

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mid-Month Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2023
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/DES: Bill Cassell

Guest: Phyllis Arthur

- Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Paul made a motion to approve the agenda with additions. Craig second it, motion passed.
- Craig made a motion to approve the commissioner meeting minutes of October 5, 2023. Paul 2nd it, motion passed.

Correspondence: none.

Public Comment: none.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Ray reported that the road crew is preparing all snow removal equipment, forecast is predicting 9 to 14 inches of snow in the next couple of days.
- Dodge pickup is finished at Snowy Mtn Motors.
- John Niebur finished putting in the culver north of Hedmen's and it looks great.
- John Niebur will do the Jitney Rd culvert next.
- Ray reported that the State is going to offer grant monies for road signs, Ray is going to be applying to replace and purchase new signs.
- 130 loads from Whisnant's still need to be hauled by December.
- Ray reported that the new garage door was not installed due to a framing issue.
- Discussion on searching and pricing of a backhoe.

Sheriff/DES – Bill Cassell

- November 9, 2023, the fire department has scheduled a workday for cleaning their attic storage area allowing for installing insulation on the west third of EMS building roof.

- Bills reports that the new designated dates to report FEMA projects will work fine for Petroleum County.
- Bill reported that there have been lots of wildlife hits on highways 200 and 244.
- Commissioners have decided not to participate in the Central MT Drug Interdiction team.
- No update on 911 budget.

Commissioners Report

- Craig moved to adopt **Resolution 2023-27 Authorizing MACo to Represent Petroleum County in Litigation regarding School Equalization Mills**, Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- Paul moved to adopt **Resolution 2023-28 Authorization to Submit MCEP Infrastructure Planning Grant Application**, Craig seconded it. Motion carried.

Closed Meeting Regarding Personnel

- 11:00pm started.
- 11:40pm finished.

Treasurer’s Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam gave updated financials and pledged securities.

Clerk’s Report – Jess Hoge

- Payroll and claims were signed.
- Next meeting is scheduled for November 6th at 9:00am.
- Jess reported that the Clerk of District Court Certification School went great.

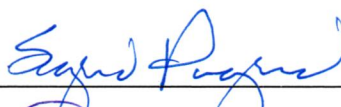
Flatwillow Bridge- Greg and Tracie were present in person and Robie Culver via Zoom

- Greg presented the commissioner with design papers.
- Permitting is finishing up, waiting for FWP approval should be in the next few days.
- The bridge is being delivered November 15, 2023.
- Commissioners discussed the Flatwillow bridge project timeframe aspects that we’ll want to consider for the future McDonald Bridge project if that future MCEP grant be awarded by the next legislature.

Courthouse Rejuvenation Project – Brad was absent, Robie by Zoom and Laura Nowlin was present

- Commissioners discussed budget, funding, and grants with Robie and Laura. Brad is on vacation and due back on the 25th; the commissioners decided to set another meeting in Billings with Brad to discuss the project budget.
- Brad’s had sent his typical notes and agenda that the commissioners reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Signed: _____


Attest: _____
