

**January 16, 2024, Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners**

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on January 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Vice Chairman John H. Jackson, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice, and their Assistant Taylor Longie.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

At this time, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance aloud to begin the day.

**Updates on County Projects**

GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Land Use and Planning Director Rob Macioroski, Land Use Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, Sheriff David Wendt, HR Specialist Paul Craft, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham and Solid Waste Manager Nick Hoem

Nick Hoem starting the discussion by stating it has been busy. He has been working on a bid for a new pit. There is a bear in the wise river can. Hopefully it has been relocated and does not come back.

Tom Wagenknecht stated there is a big ice jam south of town. He explained the ice jam started right before the Laknar bridge. He explained the houses affected. They have been hauling in material to try to block the water from coming into people's house. He said that the temperature got to negative forty-two degrees. He discussed they don't know what the next days hold. They are discussing ways to handle this situation. He stated ice jams are so unpredictable. He informed that Kelly Rowe flew the river with a drone. He informed that Sheriff Wendt and Fire Chief BJ Klose, County Attorney Sky Jones, Nick Hoem were all out there helping over the weekend.

John Jackson showed his gratitude to the guys for going out there and helping all weekend.

Tom W said public safety is the top priority here. He has been in discussion with the Department of Rec and state DES.

Nick stated that Madison County DES came over to help.

Paul said he is just moving forward with getting settling in.

Shonna stated that they moved the treasurer's office back to their normal spot. She said she plowed snow. There was a new outlet put in the finance office. She said she is getting ready to sell the ATV. Wendt found a new Side by side for facilities. Wendt said there is a plow on the UTV.

Rob stated that they are still working on regulations. There is a public hearing this Thursday for the new subdivision regulations. Then followed by a public hearing at the commissioners meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Sheriff Wendt stated there are 25 inmate's downstairs. There are a couple inmates that will be out today but a lot will be there for a while.

Shonna stated the sewer smell is coming from the jail. They did an experiment last week to see where the sewer smell is coming from. She is going to have a plumber come in to look at it.

The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

**BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK**  
January 7<sup>th</sup> to January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

**DILLON AREA**

- Plowed snow on local roads, Horse Prairie and Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway.
- Road checked Dillon area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

**LIMA AREA**

- Plowed snow on the following roads: Big Sheep Creek, Little Sheep Creek, West, Reeder, Munday, Chute Canyon, Gosman, Hansen, Dell Airport, and Glead.
- Yard and shop maintenance.
- Road checked Lima and Dell area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

**WISDOM AREA**

- Plowed snow on the following roads: Skinner Meadows, Steel Creek, Twin Lakes, Rock Creek, River, Gibbonsville, Big Swamp, Upper North Fork, Lower North Fork, Lower Mussighrod and Lower Bender Creek,
- Road checked Jackson and Wisdom area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

**Discussion & Action~ Resolution 2024-04 A Resolution of the County Commission of Beaverhead County Montana, calling for an Election on the Question of Conducting a Local Government Review and Establishing a Study Commission to do so**

John Jackson stated that this study takes place every ten years.

After brief discussion, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that Resolution 2024-04 A Resolution of the County Commission of Beaverhead County Montana, calling for an Election on the Question of Conducting a Local Government Review and Establishing a Study Commission to do so, be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The resolution can be viewed below.



**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-04**

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BEAVERHEAD COUNTY MONTANA, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF CONDUCTING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW AND ESTABLISHING A STUDY COMMISSION TO DO SO.**

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 9, of the Constitution of the State of Montana requires that each unit of local government shall conduct an election once every ten years to determine whether the local government will undertake a local government review procedure; and

WHEREAS, 7-3-173(2) M.C.A. requires that the governing body shall call for an election, to be held on the primary election date, on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverhead County Commission is the governing body Beaverhead County;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Beaverhead County Commission hereby calls for an election on the question of conducting a local government review and electing a study commission to be held at the primary election on June 4, 2024.
2. If the voters decide in favor of conducting a local government review, a study commission comprised of three members shall be elected at the general election of November 5, 2024.
3. Pursuant to 7-3-175, M.C.A. the question of conducting a local government review shall be submitted to the electors in substantially the following form:

Vote for one:

[ ] FOR the review of the government of Beaverhead County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed one (1) mill, of a local government study commission consisting of three (3) members to examine the government of Beaverhead County and submit recommendations on the government.

[ ] AGAINST the review of the government of Beaverhead County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed one (1) mill, of a local government study commission consisting of three (3) members to examine the government of Beaverhead County and submit recommendations on the government.

Resolution Number 2024-04  
A Resolution Of The County Commission Of Beaverhead County Montana, Calling For An Election On The Question Of Conducting A Local Government Review And Establishing A Study Commission To Do So.

Passed and adopted by the County Commissioners of Beaverhead County, Montana meeting at regular session held on the 16th day of January 2024.

Beaverhead County Commission

Michael J. McGinley  
Chairman

*John H. Jackson*  
John H. Jackson  
Commissioner

*C. Thomas Rice*  
C. Thomas Rice  
Commissioner

Attest:

*Stacey Reynolds*  
Stacey Reynolds  
Beaverhead County Clerk and Recorder

**Action on Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the January 8, 2024 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that the minutes of the January 8, 2024 meeting be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

**911 Communications Meeting**

The Commissioners meeting was recessed for the 911 Communications meeting. The minutes can be found in the finance office.

**Recess**

At 12:00 noon, Vice Chairman John Jackson recessed the meeting. At 1:30 p.m., Vice Chairman John Jackson reconvened the meeting with Commissioner C. Thomas Rice, and their assistant Taylor Longie present.

**Payment of Invoices**

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$114,515.68, beginning with check #214091 and ending with check #214131. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

**Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda**

No public comments were heard

**Unfinished Business/ Other Topics of Discussion**

Sky Jones joined the meeting.

Sky stated that it the ice jam is bad and getting worst. He informed of all the measures that have taken place so far. Discussion about the houses flooding took place. Discussion about all other water channels took place. Sky stated that this situation is hard because you don't know when the situation will resolve.

Discussion about the flooding took place.

Bob Joined the discussion and said that the water is about to go over Laknar bridge.

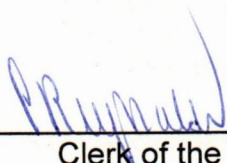
Sky Jones asked, as far as the county goes, what is there responsibility for response. Tom answered that they have been responding. If they declare an emergency people will start itemizing their hours.

Sky Jones asked if there are any more phone calls with the feds scheduled. Commissioner Rice said no not at this point, there fear now is that the ice will drop and the water will go over the top of the ice.

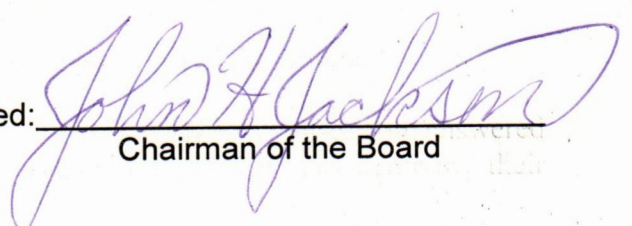
**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Attest:

  
Clerk of the Board

Approved:

  
Chairman of the Board