

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR SESSION  
April 7, 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

Travis Browning contacted Robertson and said Angel Hill is causing problems again. Robertson said she and Awbery were going to go look at it this Thursday and asked Cosgriff and Coldwell if they would like to go look at the road also. Monte Billing contacted Cosgriff and indicated the Soil Conservation Service is needing more funding to help pay for their office help. Discussed the possibility of putting something on the ballot.

CLAIMS

Claim Nos. 31086 and 31087 in the amount of \$13,750.00 were approved and paid.

MILLER GRAVEL PIT

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to authorize Cosgriff to sign Application for Miller pit.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Clay Lammers, Undersheriff Mira Wood and Rocky Nelson, Public Safety Commission, met with the Commissioners. Wood stated she had applied for a job in Broadwater County when Frank Edwards submitted his resignation. Wood accepted the job and her last day will be April 30<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners said Lammers should advertise for the position. Wood asked if Lammers has to advertise since he can appoint anyone. Nelson said if he has to go outside of the department he needs to advertise. Discussed the need to send someone to the academy. Lammers said he met with the Public Safety Commission and it was decided to put a special mill levy on the ballot. Cosgriff said Harold Blattie with MACo will be contacted to see if there is some way to get it on the ballot for the primary election. Discussed the possibility of using reserves. Wood said Chase Anderson was willing to help out when Edwards left but he can't do it on a regular basis. Cosgriff asked Lammers if he had any ideas of who may be interested. Lammers said he didn't have anyone in mind but would look through the applications that were submitted last time. Lammers said the cost of a half-ton Ford is \$27,000 and to have it fully equipped the cost will be about \$40,000. If the vehicle is ordered now it won't be here until after

the new budget. Lammers said Edwards's pickup and the car should be sold and with that money and the insurance money there should be enough to purchase a pickup.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to authorize Lammers to order pickup from Bison Ford at a cost up to \$40,000. Motion carried unanimously.

#### RHONDA SMOTHERMAN – JANITORIAL SERVICES

Smotherman contacted Robertson to say she would not be able to be present. Jessica McWilliams presented a copy of the custodial duties. Reviewed duties and changes were made. Meeting will be rescheduled for next week.

#### JESSICA McWILLIAMS – SUPT. OF SCHOOLS

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to authorize Cosgriff to sign Application for isolation status for Pine Grove School. Motion carried unanimously..

#### JOHN COLDWELL - SHANNA MURNION

Shanna Murnion did not attend. John Coldwell said the school is requesting to purchase the land the Kester School is on from the BLM. John contacted Beth Klempel with BLM in Miles City. John said Klempel said he needs to go the County and the County will need to pay \$100 to get the paperwork started. Cosgriff asked why the County needs to be involved. John said BLM told him the process is easier if it is done on a county level. John said if the County is willing to do this, the School will reimburse the \$100 to the County. Cosgriff said John will need to have the County Attorney review this to see if the County can even do it. John said the prior 99 year lease cannot be found.

#### TERRI COLDWELL / JORDAN INSURANCE – AIRPORT RENEWAL

Terri Coldwell presented airport insurance renewal application for Commissioners review.

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to authorize Cosgriff to sign renewal application. Motion carried unanimously.

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

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

#### LORI RYAN – DES COORDINATOR

Ryan presented a preliminary application for DES funding. Ryan said she increased the budget for an extra hour per day.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to approve preliminary grant application for DES funding. Motion carried unanimously.

#### JERRY COLLINS – ROAD PETITION

Collins presented a Petition to Establish a County Road for the Two Furrow and Hay Creek Roads. Mitch Gundlach with Security Abstract will furnish legal description and list of landowners. Discussed when to hold a public hearing on Petition. An acknowledgement of right-of-way for county road will need to be sent to the landowners prior to the public hearing.

#### JO ANN STANTON – JOURNAL VOUCHERS

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to approve following Journal Vouchers:

JV #526 - To distribute 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter entitlement money received from the State of Montana, per final budget.

JV #528 - Correct claim #13207 in April, 2014, thought pickup was for Sheriff, but it was actually for the Road Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Present were Janet Sherer, Jen Crawford and Peggy Pierson. There is going to be a 2% premium increase. Commissioners discussed whether to pay the increase. Commissioners asked Jerry Collins how he felt as a taxpayer. Collins said he felt the employees deserve the insurance.

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson to pay the additional 2.5% increase in employee health insurance. Motion carried unanimously.

Crawford said they discussed the health savings account but wanted to know if it would increase Sherer's workload. The high deductible plan was discussed briefly. Hanz Arnston joined the meeting and he was asked what the health center employees. Arnston said he thought they were pleased with their current plans.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to offer the same plans the County currently offers. Motion carried unanimously.

#### HEALTH CENTER

Hanz Arnston, Administrator met with Commissioners for weekly report. Arnston said the complaint surveyor is at the Health Center today. The surveyor was initially for the CAH but is now nursing home also. Robertson asked how it was going. Arnston said it seems to be going fine. The surveys are taking time away from working on the application for day care. The Federal survey lady feels the red button is a very good idea. Arnston said Clyde Phipps has been installing the necessary lines for the red button. The red button should be activated sometime in May. Liam Barnes was hired last Tuesday for the maintenance position. His hours will be flexible since he is still in school. Cosgriff asked who was going to oversee Barnes. Arnston said Pat Murnion has agreed to work with him. Policy meeting was held today. There are currently 16 residents. Robertson asked what Arnston was planning to charge for the day care. Arnston said he was thinking they should charge about \$100 per day for up to 7 days. The license costs \$20.00 per year.

#### DAVE AWBERY – ROAD SUPERVISOR

Commissioners approved Lori Ryan giving Awbery a hand-held radio. The State will be here the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> to do a core sample of the Ross Miller and Old Stage Road pits. Windows have been replaced in the pickups. Awbery said they were blading on the Hell Creek road today and it's a little dry. Awbery said Steve Mothershead is willing to get certified for weed spraying. Collins asked Awbery if he thought it would be possible to move the corner at Alan Pluhar's house. Awbery said it would be a good idea. Cosgriff asked what the road crew is planning to do this week. Awbery said they plan to finish up on the Hell Creek road and if nothing else. Reviewed applicants for vacancy in the road department.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to go with Awbery's recommendation to hire Richard Robertson. Motion carried unanimously.

Coldwell said he went to the fire meeting last week and Garfield County is not going to be getting any help from BLM or CMR this year and Coldwell asked Awbery if the trucks could be parked in the county shop until it quits freezing. Awbery said it would be okay as long as the road crew can use the shop when needed. Discussed the patrols that are located around the county for fires. After a brief discussion it was decided Awbery should run an ad requesting sealed bids for the boom truck, Tim Fogle's old pickup, and the Freightliner. Minimum bid for the boom truck should be \$800, the Freightliner would be \$5,000 and Fogle's pickup should be \$1,000. Awbery ordered a bead breaker and saved about \$900 with the county discount.

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Coldwell to approve Request to use Garfield County Equipment-Permit. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussed salary for Awbery as road boss. Commissioners asked Janet Sherer and JoAnn Stanton if there would be enough in the budget to increase Awbery's wage to \$20.00 to \$22.00 an hour. Robertson said she would like to look at \$20.00 per hour. Coldwell said he thought it should be \$21.00 per hour. Cosgriff said he thought \$20.00 per hour because the rest of the road crew will most likely need a raise also. Awbery said there is ample funding in the equipment fund to and wanted to know if the pickup could be purchased with this and about purchasing a road packer. Awbery said the packer would save the county a lot of money. Commissioners told Awbery to check prices.

Discussed project at Rock Creek Cabin Area. It was agreed that Awbery should let the cabin owners know if they want to come up with the matching funds, then the County would sponsor the road grant application.

#### MINUTES

Motion by Coldwell, seconded by Robertson, to approve March 28, 2014 minutes with corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 14, 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