

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR SESSION  
April 21, 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.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussed the packer that was purchased for the road department. Discussed mass mailing that may be sent out to explain the implementation of the Red Button. Commissioners agreed they need to review it prior to mailing.

Ray Hageman contacted Cosgriff and asked the Commissioners to let the residents know if they intend to do any burning they should contact the fire marshal prior to any prescribed burns.

General discussion concerning various roads.

JOHN COLDWELL – KESTER SCHOOL

John talked with Beth at BLM and was told BLM will come out and survey the property. John said the property would be leased to Kester rather than the School District. It would be a 25 year lease but after two years it could switch to a patent to the County but after that it could be transferred to Kester. John said if the school closes the property can be retained as a community hall. County Attorney Ryder was contacted by telephone. Ryder said a School District is a governmental entity just like the County. Cosgriff asked if there was any reason the County should not be involved. Ryder said he would contact the County Superintendent but felt it would be of more interest to the School District. Discussed what the problems might be if School District 23 consolidated with another district. John said BLM told him the process would go faster if the County started the process rather than the School District. Ryder will research this further and get back to John on Wednesday.

MIKE McKEEVER – CTEP FUNDS

The total cost of the sidewalk project is \$33,000.00. McKeever said the matching funds were received from the Central Montana Foundation and the School. McKeever said the sidewalk will start at the gym and will go towards Main Street as far as it will go. Discussed how payment will be made.

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to change width of sidewalks from 6' to 5' on Addendum #1, 1207A- Community Center Walks-Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to authorize Cosgriff to sign amended Addendum #1, 1207A- Community Center Walks-Jordan. Motion carried unanimously.

#### WAGE INCREASE FOR ROAD SUPERVISOR

JoAnn Stanton met with Commissioners to discuss the proposed wage increase for Dave Awbery. Stanton said the current budget could withstand a \$2.90 raise for the road supervisor this year but with the increase in diesel fuel it does not look like it could be continued in future years. The increase of \$2.90 would be an additional 1.73 mils.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to wait until the compensation board meets to discuss Awbery's wages. Motion carried unanimously.

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Reconvened by Chairman Cosgriff at 1:09 p.m.

#### AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to go with Bill Burkland's recommendation to hire Z + Z Asphalt of Billings, Montana to resurface the Jordan Airport. Motion carried unanimously.

#### CATHY BYRON – GRANT WRITER

Discussed grant for additional law enforcement officer. The grant will pay 75% of the wages for 3 years and the 4<sup>th</sup> year has to be funded solely by the County. Commissioners said the County does not have funding for a 3<sup>rd</sup> deputy. Cosgriff asked if a grant could be applied for two officers. Byron will look into applying for 2 grants and will get back to the Commissioners. Byron said she had talked with Lammers concerning traffic stops that he makes with only one officer available at certain times. Byron also has talked with the Clerk & Recorder's Office and obtained information from them to use for grant applications. Byron said she is applying for grants for vehicles, officers and equipment. Byron said she contacted our congressional delegates but has not received any response to date. Also discussed grants for the Health Center. Robertson informed Byron that the Governor vetoed a bill to help communities impacted by the Bakken and a new bill is going before the legislature to spend \$45 million to help these communities. Byron said she has been talking to Mike McKeever about the old dorm. Byron said the Commissioners need to talk to other Commissioners and our representatives about the Bakken impact. Byron said she had talked with Ray Hageman about the surplus equipment and Randy Sanders with DNRC is hoping to cut back on obtaining additional equipment because of all the paperwork.

#### MINUTES

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell, to approve April 14, 2014 minutes with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

#### HEALTH CENTER ISSUES

Hanz Arnston, Administrator met with Commissioners for weekly report. There are currently 16 residents. Arnston presented the proposed private/Medicaid room rates from DPHHS. The

rate for private pay is higher than Medicaid. There should be a 3% increase in the rates. Arnston said in the next month or so the Commissioners need to think about raises for the staff. Discussed agreement with Ambulance Services. Briefly discussed email from Cathy Byron concerning an architectural report. The TV screen is up in the ER and Robert is starting to install the equipment. Discussed mass mailing the Health Center is planning to send out. Arnston said it is an informational mailing explaining the service being provided by the Red Button. Arnston said the Commissioners will have the opportunity to review it before it is sent out. The TNCC classes will be held tomorrow. Montana Health Network is putting on the class. Next month Nell Phipps will be attending a Serv-Safe Class in Miles City at a cost of \$110. Should be hearing about the day care licensure in the near future. Cosgriff said Arnston will have to work on preliminary budget for the Health Center within the next month or so. Cosgriff asked when Arnston's contract needs to be reviewed. Arnston said it expires June 30, 2014. Cosgriff said he was asked if the patients will need to sign a waiver to be on camera. Arnston said patients will see the doctor on the other end to see who is viewing them.

Jerry Collins joined the meeting.

## GRANTS

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to sign letter authorizing Cathy Byron to apply for grants for Garfield County. Motion carried unanimously.

## DAVE AWBERY – ROAD SUPERVISOR

Awbery presented equipment permit issued to Chip Saylor for their signature. Awbery said the cattle guards on the Brusett Road have been removed. There are four sets of cattleguards made and material to build more when they have time. Awbery said he and Tom Spillum were at the fire yesterday until 7:30 last night. Awbery said he was short one person again today due to fire fighting. Cosgriff instructed Awbery to send a letter to the employee stating he must report to the road supervisor if he is going to be fighting fire. Robertson asked if Ray Hageman should be contacted about this matter. Awbery said he and Spillum were fighting fire Sunday and wanted to know if they were going to get paid for it. Awbery said he did not feel they should be paid as it was volunteered. Higgins was also fighting fire but did not show up for work today. Awbery asked if he was going to be paid for today. Janet Sherer was asked to join the meeting.

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to have Awbery and Commissioners sign letter to road crew members, requiring notification to road supervisor to leave work to fight fires in order to cover for road crew/firefighters absence. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussed the possibility of putting liners in culverts. Commissioners informed Awbery a wage increase for him would be discussed at the next compensation board meeting to be held in June. Awbery was agreeable to this. Awbery said he was going to order pipe. Awbery said he would post the speed limit on the Hell Creek Road. Jerry Collins asked if Security Abstract had the descriptions done for the Hay Creek and Two Furrow Roads. Discussed various road projects. Robertson asked Awbery to contact Sid Bollinger about some concerns he has with his road. Awbery said they have 5 of their projects completed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 29, 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