

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
February 3, 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.

BRIAN SCHWEND

Schwend met with the Commissioners to discuss the possibility of renting the old BLM building. Cosgriff asked if he wanted to rent the building for short-term or long-term. Schwend said he would like to rent it long-term. Discussed the items currently being stored there. The Commissioners decided it would be beneficial to rent the building. Schwend said he would be willing to pay the \$100 a month plus utilities. Robertson asked how soon he would like to use the building.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to lease the BLM building to Schwend Flying Service for \$100 per month plus utilities. Motion carried unanimously.

General discussion about creating refuse districts in the outlying areas of the County.

PAT MURNION – MAINTENANCE

Murnion said he had talked to Stan with Stevens Brothers about what needs to be done with the plumbing issues in the resident's rooms.

MINUTES

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell, to approve January 21, 2014 and January 30, 2014 minutes with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

CLAIM

Claim Check No. 30865 through 30866 in the amount of \$299.65 were approved and paid.

HEALTH CENTER ISSUES

Reviewed Contract with the Department of Health & Human Services.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to sign County Funds Transfer for Medicaid Match Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

MIKE OPATRIL

Opatril stopped by to see if he could look at the firehall again. Commissioners said it would be fine. Discussed the cost of a 60 x 80 building for the County yards and it was agreed that a pole barn may be the best option. Opatril said he would put some numbers together.

STEVE MOTHERSHEAD – ROAD DEPARTMENT

Mothershead discussed the South Fork road project on Brown's. Mothershead said he felt the whole road needs built up. Cosgriff asked Mothershead to get the legal description for the proposed gravel pit on the river. Mothershead said the best material is mainly on State land.

CENTRAL MONTANA HEALTH DISTRICT – CONFERENCE CALL

The call was not initiated. Will call them at a later date.

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

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

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE – TAYLOR BROWN

Discussed the South Fork Road project and the possibility of moving the stack yard. Brown asked how far the stack yard would need to be moved. Commissioners said they were told it would be approximately 50 feet. Brown asked if the County would reimburse him for moving the stack yard. Cosgriff asked Brown if he had any thoughts as what could be done. Brown said he would talk to management but felt the fence on the other side of the road should be torn out and the road moved. Brown said he would get back to the Commissioners after he has talked to management.

CATHY BYRON – GRANT WRITER

Byron said she had spoken with the Miles City Star and they indicated they had not received the article for publication. An updated article has been written and will be forwarded to the paper. Discussed the Murdoch grant application. Byron said she was told by Sarah Nordlund that her application was denied. Byron said the probability of getting this grant is an 8 out of 10 as long as the query letter is packed with stats and a strong case statement. The Murdoch Foundation won't look at applications for less than \$50,000 so Sarah Nordlund, Hanz Arnston and Dan Muniak need to meet with the Commissioners to determine what equipment is wanted.

Byron suggested a new application be submitted to the Murdoch Foundation some time in June of this year. Byron said the Coal Board and the CDBG are also places to look at for grants. Byron said Garfield County is included in the coal impact area. Byron said the coal board did not receive as much funding as they had previously. The CDBG loans are pretty much guaranteed with a very low interest rate. Cosgriff asked Byron if she had talked with Rex Phipps about a grant for a new ambulance. Byron said Phipps had told her the Ambulance would pay for a grant writing training in Cut Bank. Commissioners approved of having Byron attend training and will pay mileage, lodging and meals.

Byron asked the Commissioners for permission to speak to the road supervisor, with Health Center and ambulance personnel.

Also discussed renovation of the fire hall and possible maintenance or renovation work on the courthouse. Byron said an architectural firm needs to be contacted prior to requesting a grant for renovations. Deadlines for these grants has not been determined yet. Byron asked if the fire hall was the major project and Cosgriff said the fire hall is not a concern at this time. Byron asked if she should work with the Sheriff's office. Cosgriff said at the present time our understaffed sheriff's department is now even more understaffed as the Sheriff has taken a job in North Dakota.

REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR ROAD SUPERVISOR POSITION

Reviewed applications and will do interviews on February 7, 2014.

AIRPORT

Commissioners contacted Bill Burkland concerning the transfer of funds from the Jordan airport to the Ekalaka airport. Also discussed the proposal for airport improvements.

HEALTH CENTER

Hanz Arnston, Administrator and Sarah Nordlund, DON met with Commissioners for weekly report. Also present were Jill Clark, Carol Hellyer and Mega McDonald. Discussed Murdoch grant applied for by Nordlund. Cosgriff informed Arnston that Cathy Byron would like to meet with the Commissioners and Arnston, Nordlund and Dan Muniak for ideas for grant applications. Nordlund presented policies she has completed.

Discussed nursing home residents riding on the Big Dry Transit. Clark said the Counsel on Aging has a policy that if they are residents of the nursing home they need to have a CNA go with them. Nordlund said there are residents in the nursing home that do not need assistance. Clark makes a trip an average of once a month. Hellyer said in the past it has worked to try to schedule the resident's appointments on the same day. Coldwell said it didn't appear that Clark could cover the transportation all of the time. Nordlund said she would like a policy that would allow some residents to go on the bus without a CNA. Clark said she was given medication for the resident she took last week. Arnston said this should not have happened. Nordlund said she didn't want the bus driver to be liable for anything but feels there are some residents that should be allowed to go without assistance. Nordlund left the meeting for nurses training.

Arnston indicated there are currently 17 residents. Presented copy of liability insurance from Montana Health Network. There is currently approximately \$18,000 available from the Central Montana Foundation. Cosgriff asked Arnston to contact the Foundation and ask for the funds. Discussed purchasing a phone system for the Health Center. Arnston said a grant is being applied for to get a new patient/resident call system.

The MDS submission company that purchased Galaxy will continue to be the Health Center's submission company at a cost of \$91 per month.

Arnston talked with Misty Ross and Maureen Tetro from St. Vincent about possibly being our Medical Director. Arnston told them they would have to come every two weeks. Cosgriff asked

if they see all the residents would they have time to see any patients in the CAH. Arnston said by the end of March the Health Center should be receiving approximately \$300,000 for reimbursement for EHR. Jackie Muri from Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation will be here next Tuesday to see if there is anything they can help us with.

Arnston said the nursing home can no longer do respite care (adult daycare) until license is obtained from the State.

Discussed pending complaints.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 10, 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