

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2023

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
County Attorney: Diane Cochran

Guests: None.

- 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 made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Paul seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Kale is working on Dovetail Road and Jeremy is working on Highway 500.
- Ray would like to purchase a snowblower. The commissioners agreed to look at some cost estimates that Ray will gather.
- Ray plans on going to Billings to pick up road fabric for current projects.
- The water leak across Highway 500 has been fixed by Rowton Bros.
- The Hale bridge is fixed.
- Ray needs more plank timbers to be purchased for future projects.
- Ray continues shopping for a new to us backhoe.

Sheriff/ DES – Bill Cassell

- Bill will continue to be the SAM designee. Commissioners email will be added to the contact list

Treasurer's Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam reported that Tyler Technologies and Black Mountain are working on a plan for accommodating the School Mill Levy court ruling.
- The Deputy Treasurer job opening will remain posted for another couple of weeks.

Clerk's Report – Kris Rowton-Deputy

- Commissioners signed claims

Courthouse Rehab – Sara Hudson, Brad Kahler, Robie Culver, Laura Nowlin all attended via Zoom

- Reviewed design and cosmetic updates. Discussion on changes that need to be made.
- Motion made by Paul to sign the Indemnity Agreement for the Regional Port Authority (RPA) Renewal Manger, LLC. Craig seconded the motion. Craig and Paul voted in favor; Sig Pugrud abstained. Motion carried.
- The Petroleum County/Sage Flats development agreement was signed after a motion from Craig and seconded by Paul. Craig and Paul voted in favor; Sig Pugrud abstained. Motion carried.
- Sage Flats LLC/ Petroleum County Ground Lease was signed after a motion from Paul and seconded by Craig. Craig and Paul voted in favor; Sig Pugrud abstained. Motion carried.
- For full transparency, as the Historic Tax Credit Investor / Donor it has been agreed that it is best if Sig abstain from votes regarding the contracts about the courthouse project.
- Signature Pages and The Signature Tree were signed and sent back to Adam at Wishneff.

Flatwillow Bridge – Greg Benjamin was in attendance along with Robie Culver via Zoom

Greg reports that the Flatwillow temporary work bridge is installed. The permanent bridge will be installed in the upcoming weeks and should be done and open to the public prior to Xmas (2023).

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Signed: _____
Sig Pugrud

Attest: _____
Jess Hoge

