

**April 14, 2025 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners**

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on April 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Commissioner John Jackson, 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 that they got the Nissen Lane bridge done and open. He mentioned needing to set up time to go see Axes Canyon. Coty and Sky are able to this week so with the time limit, they need to schedule. He is waiting on the culvert to show up that Beaverhead Lane Subdivision ordered. Kodie Bernard is working on getting South Valley Lane open, as the Idaho side is trying to open as well.

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

**BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK**

April 6th to April 12th, 2025

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

**DILLON AREA**

- Bridgework on Nissen Lane

**WISDOM AREA**

- Road Check
- Shop Clean
- Piled Willows

**LIMA AREA**

- Blade Big Sheep Creek Road and Little Sheep Creek
- Plowed Snow North Valley Rd, South Valley Rd, Blacktail Rd, Lima Dam Rd and Ruby Divide Rd.
  - Shop Maintenance and Moved Equipment
  - Road and Lane Check
- South Valley Rd is still closed above Lakeview until Friday

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Planner Rob Macioroski, School Superintendent Mike Miller, Landfill Supervisor Nick Hoem, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Undersheriff Ceth Haggard, Jail Commander Ian Ternes, Public Health Director Lilia Guillen-Sanchez, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Fairground Manager Justin Kellabrew, Food Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, County Attorney Sky Jones, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, and Land Use Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, joined the meeting.

Nick commented that there is not much new with the landfill. He is waiting on parts for the kiosk. Last week he got the scale recertified.

Jack added that today is the Master Gardener class. Wednesday he has a workshop at the 4H building and he will be flying the drone for this. Thursday he is going to be up Birch Creek to check out the Bender Center for the 4H trip out there coming up.

Justin mentioned it is a slow week for the Fairgrounds. They are just finishing getting ready to open up. Road Dept will be blading this week too.

Mike commented most of the schools are on spring break this week. He is going to Wise River to swear in a trustee tonight. Only Reichle school will have an election for the Rural Schools. May 9<sup>th</sup> he is at BCHS to swear in school board members. He will be at the Career Fair at Keltz Arena on Thursday looking to hire a new teacher for Wisdom.

Ian mentioned the jail is at 22 with multiple Madison County holds. This week Tuesday and Wednesday he has the biannual detention commander meeting at UMW.

Ceth added it was a busy weekend with a few call outs.

Tracy commented he will be in Helena later this week.

Tom added sanitation has been normal with permits and enforcement issues. Last week he and Joyce were in Helena for a conference. DES turned in the two homeland security grants, the city turned in theirs.

Stacey mentioned this Thursday is the candidate filing opening for Lima and Dillon and the Tech levy for the high school, and middle/elementary school.

Joyce commented they were up in Helena last week and attended lots of very informative sessions. Friday she was in Lima inspecting the hotel, the new owners are already doing renovations.

Shonna mentioned the concrete pad was laid for Public Health and the generator put in place. It will be wired in with the sign in a few weeks.

Amber added this week she is a guest on a podcast and she has Spring training Wednesday and Thursday in Butte.

Rob added he is reviewing 2 surveys this week- one is a family transfer. He had a meeting with the flood plain violator and DNRC last week and they decided DNRC is coming down in person to investigate. He got an inquiry from MDT about the bridge on 90 for a flood plain permit. He and Tom got an email from the engineer representing the church on Lovers Leap and proposing a new access road. Rochelle is out for 12 weeks.

Sky added he looked into the Lovers Leap train issue and there is a \$100 fine for blocking the roadway for longer than 15 minutes.

Randi added that Bo is heading to a conference in Missoula through Thursday. She is out next week for a conference in Butte. She is leading one of those training sessions.

Lilia added she was also at the Confluence conference last week and Public Health received an award for Pathways. She has a few deliverables due this week. WIC conference in Vegas next week. Family Planning grant is frozen currently- they have funding through the end of May.

Sky commented he will be playing catch up and updates this week. Busy upstairs- district court tomorrow. He will be available to go with the group to Axes Canyon this week.

### **Discussion and Action- Appointment of 2025 Counting Judges**

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds presented the Commissioners with a letter to appoint the counting judges for the May 2025 elections.

After reviewing the names, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Rice seconded that the judges be appointed. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Stacey added this year they are doing a hand count with this election to give experience to all the judges.

April 7, 2025

Beaverhead County Commissioners  
2 South Pacific #4  
Dillon, MT 59725

RE: APPOINTMENT OF 2025 COUNTING JUDGES

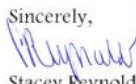
Dear Commissioners,

Please appoint the following individuals to serve on the Beaverhead County Counting Judge Board for the 2025 School and Municipal elections.

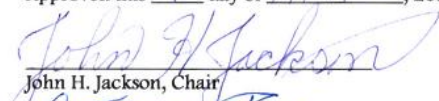

Barb Hall  
Susanna Ruby  
Jeanette Pittman  
Ellen Ward  
Elizabeth Walters

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Stacey Reynolds  
Election Administrator

Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL, 2025

  
John H. Jackson, Chair  
  
C. Thomas Rice, Commissioner

### **Discussion and Action- Deputy Union Adding Dispatch**

Deputy Cross presented the Commissioners with a memorandum at the March 31, 2025 meeting to add the Dispatch to the Deputy Union. Deputy Wheatley added this is recognizing the Dispatch as part of the Union. Mayor commented what will it do with the MOU since the city is paying half of dispatch- does the city have a say in negotiating. The city needs to be involved in the negotiation when it comes to it. Wheatley will ask the union rep and report back to Mayor McGinley. After review, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Rice seconded to adding Dispatch to the Deputy Union. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Drought Task Force Meeting**

The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m.

A copy of the sign in sheet can be viewed below:

### **National Weather Service**

Paul Nutter, Meteorologist from the National Weather Service joined the meeting via Teams and began his presentation. A copy of the presentation can be viewed in the DES Office.

### **Bureau of Rec/East Bench Irrigation/Clark Canyon Water Users**

Mike Willard read the progress report (a copy of which can be viewed below) and reviewed it aloud.

### **Action on Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the April 7, 2025 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

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

### **Recess**

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

### **Safety Team Meeting**

The minutes from the Safety Team Meeting will be available in the Finance Office.

### **Chamber Update**

Rebecca Jones, Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce President, joined the Commissioners and reported this week is the chamber lunch and learn at Macs Last Cast. MDT is coming to talk about the street construction in Dillon this summer. On April 24<sup>th</sup>, SWMT Regional Tourism will be in Dillon for a Board Meeting at the Andrus. On April 25<sup>th</sup> the Art Walk Downtown is Tendoy Fine Art Gallery and the chamber is hosting Chamber After Hours at Badger Archery. On April 27<sup>th</sup> is a Chamber Board Retreat at Angler Village. She will be in Lima for a Visitors Center meeting and to check out a business park potential and meet the new Lima Hotel owners.

### **City Update**

Mayor McGinley joined the Commissioners and reported that only thing going on is the work camps that City and County Sanitation has been working on. Railway has one right now that is on Railroad property but in Dillon City limits. The Loves thing is still being worked on. Last heard won't be approved until the lift station is done and it needs to be up to code before city can take it over. Jackson mentioned the concrete deal from tearing out streets. Since it has rebar in it, it can't be crushed. Landfill can't take it either. The city planning board approved opening Franklin St straight across and Timmons will be half a block.

### **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 \$92,539.10 beginning with check #217561 and ending with check #217614. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

4/8/25 CK # 217560 \$185.00 Madison County Bond

### **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