MARCH 2016

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

Sweet Grass County Commissioner meetings are held in the office of the county commissioners in the Sweet Grass County Annex in Big Timber, Montana, unless otherwise noted in the minutes. Regular commissioner meeting days are the first working day of each week (usually Monday unless Monday is a holiday then Tuesday) and every Thursday during the month. These are the days to schedule issues that require the commissioner to take action. The first Monday of each month a department head staff meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. Claims will be reviewed and approved for payment every Thursday unless a conflict arises. At least one commissioner will be in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily unless they are at a conference or a meeting requiring them to be out of the office.

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**Acronyms**

BC – Billings Clinic

DES – Disaster and Emergency Services

CCR – Coordinated Community Response

FLAP – Federal Lands Access Program

IC – Incident Command

L.E.P.C. – Local Emergency Preparedness

MACo – Montana Association of Counties

MDT – Montana Department of Transportation

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

PMC – Pioneer Medical Center

RC&D – Rural Conservation and Development

RFR – request for reimbursement.

TSEP – Treasure State Endowment Program – provides matching grant funds to local government agencies for construction of infrastructure projects.

Tyler Technology – CSA sold to Tyler – the company that Sweet Grass County contracts with for all of our financial software.

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Commissioner Mosness and County Planner Dringman discussed ROW acquisition on the Main Boulder Road project with Wester Federal Lands. We also visited with Ray Mosness about having a PRI/T1 installed for caller identifications.

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Josh and Laura Grace Baker came in to discuss the end of Featherbed Road. Present were Public Works Director Conner, County Attorney Dringman and Planner Dringman. The Bakers have constructed an overhead structure on the county road without an encroachment permit. Discussion was held on closing the road at the intersection of Sections 7 and 12 instead of where it currently is between Section 12 and 13. The Bakers will obtain an encroachment permit for the overhead structure.

Thursday, March 3, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. An updated MOU between Sweet Grass, Park, USFS and Western Federal Lands was signed. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept and Commissioner Faw seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes. Claims for the week were reviewed and signed. County payroll was also reviewed and signed by Commissioner Wallace and Clerk and Recorder Pederson. Commissioner Mosness was out in the afternoon.

Friday, March 4, 2016

Commissioner Wallace and Faw are in today and Commissioner Mosness is on vacation. We reviewed and stamped PMC claims. Commissioner Faw went and looked at fairground property with the fair board.

Monday, March 7, 2016

Commissioner Wallace and Faw are in today and Commissioner Mosness is on vacation. A staff meeting was held at 9:30 a.m. and present were Vera Pederson, Susan Metcalf, Marc King, Vicki Uehling, Evie Halverson, Linsey Kroskob, Jane Stene, Eric Wood, Deanna Novotny, Jessie Connolly, Dan Tronrud, Brooke Osen and Page Dringman. Superintendent of Schools Metcalf informed us that the trustee and levy elections are coming up. She will be attending convention the week of March 20th, the Smarter Balance testing is starting, Missoula Children’s Theatre is this week and that Jolie Wood won the spelling bee this year. Extension Agent King has been busy with the judging team in Denver, Great Falls and Miles City; four rancher roundtables, annual wool grower’s dinner, Wool grower’s seminar and the potato orders are coming in. PMC CEO Erik Wood informed us that the physical therapy office downtown will open April 14th, there are 5 rooms at the PMC that are being remodeled, they are still working on the recruiting for a nurse practitioner, the health care fair is at the high school April 23rd, and they are working on obtaining a category B status on the assisted living facility. Clerk of Court Novotny said they had court last week and three new felonies were filed. Sheriff Tronrud said that his office has been busy with numbers up in February. DES Coordinator Osen informed us that the 911 has been installed by Graybar and the dispatchers will be starting training on it. The CAD system is installed but not live until May. Also, the grant for the DES position has been filed. Weed Coordinator Halverson reported that the Weed Summit is April 27th, she will be attending the NWCA and Evasive Species trainings, and the grants for Noxious Weed and Urban Spurge were approved for $35,000 and $25,000. Her building remodel is done and they will be making it handicap accessible in the near future. Justice of Peace Connolly reported the numbers for January and February. In January she attended CCR, Addictive Disorder and CPT meetings and in February she attended an Alternative and CPT meeting. Also, she will be attending judge school the end of April. Finance Officer Uehling said they had a cash meeting last month and that they moved the budgeting deadlines up. She will mail budgets to the departments April 1st and they are due by April 18th. Also, we will be closing on the PMC loans on April 1st, 2016. County Planner Dringman has been working on a subdivision up the West Boulder and some flood plain permits. Clerk and Recorder Pederson attended mid-winter training in Great Falls and has been getting ready for the school and primary elections. Commissioner Faw informed us that he attended fair board meetings, they awarded the courthouse cleaning to Wanda Rouwhorst, had several conference calls with the IRS and working on refinancing the PMC bonds. Commissioner Wallace reported that Commissioner Mosness and himself went to Great Falls for the MACo Mid-Winter meetings, they signed a resolution to combine the Sheriff/Coroner offices, signed the interlocal agreement for the Victim/Witness program, installed a new AWOS system at the airport and he attended a Custer/Gallatin working group meeting.

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Commissioner Wallace and Faw are in today and Commissioner Mosness is on vacation.

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Commissioner Faw is in the office this morning, Commissioner Wallace is attending Custer/Gallatin Working group meeting in Livingston this morning and Commissioner Mosness is on vacation.

Thursday, March 10, 2016

Commissioner Wallace is in this morning, Commissioner Faw is out in the morning and Commissioner Mosness is on vacation. We reviewed the county claims for the week. That afternoon we had a conference call with the Internal Revenue Service agents Bruce Gilbert and Valerie Harderman, present were Pat Dringman, Vera Pederson, Eric Wood and Jarrod Lefore with Crowley Law Firm. That afternoon we stamped the claim checks for the county.

Friday, March 11, 2016

Commissioner Wallace is in today and Commissioner Faw and Mosness are out.

Monday, March 14, 2016

All Commissioners are back in the office this morning. Public Works Director Conner came in with encroachment permits for Triangle Telephone on Melville Road and Melville Main Street, Howie Road and in Greycliff at the intersection of A Street and 3rd Street. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept these permits and Commissioner Faw seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes. Commissioner Faw and Mosness attended the Conservation District meeting later that afternoon.

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. A pre-construction meeting for fiber installation on the Main Boulder Road was attended by all commissioners and Public Works Director Conner. Later a conference call with Erin McCready of Dorsey Whitney on the newly revised lease agreement with the PMC was held.

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Clerk and Recorder Pederson came in to read December 2015 minutes. Commissioner Mosness moved to approve, Commissioner Faw seconded and it passed with 3 ayes. January and February 2016 minutes were also read, Commissioner Mosness moved to accept with corrections and Commissioner Faw seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes.

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Commissioner Wallace and Mosness are in today and Commissioner Faw is in Hardin for a Beartooth RC & D meeting. Claims for the week were approved and signed. Commissioner Wallace and Clerk and Recorder Pederson stamped and reviewed payroll. PMC claims were reviewed and stamped also. A mental health meeting was held at noon along with a St. Patrick’s day potluck. Sherry Tronrud and Jen Tulley came in to visit about the after school program. They are asking for $13,000 this year to continue the program. They are also looking at several grants for the next year. Commissioner Faw attended a fair board meeting that evening.

Friday, March 18, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. A public hearing was held on combining the office of sheriff and coroner. Present were Pat Dringman, Vicki Uehling, Vera Pederson, and Sheriff Tronrud. There was no public comment to this hearing. Clerk and Recorder Pederson read the resolution 02-29-2016, Commissioner Faw had some questions for Sheriff Tronrud who told us that advanced coroner school will be held in May and Dan and Craig intend on attending this. After lunch a conference call was held with Bruce Gilbert from the IRS, on the call was Erik Wood, Jarrod LaFore and Clerk and Recorder Pederson and County Attorney Dringman were also present. Bruce is going to fix several documents and get back to us.

Monday, March 21, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Resolution 03-31-2016 to refund bonds for PMC in the amounts of $270,637.51 and $582,285.98 was reviewed and signed. Present were Finance Officer Uehling and Clerk and Recorder Pederson. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept and Commissioner Faw seconded it and it passed with 3 ayes. Finance Officer Uehling presented journal entries 758 through 858 not inclusive. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept these and Commissioner Faw seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes.

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Clerk and Recorder Pederson came in and read the resolution to combine the coroner and sheriff’s office, this is the final step of this process. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept resolution 03-22-2016 and Commissioner Faw seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes. We will also publish this for 2 weeks in the Big Timber Pioneer. Commissioner Wallace attended the interviewing for the fire department administrative position.

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Lloyd Booth came in to ask about a road by his house down by Reed Point. Bill Lloyd with Great West Engineering came in for an update on the Lower Sweet Grass Pony Truss bridge. Present were the commissioners, Cory Conner and MaKenzie Reiss from the Big Timber Pioneer. They will need to have a work bridge and the old bridge has to be put up for adoption and recorded with historic preservation groups. We will sign the permits and looking at going to bid in May and start work in July.

Thursday, March 24, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Claims for the week were reviewed and signed. LEPC was held at the ambulance station. There was a lot of discussion on traffic accidents and who is responsible for various actions. A conference call was held with the IRS, present were Vera Pederson, Erik Wood, Jared with Crowley Fleck Law Firm, Bruce Gilbert and Valerie Hardeman with the IRS. Discussed was the settlement and Erik tried to explain the roles of the nurse practitioner vs a RN position. Bruce will look into this further and get back to us.

Friday, March 25, 2016

Commissioner Wallace is in today, Commissioner Mosness is in Billings for MHC meeting and Commissioner Faw is out.

Monday, March 28, 2016

Commissioner Mosness and Faw are in today and Commissioner Wallace is in Great Falls for MACRS. TSEP permits for the Pony Truss Bridge were signed. Commissioner Mosness attended PMC board meeting that evening.

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Commissioner Mosness and Faw are in today and Commissioner Wallace is in Great Falls at MACRS. Commissioner Mosness attended the weed board meeting.

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. PMC loan documents were signed today. Present were Vera, Vicki, Brooke Metcalf-Bare and Jane Stene. This was to repay the USDA bonds and documents for the new loan split between all the Big Timber banks.

Thursday, March 31, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. MDT came in to update us on the projects in the area and hear any concerns that we might have on state roadways. Present from the State were Stefan Streeter, Gary Neville and Randy Roth. A board of health meeting was held at noon. Commissioner Wallace and Clerk and Recorder Pederson signed PMC and county payroll and the weekly claims.

Claims for the month of March amounted to $433,074.98.

County and PMC March payrolls totaled $495.005.60.

Respectfully submitted

/s/ Vera Pederson

 Board of County Commissioners

 William Wallace, Chairman

Attest:

Vera Pederson, Clerk