

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR SESSION  
January 21, 2014**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

CHAIRMAN: Robert P. Cosgriff  
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Teddy R. Robertson  
MEMBER: Jerry L. Coldwell

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Carla McWilliams

Also in attendance was Jerry Collins

**CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

Chairman Cosgriff called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**AGENDA**

Motion by Coldwell and seconded by Robertson to approve the agenda as posted 48 hours ago. Motion carried unanimously.

**DARRELL HIGGINS – ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Cosgriff explained to Collins that the road department members are alternating as acting road supervisor. Cosgriff said since there are only 5 applicants for the road supervisor position all applicants will most likely be interviewed. Cosgriff informed Higgins that the Commissioners will have a list of what the Commissioners expect. Higgins said repairs will be done on the gravel trailers and the old yellow trailer at Trumbo's needs to be brought back to town. Cosgriff let Higgins know that the Commissioners would like to do split shifts again so that someone can make cattle guards on Thursdays and Fridays. Higgins said there is only one cattle guard left. Jill Clark joined the meeting. Discussed the problems with the ice buildup around the county buildings. Clark said the parking lot at the Health Center is getting bad again. Collins asked about getting a pickup sander. Higgins said maybe the County could get one through the State surplus equipment. Higgins suggested talking with the Town to see if they would go in on it as they could use one also. Cosgriff said Tom Spillum had talked to him about using the green loader to help clean up some of the areas in Town so they could test the loader to see if the engine problems are taken care of.

Collins asked if everyone in the County pays a refuse tax. Cosgriff said the refuse district covers the Town of Jordan and about a five mile radius. Collins said he was asked about getting a dumpster at Cohagen.

Further discussion on having split shifts. Higgins said this would work good because the Badger Creek and Flat Creek Bridges are going to have to be worked on. Higgins said once the project board gets completed the Commissioners can stop by and look at it and the Commissioners can then direct them as to which projects will be addressed first. Higgins said he wants the crew to go to each of their districts and come back with a list of projects that need

to be done. Robertson told Higgins some of the concerns she has in her district. Robertson will have them contact the road department. Discussed the pipe for cattle guards.

#### JILL CLARK – BIG DRY TRANSIT

Clark said the bus and van are now owned by Garfield County. Clark said she would like to get a new van and the Department of Transportation will help her pick out a vehicle. The new van should be 4-wheel drive. Robertson asked if our grant writer needs to be involved. Clark said she has to do the grant application and the DOT helps her with the grant. Clark said she has received word that there is a \$50,000 grant available to be used to get veteran's to Helena for medical care. Clark asked if it would be possible to get more gravel at the Senior Citizen's. Clark is thinking of asking Sara Tate to be trained as a relief driver. Clark said she has raised the price of meals to \$4.00 and is using commodity meats. Clark was asked where she is storing commodities. Clark said she is still using the Senior Citizen. Collins asked about adding a room onto the building. Also discussed getting a prebuilt building.

#### MEGA McDONALD – COUNTY HEALTH NURSE

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell, to authorize Cosgriff to sign IAP Contract with the State of Montana. Motion carried.

McDonald said she has food bank money left and would like permission to use the money to repair the wall in the food bank. After discussing the matter it was agreed to find a piece of paneling or possibly a Muriel to hang over the opening.

Collins and the Commissioners discussed the expectations of the new road supervisor. Also discussed how the alternating road boss is working.

Discussed bill received from Central Montana Health District for inspections done at Rock Creek and Hell Creek by Deen Pomeroy. Will meet with Central Montana Health District at next regular meeting via conference call.

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Reconvened by Chairman Cosgriff at 1:00 p.m.

#### PAT MURNION – MAINTENANCE

Discussed various maintenance issues. Murnion will contact someone to pump the grease trap. Cosgriff asked Murnion if he could repair the hole in the wall of the food bank.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2014-6 - CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF CONDUCTING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW AND ESTABLISHING A STUDY COMMISSION TO DO SO.

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to approve Resolution 2014-6: Calling for an Election on the Question of Conducting a Local Government Review and Establishing a Study Commission to do so. Motion carried unanimously.

#### MINUTES

Motion by Coldwell and seconded by Robertson to approve January 13, 2014 minutes with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN COMMITTEE

Present for the meeting included Rex Phipps, Charlotte Herbold, Lori Phipps and Mike Green.

Rex Phipps reported there is approximately \$12,000 available to be loaned out and the Committee received an application for a loan. Discussion held on who the applicant was and purpose of the loan. Board recommended \$2,000.00 be added to Brian Murnion's current loan to purchase tools. Phipps said his present loan is current. Motion by Green, seconded by Herbold to approve said application.

Motion by Coldwell and seconded by Robertson to go with the board's recommendation for the loan. Motion carried unanimously.

## MIKE GREEN – FAIR BOARD

Green asked if the Commissioners had talked to Wyatt Colvin about taking his place on the Fair Board. Commissioners said they would talk to him about serving on the board.

## HEALTH CENTER ISSUES

Sarah Nordlund, DON, met with the Commissioners for weekly reports. There are currently 17 residents. The revisit survey was submitted today. Have not heard from Denver about the EMTALA survey. MDS program option being looked at will cost between \$4,000 and \$5,000 and then \$200 per month. The Health Center would own the software. This is the same program that Ekalaka is using. The physical therapist was here from Miles City. She is contracted with Montana Health Network and has assessed 5 residents today and plans to come out every 3-4 months. Hanz Arnston joined the meeting via conference call. Arnston said the MDS program could be rented for about \$139.00 per month rather than purchase the program. Arnston said he would have more information about the costs at the next meeting. Nordlund said she was not aware it could be rented and felt it would be best to rent the program. Arnston said Dr. Kidder had submitted his resignation to him as Medical Director. Arnston said Kidder indicated since the Commissioners were covering his liability at Garfield County Health Center he would like to withdraw his resignation. Cosgriff said the Commissioners have not received a letter of resignation from Dr. Kidder. Robertson asked if Arnston had received his resignation and Arnston said he had not received one in writing. Cosgriff said since the Commissioners had signed Dr. Kidder's Contract had not received anything in writing, Dr. Kidder was still our Medical Director. Arnston said he has found someone who is willing to be our Medical Director for less money and Dr. Kidder has indicated he is going to raise his rates. Cosgriff said when Dr. Drivdahl resigned Dr. Kidder was our only option at the time. Cosgriff said if our Medical Director is associated with St. Vincent's they might be more willing to work with our staff. Cosgriff said the Medical Board has to agree to who will have privileges at Garfield County Health Center. Robertson said since Dr. Kidder wants to raise his rates and he is so far away it would be more economically feasible to hire someone more local. Cosgriff said when Dr. Kidder took the job he had indicated he did not want it to be for a prolonged period of time.

Nordlund asked if there was a Senior Bus Policy. Nordlund said there are residents at the Health Center who are able to go on the bus with no assistance but Clark wants someone to go

with the residents. Nordlund was told to check with Jill Clark to see if there is any policies she has to go by. Clark will be contacted to attend the next Health Center meeting to discuss this.

Nordlund said when the therapist comes she puts the residents on exercise programs. Cosgriff asked if the facility billed Medicare directly for the service. Nordlund said it is through Montana Health Network and the Health Center will be reimbursed for it. Robertson asked if the therapist would see patients other than the residents. Nordlund said she did not know. Nordlund said since she works through Montana Health Network she is paid by them rather than the Health Center.

Nordlund wanted the Commissioners to know that Dr. Kidder has worked very well with her nurses. When Dan Muniak is gone the nurses can call Dr. Kidder and he gives them orders on what to do.

Cosgriff left the meeting at 4:40 p.m. to attend the Library Board meeting.

Robertson said if Dr. Kidder is going to raise his prices it may not be possible to keep him. Discussed the good things that could happen if our Medical Director was associated with St. Vincent's. Nordlund asked if the Commissioners were going to conduct the interviews for a new medical director. Coldwell said the Commissioners would like to sit in on the interviews but felt that Arnston would do the interview.

The LEPC meeting has been changed to Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.

GARFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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Robert P. Cosgriff – Chairman

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Teddy R. Robertson– Vice-Chairman

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Jerry L. Coldwell – Member

ATTEST:

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Janet Sherer, Clerk & Recorder

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2014-6**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF GARFIELD 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 Garfield County Commission is the governing body of the County of Garfield.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The County of Garfield 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 3, 2014.
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 4, 2014.
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 Garfield County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed \$500.00 of a local government study commission consisting of 3 members to examine the government of Garfield County and submit recommendations on the government.

AGAINST the review of the government of Garfield County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed \$500.00 of a local government study commission consisting of 3 members to examine the government of Garfield County and submit recommendations on the government.

Passed and adopted by the County Commissioners of the County of Garfield, Montana meeting at regular session held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2014.

GARFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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Robert P. Cosgriff – Chairman

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Teddy R. Robertson– Vice-Chairman

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Jerry L. Coldwell – Member

ATTEST:

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Janet Sherer, Clerk & Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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County Attorney