

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes
November 6th, 2023
Petroleum County Courthouse
302 E. Main – Winnett, Montana

Commissioner's Present:

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

Staff Present:

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

Guests: Teri Harris, Ashley Obrigewitch, JR Lund, Charlie Ahlgren, Jim Johnke

- 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. Craig seconded it, motion passed.
- Craig moved to approve the October 23, 2023, minutes, Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed. Craig moved to approve the Closed Meeting minutes from October 23, 2023, meeting, Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Jim Johnke wanted clarification on snow plowing policy. He stated that he felt Kelly Road needed to be plowed sooner than it was with the last storm.
- School Superintendent Teri Harris made an official request that during big storms to have bus routes plowed before school buses leave in the morning.
- Commissioners, school, and road foreman agreed that communication is key for future storms. Teri will provide phone numbers of bus drivers to Ray, and they will communicate if roads and weather are safe enough to travel.
- Charlie Ahlgren thanked Ray for the turnarounds for the busses, with the snow moisture additional gravel is needed for the turn arounds.
- Ray reported that the new engine in the Dodge was completed and cost more than anticipated.
- Ray reports that they have started hauling the 130 loads from Whisonant's that need to be completed by December.
- Ray states the Road Crew requests to keep their shifts on four day – ten hours and will flex with storms and snow removal.
- Ray reports that they have reframed the door at the shop and will be installing the new garage door soon.
- Ray reports they are still searching for a backhoe.

Sheriff/DES Report – Bill Cassell

- Bill reported that a work meeting at the EMS building is scheduled for November 9, 2023. Swank will be delivering the materials.
- Bill is planning on attending a Disaster Meeting in Lewistown this week.
- Bill reports that the first Commissioner meeting in January the Central MT Dispatch will meet to discuss budgetary future for dispatch.

Commissioners Report

- Craig moved to approve MOU from ACES in outline of duties for the Courthouse Rehab Project, Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- Commissioners acknowledged and accepted Connie Fortner’s letter of resignation.
 - Closed meeting started 11:00am
 - Closed meeting ended 11:10am

Treasurer’s Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam reported that property tax payments are coming in.

Clerk’s Report – Jess Hoge

- Commissioners signed claims.
- Commissioners reviewed timecards and chair approved them.

Courthouse Rehab – Brad Kahler & Robie Culver

- Brad reported that he doesn’t have set construction numbers yet, he hoped to have them by the next meeting.
- Discussed current and future invoices from High Plains. Robie reported what she has submitted for reimbursement from CDBG and Historical Preservation grant.
- The AIA Document A133-2019 contract with TW Clark & Ridley Construction was reviewed. The motion was made to accept the contract, the vote carried. Sig abstained.

Flatwillow Bridge – Greg Benjamin and Amy Strainer were present - Justin Lundvall, Darby Wells, Robie Culver by Zoom

- Justin reports that all permits have been approved.
- Greg will be providing weekly updates on the progress of the bridge which should be fully finished and open to the public before Christmas this year.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Signed: _____

Attest: _____

