JANUARY 7 – 11, 2019

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. 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.

**NOTICE: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).**

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday, January 7, 2019**

All Commissioners are in today.

A staff meeting was held and present were: Cory Conner, Jessie Connolly, Char Fuller, Connie Weston, Alan Ronneberg, Jennifer Chappell, Barb Swanson, Jami Moody, Kris Novotny, Vera Pederson, Marc King, Vicki Uehling, Page Dringman and Susan Metcalf.

Public Works Director Conner said he was on vacation in December and his department has been getting caught up from the summer projects.

Finance Officer Uehling reported the auditor was here in December and had no findings. She has been working on the annual report, census report and protested taxes from 2009. She informed us that there will be a cash meeting on the 23rd of January.

Planner Dringman said she was also on vacation in December but their office has had a few flood plain applications and rescheduled the joint city/county planning board meeting for January 29th.

Justice of the Peace Connolly attended judge school in December, Alternatives quarterly meeting, Commissioner of Courts of limited jurisdiction meeting, Addictive Disorder and Mental Health meetings. She reported the end of year numbers for the courts.

Treasurer Fuller reported her office collected 5.8 million in property taxes in November and December. She attended the elected official training in Helena and a motor vehicle reporting training last week. They will start scanning the motor vehicle documents and will be required to have a background check for employees using the MERLIN system.

Weed Coordinator Weston said she attended a FWP meeting and will be headed to Great Falls today for her yearly training. She has returned all the claims for the ongoing grants and the applications for the 2019 grants are due today. She also informed us that the Weed Summit will be February 5th.

Superintendent of Schools Metcalf said the schools are gearing up for testing and that there are 20 new superintendents across the state.

County Health Nurse Chappell said she has been busy with hospice and reported 131 cases of influenza in Montana with 2 in Sweet Grass County.

Extension Agent King has been doing the end of year reports, attended state conventions for the stockgrowers and woolgrowers. He has also been working with local producers to get beef in local restaurants.

Clerk and Recorder Pederson said December was election clean up, Secretary of State Stapleton visited her office, she was appointed to the MACCR legislative committee, will be attending a fraud prevention class and MACo mid-winter meeting in February.

Sheriff Ronneberg reported the year end numbers and said they hired Michael O’Connell and will be sending one officer to the academy in April. He also informed us that the Search and Rescue bought a new side by side.

Clerk of Court Swanson is preparing for a jury trial and also attended the elected official training.

Jami Moody with the County Attorney’s office said they have been very busy and they have been working on the interlocal agreement with the city and should update the interlocal agreement with the city for law enforcement.

Fire Chief Novotny said the number of fires is down for 2018, they have a full roster of 40 members, will be attending wildland training and the new engine will be done in April.

Commissioner Roe and Moody said the new commissioners will be coming around to meet with different departments each week.

Commissioner Wallace said he attended PMC board meeting where they hired a new CEO, met with the auditor, Senior Citizens board, HRDC board meeting, had a COS review, open houses for the retirees and signed the interlocal agreement with the city for the judge.

Max DeMars stopped in to request a speed survey on Highway 191 from Otter Creek Road to Big Timber Creek Bridge.

County board appointments were discussed.

Airport Board: Commissioner Roe moved to expand the airport board to four members and Commissioner Moody seconded this, it passed with 3 ayes. Commissioner Roe moved to keep the previous board members and add Jason Hill. Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with three ayes. Also, Commissioner Wallace will stay on this board for this year and then Commissioner Roe will join.

Cemetery Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to expand cemetery board to 5 positions and Commissioner Moody seconded this, it passed 3 ayes. Commissioner Roe made motion to keep Catherine McKenzie and Paula Curtin on the board and appoint Julie Kinsey to the new 3-year term.

City/County Planning Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Vera Pederson and appoint Kari Cosgriff as replacement for Heather Myrstol. Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. It was determined by the planning office that Kari Cosgriff does not live within the jurisdiction so she was removed and the position will be advertised again.

County Planning Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Bill Brownlee and Dan Halverson and appoint Marc King and Kari Cosgriff as new board members. Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes.

Fair Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Ronda Johnston to the fair board and Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes. Commissioner Moody will represent the Commissioners on this board.

Library Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Linda Larson to this board, Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes.

Tax Appeal Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Rick Jarrett to this board, Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes.

Weed Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to reappoint Nathan Anderson to this board, Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes.

Salary Compensation Board: Commissioner Roe made motion to appoint Joyce Stephens to this board, Commissioner Moody seconded this and it passed with 3 ayes.

Commissioner Roe will represent the Commissioners on the Beartooth RC & D board and Area II on Aging. Commissioner Moody will represent the Commissioners on the Juvenile Detention and HRDC boards.

We will add a notice to the board applications that if there are multiple applicants the current member would need to reapply but if there are no other applicants we will reappoint.

MaryAnn Parrent called and expressed her opinion on the proposed Crazy Mtn. Wind farm.

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

All Commissioners are in today. A Mental Health Board meeting was held at noon. Commissioner Wallace made motion to appoint Sheriff Ronneberg to the chair of the Mental Health Board and motion carried.

The Commissioners travelled out to view North Yellowstone Trail road and stopped by the county road shop to view the new equipment.

**Wednesday, January 9, 2019**

All Commissioners are in today. Commissioner Wallace travelled to Bozeman to a Custer/Gallatin Working Group meeting. Commissioner Roe and Moody attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting. Glenn Berg was in to discuss alcohol and drug counseling.

**Thursday, January 10, 2019**

All Commissioners are in today. Claims for the week were reviewed and signed. Clerk and Recorder Pederson was in to discuss agenda items. The Commissioners had a weekly connect with the Clerk and Recorders Office. Commissioner Wallace went to the PMC to review contracts. Linda Smith a resident on Swamp Creek road stopped by to ask questions about the wind meeting. The Commissioners met with Public Works Director Conner to discuss the contents of the road agreement.

**Friday, January 11, 2019**

All Commissioners are in today. County Attorney Dringman was in to discuss the road agreement and ongoing civil issues affecting the county. Commissioner Wallace and Moody went out to look at the Old Boulder Road and parking area at 8-mile bridge. Dan Rostad stopped in to let the Commissioners know the Conservation District meeting special guest would not be attending on Monday, January 14, 2019.

Respectfully submitted

/s/ Vera Pederson

Board of County Commissioners

William Wallace, Chairman

Date Approved: February 1, 2019

Attest:

Vera Pederson, Clerk