

## May 5, 2025 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on May 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present Commissioner John Jackson, Commissioner Tom Rice, Commissioner Michael McGinley 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. They are blading as many roads as they can get to with the rain. He will be checking the Byway to get it plowed for opening on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Delivery dates for Steel Lane Bridge are in so he is organizing the crane schedule, should be done by end of June. There is a meeting on Anderson Lane tomorrow. He received an email regarding Browns Bridge- they are needing more signatures. He went to look at Lemhi Pass and it looks clear. He will open the gate early to through traffic but announce with the Byway opening on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

#### BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK

April 27th to May 3rd, 2025

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

#### DILLON AREA

- Blade Eliason Ln, Old Stage, Carrigan Ln, Blacktail, Ten Mile, Stonehouse
  - Repairs and Maintenance
    - Road Check

#### WISDOM AREA

- Road Check
- Equipment move, setup and clean
  - Shop maintenance

#### LIMA AREA

- Blade on Meadow Creek and Rock Raked.
- Bladed on Sage Creek, Lima Dam Road, and Oregon Shoreline
- Removed Beaver Dams and Cleared Snow on Ruby Divide Road
  - Equipment Clean and Repair
    - Shop Maintenance
  - Checked Local Roads

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Payroll Administrator Stacy Setzer, Finance Assistant Becky Hankinson, School Superintendent Mike Miller, Landfill Supervisor Nick Hoem, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, Fairground Manager Justin Kellabrew, Food Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, Land Use Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, County Attorney Sky Jones, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, and County Treasurer Cathy Huckle, joined the meeting.

Nick commented he has been going through minutes and paperwork looking for district boundaries. We get solid waste fees from Butte-Silverbow, Madison, and Anaconda Deerlodge but they need to know boundaries. He got word that the scale is ready to be shipped.

Tom added there is currently a fire in Wise River about 1500 acres right now. It might be here for a while just because what it is burning. He is heading out there tomorrow.

Justin added there is nothing in the arena this week. There is a Fair board meeting today.

Amber mentioned they have been going through equipment and getting things going. The final walkthrough with the weed building is this week.

Stacey commented tomorrow is the school district election. They will be in breakroom for counting.

Randi added she has been out at conference in Butte. She has been busy getting back and playing catch up. There is a bench trial end of the week with Margot.

Joyce commented she was requested to follow the Meals on Wheels route last week to check temperatures and sanitation. She is recommending the city purchase the new temp-controlled vehicle. She has also been doing trailer court inspections.

Shonna mentioned she hooked up the chime with clock last week- it is working great. There were plumbing issues in jail last week with the shower and sink. This week facilities is helping with elections. The plumber and electrician are coming this week to hook up generator at public health.

Mike added it is teacher appreciation week so he is visiting all the schools. Wednesday is a child protection team meeting in the court room. Friday is the rural track meet at BCHS.

Tracy commented he has been working on CWPP for Tom and districts for Nick.

Sky mentioned the FBO agreement should be finalized at the Airport Meeting tonight. If approved, Nathan Bills will be invited to a Commissioner meeting to be introduced. He is busy with jury trial coming up. He is also looking into an ordinance for covered loads going to the dump.

Commissioner McGinley added it is budget season. He needs to get everyone up to speed since him and Betty always did it and that information should be passed down. The first important date is June 10 for preliminary budgets to be finalized. Payroll also needs an update, currently there is a less than an 8 hour turn around from timesheets turned in to employees getting paid. Payroll will change pay dates to checks by Friday instead of Tuesday starting this summer. Becky handed out budget worksheets. McGinley will start having budget meetings, so it is in front of all 3 Commissioners. He is also offering a "budget 101" to pass the knowledge down and go over the way the county does the budget, May 15<sup>th</sup> 10-12a budget meeting in Commissioners room.

### **Discussion and Action- MACo PCT Appraisal Cycle 1/CBIZ Valuation**

The Commissioners received a letter from MACo regarding Historical Appraisal of county buildings. They need to decide if we want appraisals done by the chosen company, CBIZ. This is asking for a contact person to provide blueprints and give a tour as needed when they're assessing historical value. To opt in for historical replacement value, the county is responsible for the \$600+.

McGinley motioned against. Tom asked what does the money goes towards. Hope responded it goes to the company appraising for historical value.

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley motioned to vote against and Commissioner Rice seconded. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously to not have historical replacement appraisals done for county buildings.

\*due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded.

### **Discussion- MACo Property and Casualty Trust Renewal**

Hope Barker was present and Josh Boka joined via Teams to present changes to this years PCT Renewal. This is the presentation for the 25'-26' contribution year. The packet is available in the Finance office for review. PCT pool rates raised voted by the admin team of MACo PCT based on inflation, liability, ect.

Hope went through the renewal summary and discussion ensued regarding benefits of the PCT pool, the historical data of catastrophic losses, liability, renewal comparisons,

deductibles, agent commissions, claims, and a short description of the risk management services provided by MACo PCT.

Josh asked to double check for the landfill, SAR, and road employees if a privately owned vehicle parked at a county building would be covered by their personal insurance or under the county property insurance. Hope responded that she will double check but she believes it is not under the county insurance, this falls under their personal insurance.

McGinley elaborated about where the funds come from in the budget to pay the premium each year.

\*due to technical difficulties, this portion of the meeting was not recorded.

### **Chamber Update**

Chamber President, Rebecca Jones joined the Commissioners to update on the following.

The Beaverhead County Chamber received the Rising Star award and Marketing campaign of the year at the Governor's conference on tourism. The Marketing campaign is for the treasure hunt they did last summer with the university glass club. She brought information for the ag BBQ supper and mixer on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

She is also working with Dept of Commerce for Dillon Main Street rural grant helping with beautification and working with Head Waters about a tif to help with work on overland road area, downtown area, etc. She is also applying for a pilot grant with the city, \$2.75M to towns under 50K population. An idea for the grant is to connect Beaverhead River to a trail in Dillon to stay off the road but allow connectivity. She completed the marketing plan and will be presenting it in Glasgow in June. On June 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a nonprofit stick horse rodeo in Jaycee Park that is Sponsored by Chamber. That weekend is also the Kickoff concert and demo derby.

### **City Update**

Dillon City Mayor, John McGinley, joined the Commissioners to update on the following. Referring to the tifs, butte economic development said he needs to set up districts. Urban renewal, target economic development (ted district) is a long term development. He has been doing research and will involve Commissioners to increase industry in Dillon.

Referring to the budget and the meals on wheels program, he added that the college has been providing meals out of coolers. They are worried about getting anyone sick. There is a need for a control temp van for about \$75K, will control hot to stay hot and cold to stay cold and keep food out of danger zone and delivered at safe temperatures. Christina applied to Town Pump grant to receive funds for Meals on Wheels. He is asking Commissioners to come up with \$20-25K to help purchase this vehicle. They are still trying to figure where the rest is coming from. Mike asked if the program goes outside of the jurisdiction of Dillon to deliver and if it needs to be negotiated to go further in Beaverhead. Depends on financing. College maxes out at 50 meals per day currently. Discussion involving donations to fund ensued. Mayor McGinley added to run program right now is about \$18-20K a year.

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

The minutes of the April 28, 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, Commissioner McGinley, and Commissioner Rice reconvened the meeting with and their Assistant Dana Basile present.

**Legislative Update**

Commissioner McGinley began the discussion with there is not a lot left to discuss. The marijuana bill passed to give money to the Sheriffs dept, he needs to check and see when that starts. The unfunded mandate bill also went through. The bill that went to tax extra on luxury homes and motorhomes funds bridge program to continue HB536- failed the last day. SB117 Property tax- changed 15/10/420. We get full inflation but only partial of the newly taxable. Our dollar amount stays the same so if someone gets a tax break, someone else has to pay it. 95 mill made it through as a fixed mill raising property taxes.

Clerk and Recorder got their fee and reception bill passed with some monies went to state and some to GIS.

**Discussion and Action- Appointment for MOAT- Abatement Region 2**

The Commissioners received an email from the program director from the Montana Opioid Abatement Trust asking the Commissioners to appoint a representative for the governance committee.

Rice commented that the email he received the other counties appointed either the public health officer or the County Attorney. He spoke with Lilia and she said she would sit until she understood enough to pass along to another public health.

Tom nominated Lilia. McGinley second. All in agreeance. Motion carried.

Commissioners secretary will email the Program Director to notify of this appointment.

**Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda****Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion**

The Commissioners discussed the Dillon Airport FBO agreement. They confirmed that if the Airport Board approves the FBO agreement this evening, the Commissioners will follow suit.

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 \$105,336.68 beginning with check #217705 and ending with check #217759. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

4/28/25 ck#217702 BVHD Treasurer \$24.72 (Road Dept License Plate)

4/29/25 Ck#217703 Joe Tucker \$6,000.00

Ck#217704 Steel In Trailer \$4700.00 (Weed Dept)

**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