

MAY 4 - 8, 2020
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, May 4, 2020

All Commissioners are in today.

Timesheets were reviewed and signed.

Catherine McKenzie was in to discuss the health insurance decision from the insurance committee.

Public Works Director Conner was in regarding the encroachment permit for Twin Willows/Sheets in Greycliff.

Clerk and Recorder Pederson and Finance Officer Uehling were in to read Resolution #05042020 creating a fund to oversee the grant received for Tumblewood Teas and allowing the finance officer to amend the budget and manage the funds for this line item. Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve and Commissioner Moody seconded this, the motion passed with 3 ayes.

A Unified Public Health Command meeting was held.

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

All Commissioners are in today.

Commissioner Moody went to the high school to talk to Mr. Gustafson regarding the graduation ceremony.

Planner Dringman presented a boundary relocation certificate of survey for Shane and Cheyenne Wilson. Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve and Commissioner Moody seconded this. The motion passed with 3 ayes.

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

All Commissioners are in today.

Jim Bestbock from West Bridger Creek called to inquire about the width of the Forest Service easements.

A staff meeting was held. Present were Cliff Brophy, Susan Metcalf, Kris Novotny, Marc King, Vicki Uehling, Connie Weston, Cory Conner, Page Dringman, Barb Swanson, Alan Ronneberg, Jessie Connolly, Pat Dringman, Vera Pederson and Amber Blake called in.

Extension Agent King said he has been attending a lot of webinars, 4H Livestock Quality Judging contests, graded beef, handing out pesticide books, potatoes were delivered, working with state 4H regarding fair and shipped a load of wool.

Fire Chief Novotny said they have not had any meetings or training for the last 2 months. They had a officers' meeting to discuss protocol, meeting with DNRC regarding upcoming fire season and mutual aide with Park and Stillwater counties.

Superintendent of Schools Metcalf said the teachers did an incredible job with getting the online/distance learning set up in one day. They have been having virtual special board meetings regarding Covid-19 and graduation is still being planned.

DES/911 Coordinator Brophy said he has been having Unified Public Health Command meetings, working on preparing for the phased reopening with church camps, gatherings, etc.

Justice of the Peace Connolly reported the numbers for the last couple months. She attended MMA and Mental Health Board meetings by Zoom, judge school was cancelled and several trials postponed.

Sheriff Ronneberg reported the numbers for the last couple months. He said the Durango he ordered last summer finally arrived and he ordered another one. A deputy is resigning in June and he is in the process of hiring a new one.

Clerk of District Court Swanson reported the numbers for the last couple months and said her office has been business as usual. She has had some teleconference hearings and her association's convention has been postponed.

Finance Officer Uehling said she was working from home most of April on FEMA and budgets.

Planner Dringman said her office had a couple conditional use permits for the planning board, 2 minor subdivisions, updating rural addressing, and several flood plain applications.

County Attorney Dringman said his office did a lot of cleaning of the basement this last month, he has been attending Unified Public Health Command meetings, a Zoom meeting with his association and they are still planning the convention in July.

Weed Coordinator Weston said her office has been quiet but she was working on dividing grant funds and sending out non-compliance letter.

Public Works Director Conner said spring is usually their busy time but they divided up the crew to get most roads maintained and bladed. They installed a culvert on Dry Creek Canal on the Old Boulder Road, headwall on Lower Sweet Grass Road bridge and the Old Boulder Bridge project went out for bid. He has also had several encroachment permits the last couple months.

Clerk and Recorder Pederson said her office has been busy with the school and primary elections. Primary election will be all mail ballot this year so she will be sending those out to about 2400 voters on Friday. She received a grant from the Secretary of State for \$18,000 to purchase 3 new tabulators. She also started E-recording with the office being shut down.

Amber with Community Health reported their office has seen 62 clients since October, \$15,000 has been donated for the Covid-19 local assistance fund and 12 people have enrolled in the STRIVE program thru MSU.

Commissioner Roe said they have been alternating schedules, participating in meetings, working on grants (Airport and Tumbewood Teas), Hospitality House closed thru May, working on Old Boulder Bridge project, dealing with dogs at large at fishing access sites, encroachment permits and Board of Public Health meetings.

Commissioner Moody added they have been working with Stillwater Mine on their Covid-19 mitigation plans, attended Overland Golf Course board meeting and insurance committee meeting.

DES/911 Coordinator Brophy was in with updates on grants.

Finance Officer Uehling stopped in to inquire about CHW grant incorporation with Wheatland County.

Thursday, May 7, 2020

All Commissioners are in today.

Clerk and Recorder Pederson was in to go over agenda items and read minutes. Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve the minutes from March 2, 2020 to May 1, 2020 with corrections. Commissioner Moody seconded this and the motion passed with 3 ayes.

Public Works Director Conner presented an encroachment permit for Twin Willows LLC /Sheets on Faw Lane in Greycliff. Commissioner Roe made a motion to approve the encroachment permit with the Public Works Director's conditions. Commissioner Moody seconded this and the motion passed with 3 ayes. Present at this meeting were Amy Newman and Dan Ray.

Casey Collins with Greg Gianforte's office called to get updates.

Weekly claims and payroll were reviewed and signed.

John and Mardi Smith were in to inquire about a privately sanctioned rodeo at the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Moody attended a fair board meeting and Commissioner Wallace attended a PMC board meeting.

Friday, May 8, 2020

All Commissioners are in today.

A MACo town hall meeting was held.

Julie Johnson with Tuscano Machine called in to inquire about the tax abatement process.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Vera Pederson

Board of County Commissioners

William Wallace, Chairman

Date Approved: June 11, 2020

Attest:
Vera Pederson, Clerk