MAY 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.

Monday, May 2, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Staff meeting was held at 9:30 a.m. present were Cory Conner, Deanna Novotny, Marc King, Lindsey from the Big Timber Pioneer, Brooke Osen, Alan Ronneberg, Page Dringman and Jessie Connolly. Vera was covering her office and Jane, Vicki and Susan were on vacation. DES Coordinator Osen said Zuecher will be here May 16th for training and go live on May 19th. Ray Mosness will be coming in to talk to the Commissioners about CIP trunking. Undersheriff Ronneberg said that they had 254 calls for service in April and that Dan Tronrud is at Advanced Coroner training. Kirk Johnston is now on full deputy status and Ron Swanson is on light duty. Judge Connolly informed us her office had 48 new filings and city court was up 12 cases in April. She attended CCR team meeting and a CPT meeting in Billings. Planner Dringman is updating the 911 rural addressing, lots of certificates of surveys getting reviewed and a zoning hearing on new ordinance in July that will clear up some things. Lindsey with the Fire Department attended Cody Fire School for training on house, car, and propane fires with 10 others from the BTVFD. Clerk of Court Novotny stated she had 3 felonies this month and been busy with the new jury download. Public Works Director Conner said Triangle Communications is installing optic fiber on the lower part of the Main Boulder Road. USFS is allowing counties to use gravel at Miller Creek pit and will also be changing mile post to correlate with rural addressing. The TSEP bridge will go out to bid in the next month and the milling project will start mid-May. The new crusher has been working on Lower Sweet Grass Road and Bridger Creek Road. Extension Agent King held an Emerald Ash Borer workshop with 26 people attending and helped with the Weed Summit with about 80 people. He travelled to Missoula and Idaho with the judging team and attended Montana nutrition conference and pesticide training. Commissioner Faw attended RC&D and fair board meetings. He mentioned that the Lower Sweet Grass and 2-mile bridge will be up for adoption. Commissioner Wallace attended PMC transition meetings, Custer/Gallatin and Airport Board meetings. He also informed everyone that we signed RRGL agreement that lets the Conservation District use dollars from DNRC for the Grey Cliff project. Commissioner Mosness told everyone that we settled with the IRS, worked on Triangle grant for broad band, had a special meeting with PMC board over the new lease and that John Beaudry with Stillwater Mine came in with the metal mines license tax allocation letter. MDT also stopped by to discuss signage.

Alex Sterham with Congressman Zinke’s office stopped to visit with us. We discussed coal issues, sage grouse, and other issues. We had a MACo insurance renewal meeting with Greg Jackson, Julie Schmidt and Vicki Uehling for the property & casualty trust. After lunch the BTVFD came in with their budget. Present were Fire Chief Kris Novotny, Administrative Assistant Norene Brown and Vicki Uehling.. There was much discussion on a new fire truck. Clerk of Court Deanna Novotny presented her budget and the general facilities budget for the courthouse.

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Public Works director Conner presented encroachment permits for Triangle Communications at Swamp Creek and Hauge Road and Northwest Energy at Hwy 10 and Hump Creek Road. Commissioner Mosness moved to approve both and Commissioner Faw seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. Public Health Nurse Jennifer Chappell came in with the contract for PHEP (Public Health and Emergency Preparedness) with DPHHS for the amount of $26,459.00. Commissioner Mosness moved and Commissioner Faw seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. Commissioner Wallace attended a weed board meeting that day.

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Commissioner Wallace and Mosness are in today and Commissioner Faw is in Roundup picking up tractors for the road department and fair grounds. Lana King came in with the junk vehicle budget. Claims for the week were signed. PMC warrants were also signed by Commissioner Wallace and Clerk and Recorder Pederson.

Thursday, May 5, 2016

All Commissioenrs are in today. Public Works Director Conner came in with the road department budget for FY 2017 also present was Finance Officer Uehling. Planner Dringman came in to present her budget. Commissioner Mosness went to Billing for South Central Montana Juvenile Detention facility meeting.

Friday, May 6, 2016

All Commissioners are in today After lunch MACo healthcare trust came in to talk about health insurance. Present were Catherine McKenzie, Stephanie Heinneman, Kandi Schuman, Pam and Shelly with HCT and Health Care Trust Members Commissioners Marty Malone and John Prinkki, Jami Moody and Lindsey with the Big Timber Pioneer.

Monday, May 9, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Planner Dringman came in with a family transfer for Marty Wolfe. Commissioner Mosness moved to accept the family transfer with a 3 year holding requirement. Commissioner Faw seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. Page will bring the COS in later. Discussion was held on Metal Mines dollars used for SGHS football field restroom project in the amount of $10,000. Present was MacKenzie Reis from the Big Timber Pioneer. Commissioner Wallace made the motion to approve this and Commissioner Faw seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. The AMDD contract for chemical dependency with DPHHS was approved and signed. Treasurer Stene came in with her budget. After lunch Weed Coordinator Halverson presented the weed department budget for next year.

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

All Commissioners are in this morning. Sweet Grass Chamber of Commerce Brand Leadership team came in to discuss how they are moving forward with branding Big Timber and Sweet Grass County. Present were Julie Johnson, Carmen Hodges, Monte Koch and MacKenzie from the Big Timber Pioneer. They are asking for $5,000 to put towards a branding campaign which will cost $35,000. Cory Seitz with Sweet Grass Community Foundation came in to talk about her organization

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. We met with Finance Officer Uehling to discuss budgets all morning

Thursday, May 12, 2016

All Commissioner are at a MACo District meeting at the ambulance station.

Friday, May 13, 2016

All Commissioners are in this morning. Planner Dringman came in with a boundary relocation COS for Jay Lyndes and Vance Graham. Commissioner Faw moved to accept and Commissioner Mosness seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. The second COS is a boundary relocation between Bob Faw and David Williams and Gina Bradley in stage coach estates. Commissioner Mosness moved and Commissioner Wallace seconded this and it passed with 2 ayes as Commissioner Faw recused himself from this vote. Also approved and signed was a letter of support for Sweet Grass Conservation District application for reclamation grant from DNRC for the Greycliff project and we also signed the 124 permit for the Main Boulder Road project. This was also signed by Park County Commissioners.

Monday, May 16, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. We met with Tyler Delaney from First West Insurance who carries our worker’s compensation coverage. Catherine McKenzie was also present for this meeting. The premium in the amount of $68,073 is considerably less than last year because of not including PMC employees. The health insurance committee met, present were Becky Todisco, Kandi Schuman, Catherine McKenzie, Stephanie Heinneman, Monte Fjare, and Jami Moody. Becky presented the new rates for Blue Cross/Blue Shield health insurance. Finance officer Uehling went over the miscellaneous budgets and also reviewed journal entries which were approved.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. PMC claims were reviewed and stamped by Commissioner Wallace and Clerk and Recorder Pederson. A conference call was held on the PMC transition, on the call was Erin Mcready, Mike Dockery, Rob McCann and present in the room were Vicki, Erik and Pat. This was to make sure everything was moving forward and to clean up some items before the June 30th transition date. Also after that meeting was a PMC/County business transition meeting to go over some details on payroll accounts, payables and checking accounts, present were Vicki, Catherine, Vera, Miki, Gail and Erik.

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

All Commissioner are in today. Claims for the week were reviewed and signed. Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be the health insurance provider for the county this next year.

Thursday, May 19, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Commissioner Mosness is out in the afternoon. Commissioner Faw attended a Beartooth RC & D meeting in Columbus.

Friday, May 20, 2016

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

Monday, May 23, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. A concerned citizen, Jerry Hanson, stopped in to question where the money that was donated for the SGHS new restrooms at the football field. Commissioner Mosness attended the PMC Board meeting later in the day.

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Commissioner Mosness and Faw are in today and Commissioner Wallace was in briefly. A decision was made on funding part of the branding campaign for Sweet Grass Chamber of Commerce. Present were Monte Koch and Julie Johnson. Commissioner Mosness moved to donate $2,500 for this, much discussion was held on this subject and Commissioner Wallace seconded it and it passed with 2 ayes and 1 nay. The chamber will check on the match funding for this project and get back to us. Cory Seitz with Sweet Grass Community Foundation came in for a decision on funding. We thanked Cory for educating us on the foundation but declined to donate at this time. Commissioner Mosness attended the Boulder River Watershed meeting in McLeod, much discussion was held on fishing issues on the Main Boulder River. FWP and several legislators were present. Commissioner Faw was at the fairgrounds.

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

All Commissioners are in this morning. Finance Officer Uehling presented the current salary schedule, after discussion we decided to look at a 3% COLA for FY 2017, we will revisit this next week. Julie Schmidt came in and discussed PMC property insurance with us.

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Commissioner Wallace was in today, Commissioner Mosness was in Billings for Mental Health Board meeting and Commissioner Faw was out for the day.

Friday, May 27, 2016

All Commissioners are in today. Fair Board came in to present the budget. Present were Vicki, Marc King, Ronda Johnston, Bill Hibnes, Cindy Selensky and Brad McGann. The Fair Board will advertise for 2 positions to contract out on the groundskeeper and janitorial services to replace Myrna Finn.

Monday, May 31, 2016

All Commissioners are in this morning. The PMC letter letting employees know of the July 1, 2016 transition date was signed. Commissioner Faw went to the fairgrounds and Commissioner Wallace went home. Commissioner Mosness and Clerk and Recorder Pederson reviewed and stamped PMC payroll. Commissioner Mosness also signed DUI task force for 2017. Chip Roe stopped in to tell us how nice the cemetery looked for Memorial Day.

Claims for the month of May amounted to $127,493.52.

County and PMC May payrolls totaled $505,297.17.

Respectfully submitted

/s/ Vera Pederson

 Board of County Commissioners

 William Wallace, Chairman

Attest:

Vera Pederson, Clerk