

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 10th, 2024

Petroleum County Courthouse
302 E. Main – Winnett, Montana

Commissioner's Present:

Chairman: Sigrid Pugrud
Commissioner: Craig Iverson
Commissioner: Paul McKenna

Staff Present:

Clerk: Jess Hoge
Treasurer: Pam Bevis
Road Crew: Ray Rowton

Guest: Brandon Arntson, Cassie Brinkerhoff

- Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Craig made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Paul seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Craig moved to approve the May 22, 2024 minutes; Paul seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Mussellshell Watershed Coalition Invoice Notice, Invoice for Natural Resource Coalition

Public Comment:

Cassie Brinkerhoff came to the commissioners to talk about using the county grader to help with updating the Winnett School football field. Commissioners agreed this sounds like a great idea, they want to double check liability concerns with the County Attorney Diane. Diane will write up an agreement between the Winnett School and the County to be signed.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Brandon Arntson reported on huge potholes on Valentine Rd and the water cutting the north side of the Timber Hill.
- The John Deere is still not working well and the Billings mechanic is continuing to explore solutions to the turbo issues.
- Jeremy is scheduled for his CDL Driving Test on June 11, 2024.
- Kale and Ray are finishing up Welter Divide and Blakeslee Rd.
- Jeremy is hauling gravel on Welter Divide.
- Discussion on current pit permits status and work to be done on the pits.

Commissioners Report

- Flood Plan Compliance was discussed. Craig is working to talk to Stahley personnel. Sig will follow up with writings proposed by DNRC personnel.
- RFP for Auditors have been extended to July 18, 2024; Jess will place an add to that effect.
- Diane advised on writing a resolution to change the Employee Policy regarding compensation items. That resolution will be ready by the next regular meeting date.
- Craig moved to pay Natural Resource Coalition annual dues. Paul seconded. Motion carried.
- Discussion on Bill Cassell's payout being completed by the end of the fiscal year.
- Discussion about Winnett Reunion law enforcement needs.
- Paul reported on Weed Department spraying licenses and a right of way application needed for spraying highways.
- There was discussion about the needs towards hosting District 6 & 7 annual meeting Wednesday June 12th at the PCCC.
- There was discussion about the wording for a Resolution to go on the November ballot regarding continuing the Mill Levy that supports the road department. The issue needs to be on the ballot this year, because of the reported need for 18 months to obtain equipment ordered. The vote is needed early so we know we will have the funds to cover the machine lease when we expect to receive it.
- In the event, there is no new Sheriff hired, there was clarification regarding making certain that after June 30, the public contacts dispatch for any law enforcement needs. That would protect against personal liability to any of the Reserve Deputies.
- Commissioners completed auditor questionnaire.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam requested pursuing another aspect of the Black Mtn software be added since it would allow for more direct downloading of banking information, saving time and alleviating some data entry errors. The commissioners agreed; Pam will report back after clarifying a few more issues.

Clerk's Report – Jess Hoge

- Payroll and claims were signed.
- The Canvass of the Federal Primary Election is scheduled for June 17th at 9:00a.m.

Courthouse Rejuvenation Project – (by zoom) Robie Culver & Brad Kahler -absent.

- Robie appeared by zoom to discuss budgetary items.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Signed: _____
Stacy Rumpf

Attest: _____
Jess Hoge

