

January 13, 2025 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on January 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Commissioner Chairman John Jackson, Commissioner Michael J McGinley, Commissioner Tom Rice and Commissioner Support Specialist Dana Basile.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris was present and reported the following.

He added they plowed snow. That's about it. Snow plow that goes to Elkhorn broke down, trying to get it fixed. Steel Bridge Lane Bridge is getting the down payment this week.

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

January 5th to January 11th, 2025

DILLON AREA

- Plow snow on Local Roads, Melrose Area, Horse Prairie, ByWay
 - Repairs and maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Plow Skinner Meadows, Twin Lakes, Rock Ck, Moose Ck, River Rd, Lower and Upper North Fork, Lower Mussigbrod, Lower Bender Ck Rd, and Steel Ck
 - Plow Wisdom, Wisdom Dump, Moose Ck, Snow Berms Twin Lakes and Rock Ck
 - Equipment repair Shop
 - Weld Surface Blades

LIMA AREA

- Plow Snow on South Valley Rd
- Bladed on Sage Creek and Big Sheep Creek
 - Equipment Repair and Weld Fabricate
 - Road Check

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, HR Paul Craft, Planner Rob Macioroski, School Superintendent Mike Miller, Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Landfill Supervisor Nick Hoem, Food Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, Finance Assistant Becky Hankinson, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Sheriff David Wendt, County Attorney Sky Jones, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, and Land Use Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, joined the meeting.

Nick commented that the scale is waiting on an IP address. Hopefully that will be up and running this week. He also got I am responding back up.

Tom added not a lot new besides finishing up things and final reports. There is some potential mitigation stuff for DEQ projects. He is also looking into a few Homeland security grants for the courthouse and schools, potentially one with the Mayor. He is entertaining a few small ones instead of focusing on one large one.

Jack mentioned he is trying to get the new office organized. He starts his grad school program again this week. Next Monday he is going to Helena with two 4H kids to have breakfast with the legislators. He is also talking to the university about a mountains and plains grant trying to get an enclosed trailer to help with emergencies involving livestock.

Joyce commented she received a 3rd quarter check for inspection reimbursements and also was just reimbursed from FDA for the Vermont trip. She is starting to get lots of her inspections done.

Rob mentioned he had a Planning Board meeting last week and Kristen Bailey was re-elected as chair. Registration for the Economic outlook seminar is this week.

Mike Miller added it should be a quiet week. He has a zoom meeting with OPI this week and an IEP meeting for a student this week.

Shonna added they are getting Amber and the Weeds Office moved this week. Sean applied to get his state boiler test taken. Airport had their boiler inspection and passed.

Paul mentioned he has a couple of small projects going on right now. He is looking into time off for bereavement because nothing is in the current manual but this should be added to the next one. It also needs to be added that FMLA does cover death in the family.

Randi mentioned her office was in a lull last week. They all had to recertify for their security trainings and they were going through old case files that need to be dismissed/destroyed.

Amber mentioned this week's main task is moving. She said some of the file cabinets will be interesting to maneuver as they thought they would come apart and do not. The annual conference will be at the end of the month. She is in her last push to get everything finished up.

Tracy commented there have been 11 employees that have completed their cybersecurity training for the year. He mentioned that Nick's project at the landfill can apply to get a grant to lay fiber up there. It would be about \$100K for the new fiber and 2 ½ miles of trench. Solar farm could pay for some as it gives them access too.

Sky added he appreciates everyone's help with various projects. The Buster Brown gate will be being removed soon. He is working with the survey review staff. He will be going to Helena for legislation this week to help. He also has a meeting with Paul to discuss the employee handbook. His office is working on the grant for the victim witness assistant. He wanted the Commissioners to add June 14 to the calendar. He is planning a big fundraiser at Jaycee Park.

David mentioned he had a busy week. There are several cases headed to Sky and there are currently 15 in the jail.

Chairman Jackson mentioned thoughts with those in the California fires- Tom W. added Montana is sending support in the form of apparatus and manpower.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the January 6th, 2025 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Rice seconded that the minutes of the meeting be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Recess

At 12:00 noon, Chairman Jackson recessed the meeting. At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Jackson and Commissioner Rice reconvened the meeting with Commissioner McGinley and their Assistant Dana Basile present.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda

Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion

Routine matters occupied the attention of the Board for the remainder of the day.

Payment of Invoices

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$134,909.43 beginning with check #216988 and ending with check #217038. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

Adjourn

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

Attest: _____ Approved: _____
Clerk of the Board Chairman of the Board