

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 6, 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
Sheriff: Bill Cassell

Guest: Levi Nowlin & Glenna Gillett (Weed Board), Shane Klakken

- 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.
- No meeting minutes to pass.

Correspondence: JCCS letter of interest of business to be the County auditor.

Public Comment: Paul reported that the Bratten Scholarship has been scored and awarded.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Ray reports that he is meeting with Nick Winfield today to discuss the Cat Creek gravel pit and what needs to happen with permits.
- Ray reports that he has talked with Tyler Loomis about carving the hillside by Cat Creek Road.
- Ray reports that the culvert on Old Cat Creek has been replaced and was dug out to help with drainage.
- Ray reports that the Ohio Well culvert has been replaced as well.
- Ray reports that Kale is blading Blakeslee Road.
- Ray reports that the turbo was replaced in the John Deere and it doesn't seem to fix the issue, Ray is requesting to have RDO come repair the machine.
- Jeremy is scheduled to do his CDL driving test June 2nd
- Commissioner approved to allow Ray purchase a stockpile of culverts.

Sheriff's Report -Bill Cassell – absent

Commissioners Report

- Paul moved to approve Contribution Agreement between Petroleum County and RPA Renewal Manager, LLC, and Snowy Mtn Development Regional Port Authority Craig seconded it. Motion carried.
- Criag moved to approve stipend for the Ambulance crew, Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- Commissioners reviewed Sheriff's position posting and approved to post it far and wide.
- Paul moved approve Heidi Hanson as the new housekeeper, Craig seconded. Motion carried.
- Paul moved to approve the Sherriff Bill Cassell's resignation letter; Craig seconded it. Motion carried.
- Craig moved to approve MOU between Petroleum County and Fergus County for Sheriff coverage until June 30, 2024, Paul seconded motion. Motion carried.
- Paul moved to adopt **Resolution 2024-11** to move May 20th meeting to May 22nd, 2024. Craig seconded. Motion carried.
- Paul moved to adopt **Resolution 2024-12** to accept MCEP Grant Application, Craig seconded it, Motion carried.
- Levi Nowlin and Glena Gillett were present on behalf of the Weed Board currently there are only two board members on the weed department. Discussion of having the weed board dissolve into the county commissioner's duties. It was decided that Paul would be the point of contact for the weed department and Ed Mack will be the 2024 season sprayer.
- Shane Klakken running for House District 37 Representative for Petroleum County stopped in to introduce himself and wants to know what Petroleum County is needing from a House Representative.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam gave updated financials and pledged securities.
- Pam reports that STIP signors are out of date and will be updated to a commissioner, treasurer, and clerk.

Clerk's Report – Jess Hoge

- Payroll and claims were signed.
- Jess reported that she and the Commissioners interviewed Jeanne Wheeler for the Deputy Clerk position. She was offered the position but can't start until June of 2024.
- Discussion about Grader Mill Levy Election in November.

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

- Brad stated that there are no changes to the lighting, he was clarifying the light fixtures
- Picked out ceiling fans.
- Brad states that bids should be going out this week or next week, then three weeks for response back from subcontractors. Still planning on Mid-June to sit down and finalize prices.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Signed: _____

Attest: _____

