

*Macque L. Bohlen deputy*

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**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

November 21, 2024

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

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance.

8:35 Public Comment. Newell talked to Kim Bednarz, Office Manager/EMT for the Red Lodge Fire Rescue, about the Ambulance Board meeting. Signed contracts are coming and upon Commissioner approval Newell will process checks with the normal November check run. Commissioners approved.

Miller reported that Aisenbrey Bridge should be torn out this morning unless the property owner is moving cows this weekend. Otherwise, concrete will be poured today and bridge work will be done Monday. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:00 Employee Time Status Review.

Environmental Health – Quarterly Update. Sanitarian, Barbara Krizek, Jesse Gutierrez, Treasurer Lori Lynde, and Leah Niemi joined the meeting. Krizek noted septic applications are up 25% year to date, reflecting the ongoing rise in development within the county. Data indicates Carbon County is in a development “bubble” as other counties are reporting decreases in development. Krizek reported on the East Rosebud Lake Association’s permitting issues due to high groundwater and the movement of Armstrong Creek after the 2022 flood. Krizek said she believes the plans are to re-channel Armstrong Creek to its prior location. Bullock said he understands there is a disconnect between what should be done, what can be done, and what will be done. It is his belief the Forest Service will not approve of relocating the Armstrong Creek and if not, there are 3 to 4 homes that will not be able to obtain septic permits. Krizek reported the Bridger train derailment site has been cleaned up and well monitoring will continue until remediation is complete. Gutierrez reported the 90% compliance goal under the DPHHS Cooperative Agreement has been met. He has inspected 144 non-short term rental licensed establishments and 33 short term rentals this year. Short term rentals are only inspected one time unless there is a change in ownership or use; or upon receipt of a complaint. Krizek reported upon Environmental Health complaints. The Sanitarian’s office received a new complaint regarding an outhouse being constructed in the Town of Bearcreek. In addition, Krizek has had complaints from both the Manager and a tenant at Castaway about an overflowing septic on the property. Krizek and Gutierrez will be inspecting the new complaints this week.

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Krizek, Treasurer Lori Lynde and Deputy Treasurer Leah Niemi presented a request to shift school superintendent duties to the Treasurer's office current staff, relieving Lori Kane of the duties and increasing her to a full-time employee of the Environmental Health Office. They propose Kane will train Treasurer Clerk, Michaela Tucker. Newell discussed administrative issues regarding budgeting and the transfer of hours to transition School Superintendent duties to the Treasurer's office. Newell will agenda the transition discussion and documents for future action by the Commissioners. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:30 City of Red Lodge. Mayor Westwood was not available for today's meeting.

10:00 County Attorney. Contract Civil Attorney Jackie Papez, joined the meeting for the County Attorney review. Bullock moved to close the meeting to discuss pending litigation relating to Windstream, Bennett, and Matriarch. Blain seconded. Presiding Officer Miller closed the meeting.

10:25 Presiding Officer Miller re-opened the meeting. Blain moved to approve a settlement offer of \$2,000 to Windstream. Bullock seconded. Motion carried. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

10:30 Cooperative Fire Protection Capacity Grant Application – Fire Warden Tom Kohley began his comments to say his intent had been to request permission for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding through the DNRC in the amount of \$80,000.00 to support the revised Fire Warden position. However, David Hamilton, Grant Administrator for the DNRC, advised delaying a new grant application as the County currently has a balance of nearly \$25,000.00 from the previous grant cycle. Hamilton suggested Kohley apply for an extension of the previous grant monies to fund the revised Fire Warden position; expend the remaining \$25,000.00 and apply for additional grant funding at a later date. Kohley is requesting Commissioner's approval to apply for the extension. Kohley discussed the proposed Fire Warden position and staffing options moving forward. Blain asked how often the Cooperative Fire Protection Capacity Grant becomes available. Kohley said grants are awarded each fiscal year. Award amounts may vary due to funding availability and the number and quality of applications received. Blain moved to recommend an extension on the current grant, Bullock seconded. Motion carried. Discussion was held regarding the separation of the proposed Fire Warden duties from the current combined GIS Coordinator / Fire Warden position and office of Emergency Management and the coordination necessary between the departments.

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Consent Agenda. Bullock moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of a purchase request of \$32,600.00 from the Joliet Road Budget and capital expenditure fund for a gravel reclaimer attachment to a grader and Minutes of Commissioner's Proceedings from October 29, 2024, Blain seconded. Motion carried. Presiding Officer Scott Miller recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

11:00 Board Appointments. Newell presented board appointments to Commissioners. The Red Lodge Roberts Ambulance Board is now defunct and will be dissolved due to the creation of the Carbon County EMS Board following the passage of the 2024 EMS levy. The Library At Large board position has expired and is vacant. Five positions will be filled on the Belfry Lighting Board through the elected members of the Belfry Sewer and Water Board. Discussions were held regarding requirements for the At-Large board member of the Red Lodge City Planning Board. Marie Olson will be resigning from that position at the end of her term. Blain moved to approve the board appointments as follows:

<b>Board</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>REPRESENTS</b>	<b>TERM</b>	<b>EXP/TERM</b>
Airport	Bill	Bullock			12/31/2030
Belfry Lighting	Jolene	Nose		3	12/31/2025
Belfry Lighting	Randall	Black		3	12/31/2026
Belfry Lighting	Mark	Seyler		3	12/31/2026
Belfry Lighting	Naomi	Black		3	12/31/2027
Belfry Lighting	Steve	Carrington		3	12/31/2027
Bridger Area Park & Recreation	Randy	Novakovich		3	5/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #1 Rockvale	Robert	Williams		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #2 Bridger	Allen	Althoff		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #3 Joliet	Allen	Eik		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #4 Belfry	Edward	Webb		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #5 Roscoe	Tom	George		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #6 Roberts	Elta	Ayre		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #6 Roberts	Tyler	Allen		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #7 Luther	Josh	O'Shea		3	12/31/2027
Cemetery Dist #8 Red Lodge	Leon	Baranko	At large	3	12/31/2027
Clarks Fork Valley TV Dist #1	Dianne	Giesick		3	12/31/2027
Clarks Fork Valley TV Dist #1	Tina	Kercheval		3	12/31/2027
Clarks Fork Valley TV Dist #1	Doreen	Fusco		3	12/31/2027
Compensation Board	Coolidge	Dan	Dist #3	3	12/31/2027
Edgar Sewer & Lighting	Nev	Harding		3	12/31/2027

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Emergency Medical Services	Jeremiah	Eldred	Joliet Ambulance Service Area	3	12/31/2027
Emergency Medical Services	Kim	Bader	Red Lodge Ambulance Service	3	12/31/2027
Fair	Darryl	Grove	FFA	3	12/31/2027
Fair	Doug	Stringari	Dist #1	3	12/31/2027
Fair	Jenny	Still	4-H	3	12/31/2027
Fire Dist #2 Bridger	Scott	Griswold		3	5/31/2026
Fire Dist #3 Fromberg	Randy	Bauwens		3	5/31/2027
Fire Dist #3 Fromberg	Adam	Sutcliff		3	5/31/2027
Fire Dist #4 Edgar	Brenda	Wetstein		3	5/31/2027
Fire Dist #4 Edgar	Michaela	Tucker		3	5/31/2027
Health	Dick	Nolan		3	12/31/2027
Historic Preservation Commission	Maryvette	Labrie	At large	2	12/31/2026
Historic Preservation Commission	Matthew	Stump	At large	2	12/31/2026
Planning	Clint	Peterson	Dist #1	2	12/31/2026
Planning	Marni	Bell	At large	2	12/31/2026
Planning	Gordy	Hill	Dist #2	2	12/31/2026
Planning/Zoning City of Red Lodge	Marni	Bell	At large	2	12/31/2026
Tax Appeal	Kraig	Krook	Dist #2	3	12/31/2027
Weed	Kevin	Krook	Dist #2	3	12/31/2027
Weed	Mark	Giesick	Dist #1	3	12/31/2027

Bullock seconded. Bullock noted the City Planning Board meets twice monthly. After no further discussion, motion carried.

Miller shared concerns he has received from constituents who are unable to access minutes from the meetings. Newell said once the new website is up and running, minutes from the past year will be available on the website. Currently, all minutes are being recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder and are available for public viewing through their office and video of the meetings are available on the County website.

11:16 Presiding Officer Scott Miller Adjourned the meeting

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ATTEST:

  
Clerk & Recorder

  
Commission Presiding Officer

Respectfully submitted: Deputy Clerk, Katrina Kruger