

*Michelle Depas*

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**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

February 11, 2025

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. Finance Coordinator Piney Helmuth reported Weed District Coordinator Brian Ostwald had suggested increasing insurance coverage for the contents of the Weed District Sprayer Shed to \$80,000.00 and to \$100,000.00 for coverage of Weed District Office contents. Helmuth will verify the adjustments can be submitted to Heather Cope with HUB Insurance and, if so, will present to Commissioners for the Consent Agenda. Seeing no further public comment, Presiding Officer Blain recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:00 Bid Award – Grove Creek Repairs. Tyler Lindbloom joined the meeting on-line. Lindbloom advised six Bid Packages were received, with four being rejected due to improper or incomplete Application Packages. Lindbloom reported Bid Packages from Martin Construction, Inc. and Askin Construction were considered. Interstate Engineering recommended Bid Award to Martin Construction, Inc. with the lowest responsible bid of \$417,476.11. Miller asked if any of the Bid Packages that had been rejected could have been rectified or corrected in order to be considered. Lindbloom advised that once the bid opening process is completed it is difficult to reconsider any amendments as the requirements are clearly outlined in the Procurement and Contracting Requirements and Advertisement for Bid. Miller moved to accept the bid from Martin Construction, Inc. Bullock seconded. Bullock noted he had received two telephone calls regarding the Bid Award Process and thanked Lindbloom and Interstate Engineering for the integrity of the process. Motion carried. Lindbloom left the meeting.

Motor Vehicle Division Lease Agreement. Newell advised she is still awaiting a response on the proposed lease rate for the Motor Vehicle Division Lease Agreement. Presiding Officer Blain recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

9:30 Dorval Subdivision Preliminary Plat. Property Owner Trennan (TJ) Dorval, Clerk and Recorder Macque Bohleen, and Kate Stout, Red Lodge Surveying attended the meeting in person. Sanitarian Barbara Krizek and Contract Planner Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting on-line, with Krizek joining in person later during the review by Mandeville. Mandeville discussed the Planning Board review and the recommendation of the Planning Board for Approval with Conditions of Dorval Subdivision, a proposed one-lot subdivision, which will revoke the Agricultural Covenant on the property. Mandeville noted construction of a single-family residence had commenced prior to the application for Preliminary Plat approval.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

February 11, 2025 (cont.)

Having reviewed and considered the application materials, project memorandum, public comments, Planning Board recommendation, and all of the information presented, Miller moved to approve Dorval Subdivision with the findings and conditions included in the project memorandum. Bullock seconded. Blain called for discussion. Miller asked about the consequences in the event the application was denied by the Board. Mandeville noted septic and DEQ permits would be denied and the property owner would be left with a large building or an expensive barn that could only be used for agricultural purposes.

Mandeville discussed the risks of beginning construction prior to receiving the proper permits and approvals. Miller expressed frustration with the real estate and engineering professionals involved in the process and discussion was held regarding miscommunications between the Mr. Dorval and the consulting firm hired to prepare and submit permit applications. Krizek noted Blueline Consulting had not followed proper protocol and is being placed on probation by the Carbon County Environmental Health Department, both for this and previously mishandled projects. Miller discussed his plans to improve Serrine Road in order to decrease traffic impacts to Robertson Draw Road. Stout discussed the Waiver of Right to Protest and RSID for Road Maintenance and Dust Control and the terms of the SIA. Bohleen Inquired if the Ag Covenant had been set out in the title insurance policy when Dorval had purchased the property. Dorval advised he was aware of the Covenant prior to building, but had been led to believe permitting and approval were imminent, while in fact, Blueline had not submitted any applications. Miller and Dorval discussed ideas to encourage compliance rather than requesting approval after the fact. Blain called for the vote. Motion carried. Dorval, Bohleen, Stout, Krizek, and Mandeville left the meeting.

10:00 Resolution Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members. Bullock moved to approve Resolution 2025-06 Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members, Miller seconded. Commissioners noted MACO is non-partisan, independent and provides a common-sense approach to lobbying on behalf of Montana Counties. Motion carried.

10:30 Consent Agenda. Miller moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Letter of Conditional Approval of Dorval Subdivision; Minutes of Commissioners' Proceedings from January 28, 2025, and signature for the Carbon County Montana Job Description for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator approved December 5th, Bullock seconded. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

February 11, 2025 (cont.)

Olness & Associates – Audit Contract Amendment. Miller moved to approve the Department of Administration Standard Audit Contract Amendment; Bullock seconded. Motion carried.

Employee Time Review. Miller moved to approve the Employee Time Review. Bullock seconded. Motion carried. Presiding Officer Blain recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

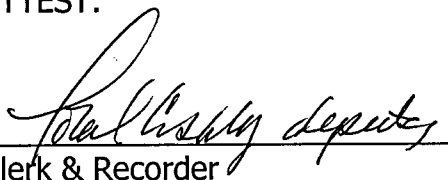
11:00 Big Sky Gravel Road Race Permitting. Jennifer Drinkwater joined the meeting to request permitting for the Big Sky Gravel Road Race. Drinkwater reported organizers are proposing the same signage, routes, and break/water stops as the previous year. The race garnered approximately 200 racers last year and race promoters have decided to limit registration to 300 racers. Bullock moved to approve the Encroachment Permit for the Big Sky Gravel Road Race with a fee of \$100.00. Miller seconded. Discussion was held regarding staggered start times, E-bike usage and efforts by promoters to give notification of the race to owners of guardian dogs along the route. Motion carried. Newell and Blain discussed amending the Encroachment Permit. Drinkwater noted the State Special Event Permit is very user-friendly. Newell requested Drinkwater send her the State Special Event Permit Form for review. Blain recessed the meeting until the next agenda item.

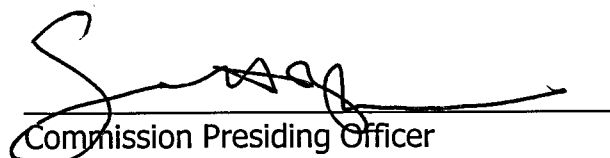
11:30 Emergency Medical Services Agreements – Carbon County Montana, Clarks Fork Valley EMS, Joliet EMS, Red Lodge Rural Fire #7. Bullock approved to approve the Carbon County Montana, Clarks Fork Valley EMS, Joliet EMS, Red Lodge Rural Fire #7 Service Agreement; Miller seconded. Discussion was held regarding the advantages of having one EMS agreement. Motion carried.

Bullock moved to add the Building and Contents Insurance Adjustment for the Carbon County Weed District to the Consent Agenda; Miller seconded. Motion carried.

1:00 Department Head Meeting

ATTEST:

  
Clerk & Recorder

  
Commission Presiding Officer

Respectfully submitted: Deputy Clerk, Katrina Kruger