

PETROLEUM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mid-Month Meeting Minutes

June 19th, 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 & Interim County Manager: Pam Bevis
Road Crew Ray Rowton
Sheriff Bill Cassell
County Attorney: Diane Cochran - absent

- Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Craig made a motion to approve the agenda. Paul seconded it, motion passed.
- Correspondence: None.

Road Department- Ray Rowton

- Ray reports that the crew is currently working on correcting flooding issues.
- Kale is mowing Bench Rd.
- Paul reports that Tom Loomis would like to bid on some flooding projects in the future.
- Ed Mack may possibly be hired to run the mower once the weed spraying is completed.
- Lacking any job applicants for the road crew job, there was discussion about Bill Cassell helping on the road crew after hours and his pay rate for road work.

Sheriff/ DES – Bill Cassell

- Bill reports that he may have four separate deputies from other counties interested in coming in as a traveling deputy covering for Bill's leaves. He will update more at the following meeting.
- Craig moved to adopt **Resolution 2023-15 Emergency Declaration**; Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- No updates on current cases.

County Manager – Pam Bevis

- Commissioners reviewed financial and discussed setting up budget work meetings. No date was set.
- Resolution 2023-16 was tabled.
- Craig moved to adopt Resolution 2023-17 Budget Authority; Paul seconded it. Motion was carried.

- Craig moved to adopt Resolution 2023-18 to Approve the New Base Salary Rates, Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- Paul reported that a meeting with the asphalt company for Main Street is scheduled for Tuesday June 20th and he plans to attend to represent the County and get a better idea of the cost.
- Craig moved to appoint Debbie Hale to the Endowment Committee, Paul seconded it. Motion carried.
- Commissioners agreed to keep Gary Gershmel and Sig Pugrud as the Council on Aging representatives for the next fiscal year.
- Change of Form of Govt Town Hall with Dan Clark is scheduled for August 16th, 202, at 6:00p.m. in the courtroom.

Treasurer's Report – Pam Bevis

- Pam reported they are still receiving delinquent taxes; notices are going out this week with a publication of notice going into the News Argus.

Clerk's Report – Kris Rowton

- Commissioners signed claims.
- Jess reported on assisting with a jury trial in Fergus County last week.
- Jess stated starting in July 2023 payroll will be switching from monthly payroll to bi-monthly, she has notified all employees and they seem to happy about it.

Courthouse Rehab – Brad Kahler, Kelly Beevers, Robie Culver

- Craig would call about the cost to change from single phase to three phase electricity coming into the Courthouse and whether such a change could happen prior to the road getting paved.
- Still looking for elevator options and more funding.
- Discussed the projects current budget.
- Robie is going to check on the award letter from the Historical Tax Credit.
- 75% of the design is complete.
- Discussion about amending contract with architect due to some over spent time with the RFQ. Commissioners requested a itemized invoice before agreeing to the amended contract.

Flatwillow Bridge – Greg Benjamin & Robie Culver

- Greg presented the commissioners with a draft of the request for RFQ. Commissioners approved. The request will be published in the News Argus June 24th and July 1st with a deadline of comments by July 7th. Commissioners plan to review applicants at the July 10th commissioner meeting.
- Discussion about removal of current Flatwillow Bridge. The Rowton Brothers are interested in taking the bridge.
- The road crew will need to remove all the dirt from the decking of the current bridge, it will be a large cost savings.

The meeting adjourned 3:10 p.m.

Signed: _____

Sig Pugrud

Attest:

Kris Rowland

