

APRIL 2013  
COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

Sweet Grass County Commissioner meetings are held in the office of the county commissioners in the Sweet Grass County Annex at 115 West 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., 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, at a meeting, or on business requiring them to be out of the office.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Acronyms**

DES – Disaster and Emergency Services	MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
CCR – Coordinated Community Response	PMC – Pioneer Medical Center
EMPG – Emergency Mitigation Plan	RC&D – Rural Conservation and Development
FLAP – Federal Lands Access Program	RFR – request for reimbursement.
HRDC – Human Resource Development Council.	TSEP – Treasure State Endowment Program – provides matching grant funds to local government agencies for construction of infrastructure projects.
L.E.P.C. – Local Emergency Preparedness	Tyler Technology – CAS sold to Tyler – the company that Sweet Grass County contracts with for all of our financial software.
MACo – Montana Association of Counties	
MDT – Montana Department of Transportation	

.....

Monday, April 1, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in the office for the day. Commissioner Faw is in the hospital in Billings as he had a severe heart attack on Friday and will need some time to recuperate. He will be out until further notice.

The monthly staff meeting was held at 9:30 a.m. with Commissioners Mosness and Wallace, Sherry Bjorndal, Susan Metcalf, John Becken, Vicki Uehling, Jane Stene, Evie Halverson, Marc King, Dan Tronrud, Daryl Hodges, Deanna Novotny, Jamie Moody, Brooke Osen and Laura Nelson from the BT Pioneer in attendance.

Susan Metcalf reported that she has moved back to the Annex. All of the schools in the county are on Spring Break. CRT testing was done last week. Three schools will be asking for levies this year – BTGS, SGCHS and Melville.

Marc King announced that the Master Gardner class is over now – he had nine people take the class and six of them have taken the test. They had 4-H demonstrations last evening with nine contestants. Today is the last day to order certified seed potatoes – he has had 200+ pounds ordered. Marc has tagged pigs and has been working on drought monitor report to the governor.

Sheriff Tronrud handed out the report with numbers for the month of March. Officer Terland and County Attorney Dringman are in Helena for a class on interviewing youth. Officer Ronneberg finalized the DARE class last week. Officer Ronneberg will be retiring as the DARE officer and Officer Stene will be taking over that program. The sheriff's office has advertised for a new dispatcher.

Jami Moody reported on the happening in the county attorney's office as Pat is on vacation. March was a busy month and they continue to be busy with several trials scheduled. Pat attended the Montana Narcotics Convention and will be attending a forensic interviewing and interviewing of children training.

Brooke Osen has been working on grants and classes. They will be holding ICS (incident command systems) classes on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The Red Cross was down to do some evaluations and has made arrangements with the Evangelical Church in Big Timber for set up if the Red Cross is needed.

Daryl Hodges is proud to announce that there were no deaths in March that required his services. He is now settled in the Bat Cave and has internet and a desk.

Evie announced that the weed department advertised for chemical bids and received only one bid. Heidi, Evie and Bill went to Helena for a meeting on the Noxious Weed Trust Fund. Evie will be meeting with BLM and FWP next week. She is working on a grant to use to map salt cedar and a raft to do it in.

Jane Stene reports nothing new –same old – same old.

Vicki Uehling held the monthly cash meeting and finished up the audit.

John Becken reports that his office is caught up on everything for Sweet Grass County and he and Peggy have been helping other counties.

Sherry Bjorndal reported that her office is gearing up for school elections and that she has been working with the commissioners on the precinct redistricting.

Commissioner Wallace announced that the Otter Creek Bridge started on 3/18/2013. He attended the Noxious weed Trust meeting in Helena, the Electric Light Ditch meeting at SGCHS, an Argo security workshop in Billings and MACRS conference in Great Falls. The Commissioners and some of the members of the Insurance Committee met with Pam Waling about MACo Health Care Trust insurance.

Commissioner Mosness attended a Cemetery Board meeting where they discussed finishing of the survey for the Reed Point Cemetery and getting a survey done of the area above the ditch at Mountain View Cemetery in Big Timber. The PMC is trying to buy part of the Martinz property across from the Pioneer Medical Center. Susie also attended the Governor's conference on tourism in Helena.

Lana King, Steve Bue and Susie Mosness went out to look at the Otter Creek Bridge.

Commissioner Wallace spent the afternoon helping the road department by driving the roller.

Financial Officer Uehling came in go over the final audit report. Laura Nelson from the Pioneer also attended the meeting.

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness arrived for work and then Commissioner Wallace went to run the roller again. Commissioner Faw was able to come home from the hospital yesterday and is recovering there.

AB Telecom called on voice mail issues.

Linda McMullen called about road problems.

Commissioner Mosness spent the afternoon checking the Old Boulder and Main Boulder Roads.

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in the office for the day.

The commissioners Sheri Lang and Jan Traynor from the State DES office in Helena, Char Fuller and Steve Bue (county employees) and Lindsey from the Big Timber Pioneer went out to review FEMA large sites from the spring of 2011 floods on Upper Deer Creek and Bridger Creek.

AB Telecom found the problem with the voice mail and fixed it.

State Inspectors also came to check out the odor issues in The DPHHS office. They also did an inspection of the rest of the building. They advised looking into extra venting and fans in the crawl space under the building to see if that help.

Lance Zuelke, an engineer who has contracted with Triangle Telephone, stopped in to talk about running new fiber optic lines up the Main Boulder.

Commissioner Wallace traveled to Bozeman for an appointment.

Commissioner Wallace attended the Airport Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday evening.

Thursday, April 4, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness were in for the day. Commissioner Faw is still on sick leave.

Lance Zuelke from Triangle Communications and Steve Bue, Sweet Grass County Road Supervisor, met with the commissioners to discuss putting fiber optic up the Main Boulder.

Sherry Bjorndal came in to go over the agenda for the next week.

Vicki Uehling and Lana King met with the commissioners at 9:30 a.m. to go over the final draw down on TSEP 10-523 East Fork of the Lower Sweet Grass (LSG-11-84). The commissioners reviewed the final draw down and the substantial completions forms and signed them. This bridge was changed from a box culvert to a tri-deck bridge. The Otter Creek Bridge is the only TSEP project left at this time.

Vicki and the commissioners went over the final draw down on the CDBG Grant for the Pioneer Medical Center CT scanner, remodel of the PMC and the Ambulance Station in the amount of \$157,293.51. Chris Mehus from Beartooth RC&D will do the closeout documents for this project. The total cost of the project was \$624,000; this included the grant, donations and a \$275,000 loan which has been paid off. This was for the CT scanner, remodel of the nurses' station and the ambulance station.

Erik Wood, CEO for the PMC met with the commissioners and Sherry to go over the claims for the month. Having discussed the claims and the commissioners approving them, Sherry and Commissioner Mosness stamped the warrants.

Commissioner Mosness and Clerk Bjorndal also stamped county payroll checks.

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness reviewed and approve claims for the week.

Commissioner Wallace attended and L.E.P.C. meeting at the courthouse at 11:30.

Commissioner Mosness attended the addictive disorders board meeting at noon at the Annex.

Commissioner Mosness took the afternoon off.

Friday, April 5, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in for the morning.

Commissioner Mosness and Page Dringman went to look at a possible subdivision past Camp on the Boulder.

A public meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. to go over the new precinct boundaries between precincts 4 & 5 and 5 & 3. These changes were the result of the 2013 Legislative Districting Plan under Article V Section 14 of the Montana Constitution. Stephanie Heinemann and Lindsey from the Big Timber Pioneer were the only people to attend the meeting. Commissioner Mosness made a motion to approve the boundary relocations between precincts 3, 4, & 5. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion and it passed with 2 Ayes. Commissioner Wallace made a motion to approve resolution 04-05-2013, a

resolution to conform precinct boundaries to legislative districting boundaries following the adoption of the 2013 Legislative Districting Plan under Article V Section 14 of the Montana Constitution. Commissioner Mosness seconded the motion and it passed with 2 ayes.

Commissioner Wallace compared the warrants to the claims and stamped the checks for payment.

Monday, April 8, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in on a snowy Monday. Commissioner Faw is still recovering from a heart attack.

The Commissioners called Commissioner Faw to see how he is doing.

Montana Rail Link will replace the Grey Cliff crossing at a cost of \$8,150.00

Commissioner Wallace traveled to Billings for the afternoon.

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace arrived to kick off another day. Commissioner Faw is on medical leave.

Commissioner Mosness left to attend a funeral.

Dan McCauley with Great West Engineering stopped in to visit about the Grey Cliff Bank Project.

Frank Kraatz and Eric Johnston with WKN, Laura Nelson with BT Pioneer and Jan Engwis interested public member met with the commissioners to update them on the Vivaldi wind project north of Reed Point.

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness were in for the day. They attended Roger Engle's funeral at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Wallace went out to watch the beams being set on the Otter Creek Bridge.

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in for the day.

Commissioner Wallace attended a weed board meeting at noon and an Electric Light Ditch meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Claims were reviewed and approved by Vicki Uehling then sent into the commissioners for them to review.

Friday, April 12, 2013

Commissioners Bill Wallace and Susie Mosness arrived to close out the week.

Commissioner Susie compared warrants to claims and stamped the warrants for payment and sent them on to Sherry Bjorndal to review and stamp.

In the afternoon Commissioner Mosness attended the Yellowstone Basin Advisory Council meeting at the Carnegie Library. This was the second meeting of the day and both meetings were well attended. These meetings were held up and down the Yellowstone River in an effort to get as much citizen involvement as possible as the Legislature put this into law and it has to be finished by 2014.

Monday, April 15, 2013

Commissioners Faw, Mosness and Wallace all arrived ready to kick off another week. We are all happy to have Commissioner Faw back.

Planner Page Dringman came in to talk about the CTEP meeting that the City of Big Timber and Sweet Grass County will be having this evening.

Dave Moore was in researching the Duck Creek Road.

The Commissioners, Mayor Mark Stephens and Laura Nelson from the Big Timber Pioneer met at 9:30 a.m. to review a resolution for the master plan for the Airport. The group called Rick Patton with the FAA to get a better understanding of the project and the cost. The Master Plan will cost \$291,500 and the obstruction study will cost \$120,000 for a total of \$411,500.

Resolution 04-15-2013, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BIG TIMBER AND SWEET GRASS COUNTY, MONTANA TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE AERONAUTICS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF DOING AN AIRPORT MASTER PLAN STUDY, OBSTRUCTION SURVEY AND AGIS SUBMITTAL PER FAA ADVISORY CIRCULARS AT THE BIG TIMBER AIRPORT LOCATED IN BIG TIMBER MONTANA, AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPAYMENT OF LOAN AND THE TERMS THEREOF. Commissioner Wallace made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Faw to borrow \$8,333 for the Master Plan. Motion Passed with 3 Ayes.

Brooke Osen, DES Director, and Kevin Langhus met with the commissioners to discuss the EMPG Grant and the Homeland Security Grant and what will be included in the letter of intent. Brooke will be in classes in Great Falls the rest of the week. She will e-mail the documents to the commissioners to be signed and sent in.

Steve Bue visited with the commissioners on the mag chloride project on the first five miles of the Main Boulder Road.

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness were in the office for the day. Commissioner Faw has a physical therapy appt. in Billings.

The commissioners went to the courthouse for their monthly meeting with County Attorney, Pat Dringman to discuss civil matters. They also met with Sheriff Tronrud and Undersheriff Mahlum for an update on what has been happening in the law enforcement department.

Commissioner Wallace helped the road crew in the afternoon.

Jed Eveje called about getting his road graded.

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Commissioners Faw and Wallace were in the office for the day. Commissioner Mosness is in Billings for a regional Juvenile Detention Board meeting.

Commissioner Wallace signed the annual Conservation District Agreement stating the number of mills levied for the district.

Commissioner Faw attended the Fair Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness were in the office for the day. Commissioner Faw will be going to rehab. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bill and seconded by Commissioner Susie to approve an encroachment permit on Featherbed Road for Triangle Telephone. Motion passed with 2 ayes.

Don Bedard came in to talk about the Mountain View Cemetery survey of the upper portion above the ditch. Don will be finishing this up next week.

Commissioner Wallace left to go to Colorado until next Tuesday and Commissioner Mosness spent the day helping stuff ballots for the school election.

Erik Wood stopped in to discuss PMC issues.

Friday, April 19, 2013

Commissioners Faw and Mosness arrived to end another week. Commissioner Wallace is in Colorado.

Commissioners Bob and Susie reviewed and approved claims for payment.

Sherry came in to go over the agenda for next week.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Emergency Mitigation Plan Grant (EMPG) application.

Claims were compared to warrants and the warrants stamped for payment before being sent to Sherry to review and stamp.

Commissioner Mosness was out of the office for the afternoon and Commissioner Faw manned the office.

Monday, April 22, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Faw were in the office on this snowy April morning. Commissioner Wallace is still in Colorado.

Commissioner Faw made a motion to accept the DPHHS Alcohol Tax Agreement for services to go to the South Central Regional Mental Health Center. Commissioner Mosness seconded the motion and it passed with 2 ayes. Commissioners Faw and Mosness signed the agreement.

Commissioner Faw attended a committee meeting on replacing the small set of bleachers by the concession stand at the fairgrounds.

Minutes of the March 2013 commissioners meeting were read by Sherry Bjorndal. Commissioner Faw made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Mosness seconded the motion and it passed with 2 ayes. Laura Nelson from the Big Timber Pioneer also sat in on the reading of the minutes.

Commissioner Faw went over to visit with the County Attorney about rail road crossing issues.

The afternoon was spent reading and getting caught up on correspondence.

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in the office and Commissioner Faw is at rehab. today.

Commissioner Wallace traveled to Utica for a demonstration of a PTH machine, which is a pull behind gravel crushing machine on the actual road.

Commissioner Mosness left at noon to go the Billings for an HRDC meeting.

Wednesday, April 23, 2013

Commissioners Faw, Mosness and Wallace were all in the office for the day.

The monthly cash meeting was held at 9:30 a.m. with the Commissioners, Vicki Uehling, Jane Stene, Char Fuller and Sherry Bjorndal in attendance. The group reviewed the following information:

- Char gave an update on Terrell's copier contract and what it is doing for the county
- Monthly credit card activity report
- PMC cash
- Investment interest
- CD ladder update
- Jan – Mar. pledged securities
- General Journal entries 942-1018 not all inclusive. Commissioner Wallace made a motion to approve these G/L entries. Commissioner Faw seconded the motion and it passed with 3 ayes.
- Budget line item adjustments.
- FEMA flood update
- Sweet Grass County currently has 15 active grants
- Reviewed expenditures, revenues and cash.

The Commissioners reviewed a contract for rental of office space to the Montana Highway Patrol. This is a contract for office space and other amenities at the Sweet Grass County Courthouse for the Montana Highway Patrol at \$200 per month for the next three years. Having reviewed the contract and talked to County Attorney Dringman the agreement was signed by Commissioners Mosness and Wallace.

Commissioner Wallace went home as he was not feeling well.

Commissioners Faw and Mosness reviewed and approved claims for payment.

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in the office. Commissioner Faw is at rehab. today.

Sherry came in to go over the agenda for next week.

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness reviewed the Airport insurance for the year and it was signed by Commissioner Mosness.

Commissioner Mosness stamped warrants for payment and sent them to Sherry to review and stamp.

The commissioners attended an L.E.P.C. meeting at the Courthouse at 11:30 a.m.

Friday, April 26, 2013

Commissioner Mosness is in Billing for a Regional Mental Health Board meeting. Commissioner Faw is in Billings for a doctor's appointment. Commissioner Wallace stayed home and took care of business.

Monday, April 29, 2013

Commissioners Mosness and Wallace were in the office for the day. Commissioner Faw is ill today.

Road Supervisor, Steve Bue was in to visit about various road projects including putting mag chloride on the Main Boulder Road.

Jacque Oiestad came in to talk about the extensive wall reconstruction in the Highway Patrol office in the courthouse.

Marc King, Vicky Schwartz and Bill Miller stopped in to discuss the bleachers at the fairgrounds and replacing them. Zane Geer will come in and replace the old lumber with new boards in different buildings on the property.

Zane Geer and Vicky Schwartz came in to discuss the lumber removal at the fairgrounds. He will bring a contract in on Tuesday and his insurance information.

Lauren Oswald with the USFS called on various Forest Service issues.

Steve Bue came in for ADT (average daily traffic) on the Main Boulder Road.

Dave Bjorndal was in to talk about the fairgrounds wood removal and the bleachers.

Commissioner Wallace visited with Becky Todisco on health insurance.

Sox Ullman stopped in to visit about issues on the Main Boulder Road.

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Commissioners Wallace and Mosness were in for the day. Commissioner Faw is at rehab.

Bill Miller came in to talk about fairgrounds stuff.

Vicki Uehling let us know that FEMA has paid 70% of the 50% on large sites about \$226,280.40.

Ronda Johnston called on the fairgrounds issues.

Jennifer Madgic called from Senator Tester's office on a tourism workshop that is coming up.

Commissioner Wallace met for lunch with members from the conservation district then went to the Big Timber Creek site and the Bob Flick head gate.

Commissioner Mosness reviewed and signed PMC payroll.

Commissioner Wallace talked to Rick Patton at GDA Engineering about the airport and an IFE (Independent Fee Estimate) for the Airport Master Plan.

Claims paid during the month of April amounted to \$80,777.37

County and PMC payroll for the month of April was \$447,109.50.

Respectfully submitted

Sherry Bjorndal