

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes
February 5th, 2024
Petroleum County Courthouse
302 E. Main – Winnett, Montana

Commissioner's Present:

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

Staff Present:

Clerk: Kris Rowton, Deputy
Treasurer: Pam Bevis
Road Crew: Ray Rowton
Sheriff: Bill Cassell

Guests: Pam Walling

- Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Paul made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Craig seconded it, motion passed.

MACo Health Trust-Pam Walling

- Discussion on health insurance plan renewal and the upcoming cost increase. Employees can pick their plan until April 1, 2024, when the open enrollment closes. The Commission has until the 15th of March 2024 to review and make their decision on the renewal.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Ray reported that we can buy a backhoe from Michael Bevis. Sig made a motion for the purchase the backhoe for the agreed upon \$32,000.00. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ray has researched a Hobart Welder. Paul made a motion for the purchase of a new welder for *up to* \$6000.00 Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Jeremy is working on his CDL on the internet and will possibly have to go to Billings for the actual driving course.
- Jeremy and Ray will be in Billings for Flagger Training on the 13th.
- Truman Neprud from T & E Caterpillar gave the Commissioner's packets with prospective equipment lease options for when the existing CAT lease expires. Truman will have trade in values within the next two weeks.
- Dave Harris, Mayor of Winnett, reports that he has been in contact with numerous people regarding the mud issue in town. Although he met resistance, he got Rod Nelson to agree to come inspect the problem within the next couple weeks. Riverside Construction set up cones and it will be up to the business owner as to how long the cones will be in front of their business. Until the inspection is done, no work will be done by the town or county so the contractors see the mess they left us with that needs to be handled.

Transportation employee Kyle Dubbs stated that the mud is outside the scope of the pavement project that was done. Riverside Construction set up cones and it will be up to the business owner as to how long the cones will be in front of their business. However, no solution to the mess has been presented and neither the State nor Riverside are taking accountability to fix the issue.

Sheriff/ DES – Bill Cassell

- Sheriff Bill Cassell had Central Electric take a look at the setup and wiring of a new generator for the basement? Central Electric informed Bill that they could do all of the project.
- The Commissioners and Bill went downstairs to see the progress of the move of the Sheriff's office.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam presented pledge securities, current financial standing, and the cash report.

Clerk's Report – Kris Rowton-Deputy

- Commissioners signed claims.

Commissioners

- Discussion was held on the wording for Resolution 2024-8.
- Paul made a motion to pass The Stockgrowers Predator MOU. Craig seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.
- Open discussion with Kale Sandman, Ray Rowton, Jeremy Springer pertaining to the job descriptions of the road crew. Concerns were addressed.

Courthouse Rehab –Robie Culver, Kathy Thompson attended via Zoom

- The commissioners are invited to a meeting in Billings on March 14th @ 8:30 am.
- Robie and Kathy discussed with the Commissioners the Off System Bridge.
- HDR – grant writing
- 4 Bridge projects: McDonald Creek, Hughes, Cemetery Road, Main Street over McDonalds Creek.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Signed: _____
[Signature]

Attest: _____
[Signature]

