

By Macque L. Bohleen

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COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

October 29, 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. Mark Shubert attended to voice concerns regarding the salt shed at the Fair Grounds. He is concerned that the apron and the cement floor required by the zoning permit have not been constructed and feels there is a contamination risk. Bullock advised that no sodium chloride will be placed in the salt shed until the concrete floor and apron are poured; budget constraints at this point will delay concrete. Mr. Shubert thanked the Commission for their time and excused himself from the meeting. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:00 HRDC Work Plan Acceptance. Bullock moved to approve the HRDC Work Plan. Blain seconded. Miller reported HRDC has laid off 29 employees because of the loss of grant funding for Child and Family Development programs. The HRDC Child and Family Development programs are now consolidated in the Missoula and Great Falls offices. The eastern part of the state will be administered out of Great Falls.

Tyler Lindbloom and Brent Moore from Interstate Engineering attended to give an update on the plans for repair of Grove Creek Road from damage and flooding in 2023. They are expecting a road closure of up to two weeks for repairs. The goal is to have the project completed prior to the end of the school year in the spring, therefore notification of the road closure will need to be given to local property owners and the school district. Meeteetse sites 2 and 3 may be included in the bid package to contractors as it is a simple project and makes sense to do at the same time.

Lindbloom and Moore also provided updates on Dorval and Granite Roads. The repair bid of \$110,000.00 will probably not be reimbursed by FEMA funds. Funding options were discussed. Blain asked about Montaquia Road and it was discussed that the repairs to Montaquia could be combined with the Dorval project through a change order request.

Bullock discussed the difference in the FEMA response to disasters in other locations such as Virginia due to Hurricane Helene and the flooding Carbon County experienced.

Discussion was held regarding re-channeling options of a portion of the river and the downsides of that type of project. Bullock also asked about revegetation projects along the river and asked if there might be a more cost-effective way of preparing the

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projects for revegetation that would be acceptable to the Army Corp of Engineers. Discussion was held regarding options to limit costs of revegetation.

Discussion was held regarding HB 536 funding for Willow Creek Road Bridge. Lindbloom advised Montana Department of Transportation should be in touch to schedule a meeting. Lindbloom and Moore excused themselves from the meeting.

9:30 Resort Tax Grant Agreement-Improving and Maintaining the Public Water and Sewer Systems and Parking Lot at Red Lodge Mountain. Bullock moved to approve the Resort Tax Grant Agreement for Improving and Maintaining the Public Water and Sewer Systems and Parking Lot at Red Lodge Mountain, Blain seconded. Bullock noted that this agenda item is more of an administrative action to approve the grant request for Red Lodge Mountain's resort tax monies which was overwhelmingly approved by ballot. Motion carried.

10:00 Extension Administrator Job Description and Schedule Approval. Newell reported that Extension Administrator, Sherry had never had a true job description nor a formal schedule. Miller asked if the job description and schedule designation will assist her in defining her time and duties. Newell emphasized there should be a written expectation of the job requirements since Sherry has taken on more responsibilities than can be expected from any future applicant for her position. Bullock moved to accept and approve the job description and schedule for the Extension Administrator and 4-H Program Assistant. Blain seconded. Motion carried.

Newell stated she had discussed the appointment for Justice of the Peace with the State. They do waive the requirement of testing certificate and training for six months beyond the date of appointment of a newly appointed Justice Court judge. Newell advised a new judge should be appointed by the beginning of December, as Judge Nichol's resignation is effective January 1, 2025. Commissioners scheduled advertisement of the position on November 7th and 14th and will schedule interviews for the end of November. Appointment of the new judge would occur the first week of December, effective January 1, 2025. It was discussed that if the new appointee wishes to train with Judge Nichol, that would be on their own time prior to his date of resignation.

10:30 a. Correctional Risk Services Inmate Excess Medical Insurance and/or Claims Administration Management Agreement. Bullock moved to approve the Correctional Risk Services Inmate Excess Medical Insurance and/or Claims Administration Management Agreement, Blain seconded. Newell reported that last year the County selected all of the optional coverage options except for security and

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guarding insurance. In our current agreements the jail facility that is holding the inmate provide security for transportation to the hospital and the first 24 hours of security for hospitalization. Motion carried.

b. Bid Award-Red Lodge Road District Plow Truck. Bullock moved to approve the bid from Interstate Truck Center in the amount of \$284,000.00, which is \$63,000 under budget. Blain seconded; and asked if that bid amount included the plow and the wing. Blain and Bullock reviewed the bid agreement and components of the bid and confirmed it included the truck, plow, wing and sander. Motion carried.

Newell noted the difference in the plow budget must be expended by the end of December, as the plow truck is being purchased with ARPA funds. Discussion was held regarding additional equipment needs of the County, such as a side dump trailer and a smaller roller. Newell advised a budget amendment would need to be prepared sometime in December. Blain said he would talk with T&E or CAT to see what they might have available. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

11:00 Weed District Update to Commissioners. Weed District Coordinator Brian Ostwald joined the meeting and reported on both contract and grant funding. Ostwald reported they had developed their own process for spraying trees via drone. He was very happy with the process and the results of drone spraying and believes that the program will be very successful going forward. Ostwald requested an update on applicants for Weed District Clerk. HR Supervisor Kate Asbury reported she has received two applicants. Asbury and Ostwald will work together to schedule interviews with the hiring committee . Discussion was held regarding the spraying of new subdivisions and how to hold the developers and/or owners accountable for compliance. Newell suggested this issue could be added to the Subdivision Improvements Agreement template being drafted by the County. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

11:30 Consent Agenda Bullock moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Purchase Request for Reimbursement for Infrastructure repairs to Red Lodge Mountain Resort tax fund in the amount of \$29,100.00; Vendor Invoice to DNRC for Grant Reimbursement request for engineering services in the amount of \$6,180.25; Final Closeout Certification of CDBG funding; Minutes of Commissioners' Closed Proceedings dated October 10, 2024 and Commissioners' Proceedings dated October 15, 2024.

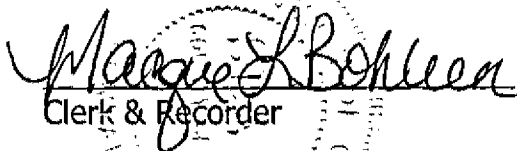
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Newell asked if her presence would be required at the upcoming the EMS/Ambulance Board meeting in Joliet on October 30 at 7:00 pm. Blain asked who was facilitating the meeting. Newell's understanding is that the Commissioners would facilitate the meeting until the election of officers and once the officers of the Board were elected, the Board members would run the remainder of the meeting. After discussion, Newell agreed she would attend the meeting to set up the IT component of the meeting and assist with minutes.

11:40 Presiding Officer Scott Miller adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:



Marjorie Bohlen
Clerk & Recorder



Scott Miller
Commission Presiding Officer

Respectfully submitted: Clerk, Katrina Kruger