

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
February 18, 2014**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Carla McWilliams

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.

DAVE AWBERY – ROAD SUPERVISOR

Awbery presented list of projects for the summer. Awbery reported the pipe on the coal stove at the shop has rusted through and Higgins is in Miles City today and will pick up a replacement pipe. Reviewed project list. Robertson informed Awbery that K.L. Bliss has indicated he would donate gravel to the county if the county would gravel his road. Awbery said he was asked what the county's policy was about putting cattle guards in the county road. Since there is no current policy it was agreed that Don Doman should meet with the Commissioners. Cosgriff said Prairie County cleans the cattle guards but charges the landowner \$100.00. Awbery said Mothershead said the yard out by the fairgrounds needs to be leveled. Awbery will start meeting with the Commissioners at 4:30 so he doesn't have to wait around to meet with them.

MAINTENANCE

Discussed the ad placed in the local paper for a maintenance person at the Health Center. Cosgriff presented a letter from Pat Murnion indicating he would like to change his job description. Murnion would like to continue taking care of the boilers and heating/cooling system for the courthouse and Health Center and be released as the maintenance person at the Health Center.

GARY RYDER – COUNTY ATTORNEY – CONFERENCE CALL

Discussed items that need to be discussed with the Public Safety Committee. Janet Sherer asked about payroll for Sheriff Edwards. Ryder said Edwards should be contacted to see if he would be agreeable to prorate his March pay. Cosgriff asked Ryder if he had checked with MACo to see if the County needs to advertise. Ryder said if the Commissioners had someone in mind they would not need to advertise. Ryder said the Commissioners should call a special meeting on March 7, 2014 with the Public Safety Committee to appoint a Sheriff.

CLAIMS

Claim Check Nos. 30867 through 30900 in the amount of \$21,355.13 were approved and paid.

MEGA McDONALD - HOME CHORE PROGRAM

Discussed issues pertinent to the Home Chore Program. McDonald said the ad for the position was sent to the paper and February 28, 2014 is the closing date.

AIRPORT

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to send letter to FAA agreeing to transfer funds to the Carter County Airport without a reciprocal agreement or requirement the funds be returned. Motion carried unanimously.

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

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

MIRA WOOD – UNDERSHERIFF

Wood stopped by to let the Commissioners know she would be gone February 25,26,27th and she does not have anyone to cover for her. Robertson contacted Helena to get guidance on what the Commissioners should do since the Sheriff is leaving on February 25th to go to his other job in North Dakota. The POST direction indicated the Sheriff can appoint someone as deputy sheriff pursuant to 7-32-303 with no training but they would have to be sent to the academy within a year. Cosgriff asked how they handled the firearm qualifications. He said the certification can be done by the local department.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Public Safety Committee consisting of Dave Awbery and Colin Murnion met with the Commissioners. Rocky Nelson was not able to attend due to prior commitments. Also present was Clay Lammers. Cosgriff said Clay Lammers has filed for Sheriff and said he would be interested in being appointed as Sheriff. Murnion asked if Wood was interested in being Sheriff. Commissioners said she was not. Robertson said the Commissioners want more communication between the Public Safety Committee and the Sheriff's Department. Murnion said this would help a lot to stop the burnout. Sheriff Edwards cannot appoint a Sheriff. Cosgriff said the Commissioners are not aware of anyone else interested in the position. Murnion asked if the grant writer was trying to get funding for the sheriff's department. Robertson said she was going to talk to Cathy Byron and work on a letter to request additional funding. Cosgriff said there isn't much chance of getting additional funding from the Town. In order to get more funding it would have to be a county-wide mill levy similar to the Health Center's mill levy. Robertson said she plans to call the Governor's office. Cosgriff said Attorney Ryder said the position does not need to be advertised. Coldwell researched the remaining budget. Awbery said when Rocky Nelson returns the Committee will meet and make a recommendation.

MINUTES

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to approve February 3, 2014, February 7, 2014 and February 10, 2014 minutes, with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

MIRA WOOD – UNDERSHERIFF

Wood said she heard from Pat Roos with the Custer County Sheriff's Department and he has no one available to cover for her when she is gone. Wood said if she has to take someone to Glasgow there would be no one here to cover the County. Wood will continue to look for someone to cover the County.

HEALTH CENTER

Hanz Arnston, Administrator, met with the Commissioners for weekly meeting. Cosgriff informed Arnston that JoAnn Stanton needs a preliminary budget from him by next Monday so she can work on the proposed mill levy for the Health Center.

Arnston and Charlotte Herbold checked the CMS site to see how much they are going to reimburse the Health Center and the Health Center should be receiving a check in the amount of \$294,000 by the end of this month. Arnston said the minutes of the November 18, 2013 meeting was incorrect as they stated the CAH is not making money. Whenever there is an ER or CAH patient the employee hours go towards the cost report so this is helping with the settlement payment from Medicare. Arnston will write something to be put in the paper to correct this.

Discussed part-time maintenance position for the nursing home. Arnston said there has been an ad placed in the paper. Cosgriff said the wages for the maintenance person needs to be prorated for the time the current maintenance man spends at the Courthouse and the Health Center. Arnston said the maintenance man spends the majority of his time working on the boiler and the heating/cooling system. Arnston said he works a minimum of 2 hours a day at the nursing home. Arnston asked if Cathy Byron would be able to obtain a grant for a new phone system. Sarah Nordlund, DON, joined the meeting.

MIRA WOOD – UNDERSHERIFF

Wood stopped by to say she had contacted McCone and Valley counties and they will get back to her either tonight or tomorrow morning.

HEALTH CENTER

Arnston said he met with the people from Glendive last week about the x-ray machine. The nursing home received a hardship waiver for \$542 from CMS for revalidation for the nursing home.

Nordlund presented proposed by-laws for the Health Center. Nordlund said they need to be updated because they were signed by the old board and the Commissioners need to sign them. Arnston said the County Attorney should review them but thinks they are okay.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to attend LEPC meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.

GARFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Robert P. Cosgriff – Chairman

Teddy R. Robertson – Vice-Chairman

Jerry L. Coldwell – Member

ATTEST:

Janet Sherer, Clerk & Recorder