections and is no longer a Carbon County prisoner. Blain reported confessions had been obtained regarding the theft of 20+ road signs. Alex advised that the perpetrators could potentially be charged with felony criminal mischief. Blain voiced his opinion that the matter should be prosecuted in order to deter incidents of future theft. Presiding Officer Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

10:30 School Boundary Adjustments Report and Revision Processes. GIS/Addressing Coordinator, Tom Kohley, County Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools, Lori Lynde, Deputy Treasurer Leah Niemi, and Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Lori Kane joined the meeting. Kohley presented a slide show on Boundary Modernization. He advised that the school district map on the State of Montana website is incorrect. The more he researched, he realized that simply changing the lines on a map would not solve the problem. He presented a report on the 7-phase project he has initiated as well as a history of the boundaries of the school districts and reasons for the inaccuracies contained in the current maps. Phase I-Retracement of boundary legal descriptions as of 1956 records; Phase II-Digitization of chronological transactions and retracement of all post 1956 transactions, about 90% complete; Phase III Time Series-which is a layered mapping of the changes in the boundaries over time, about 60% complete; Phase IV-Identify discrepancies, 0% complete; Phase V-Approve School District Boundaries; Kohley advised statute MCA 20-6-103 provides for the process to approve the School District Boundaries. Presiding Officer Miller paused this agenda item for the agenda item scheduled at 11:00.

11:00 Channel migration grant application. Logan Beck, representative from the Yellowstone Valley Partnership, joined the meeting. Newell advised the current grant from the DNRC is not going to cover the costs of completing the mapping program for channel migration County wide; the grant is for additional funding to complete the project. Blain moved to approve the grant application from the Yellowstone Valley Partnership to the DNRC Conservation and Resource Development Division, Bullock seconded. Newell and Logan confirmed it is a request for a new funding cycle, motion carried.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

October 24, 2024 (cont.)

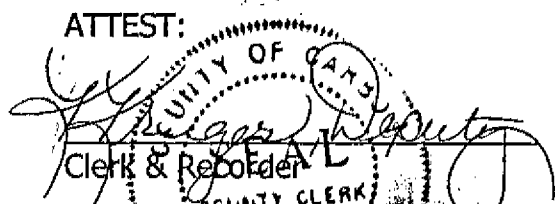
11:05 Continuation of School Boundary Adjustments Report and Revision Processes. Phase VI and VII Adjust & Approve SID Boundaries associated with Fire Districts, EMS Districts, Cemetery Districts, etc. Kohley advised that the School District boundary adjustments could affect other district boundaries within the County as the school districts were used to create many subsequent districts. Following the discussion on the presentation, Lynde, Niemi, and Kane left the meeting.

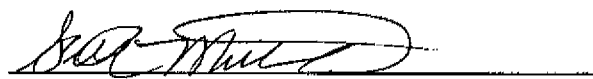
11:16 Sheriff Josh McQuillan and Deputy Kelly Carrington joined the meeting to give an update on the move to the State's Radio Trunking System. Deputy Carrington presented maps and reported on the different types of radio transmission coverages and their restrictions, as well as options for expansions. Miller asked where the funds for the upgrades would come from. Newell advised funding would be through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and 911 Program revenues would purchase the equipment and State Highway Patrol would provide the installation via their staff. Kohley said that although Fire Service requirements differ from the Sheriff's office requirements for communication services, the system would theoretically benefit the fire service and he finds no reason to object to the system change. Discussion was held regarding equipment ownership and maintenance obligations between the County and State. Newell advised the Sheriff's department would be able to maintain the Simulcast System, while transitioning to a trunked system and discussed suggested timelines for obtaining equipment and finalizing an interlocal agreement with the State of Montana. Discussion was held regarding maintenance and the need for the Sheriff's office to have direct contact with a tech for maintenance issues. McQuillan and Newell will work together to prepare an interlocal agreement for the County and have it reviewed by the County Attorney prior to Commissioner Review.

11:30 Consent Agenda. Blain moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of minutes of Commissioners' Proceedings from October 8 and 10, 2024. Bullock seconded the motion, motion carried.

12:00 Presiding Officer Miller adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

  
 Clerk & Recorder  
 COUNTY CLERK  
 MONTANA

  
 Commission Presiding Officer

Respectfully submitted: Clerk, Katrina Kruger