

January 7th, 2014 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

LEPC

The monthly LEPC meeting was attended by nine members, including the three commissioners. Darrell Stafford reports that there is a "Pipeline Safety Program" in Shelby on February 6th, 2014. He also provided information about crude oil volatility and strength of current railway tank cars. Tara Hendrickson reports 13 people are interested in the upcoming EMS training. Jim Ghekiere and Marc Holmes attended a mapping class regarding recording all county road signs and culverts in the computer system. Jim also reports that the rural fire district just purchased a used "Jaws of Life"; training will be provided....cost = \$17,000.

Commissioner Rockman signed the quarterly reimbursement and certification for EMPG for Darrell Stafford.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

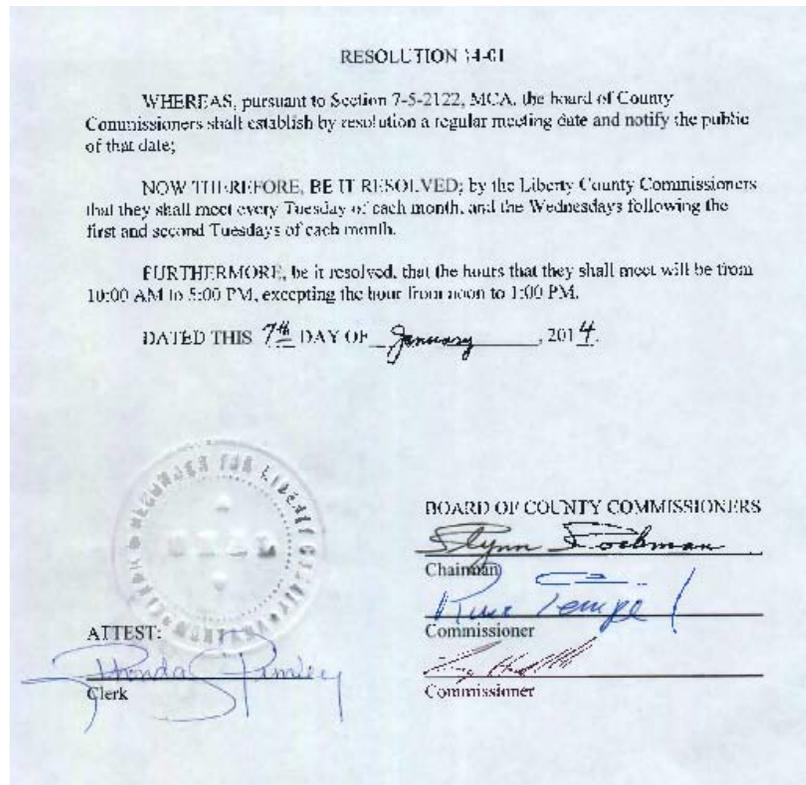
We confirmed via telecom with Gavilon that they purchased about 800,000 bushels of wheat from Canada, of which 300,000 will be delivered via the Whitlash Road over the next three months. Therefore, we will delay any gravel projects during this time. Road supervisor, Marc Holmes, reports that show fence has been installed at Thorson's and the "hazardous" tree on the Laird Road has been removed. Marc has completed the equipment inventory as requested by MACo. Marc has researched the purchase of a new auto lift system for the shop; the old one is a potential safety issue. He has priced a Bend- Pak 4-post extended length 14,000 pound car lift at \$4,520 plus jacks at \$2,250 = \$6,770 total. We will recruit some funds from fire / ambulance / sheriff's office / Senior Center to help pay for this lift. The crew is presently doing maintenance on the truck hitches as there is a lot of "play" in the connections due to age and wear-&-tear.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried to retain Commissioner Rockman as the acting chair of the board.

RESOLUTION 14-01, 14-02, 14-03

Three annual resolutions were considered: they establish Liberty County Commissioner's office hours and meeting dates; office hours for all other county offices; and current mileage and lodging per diem rates for county travel. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to approve these three resolutions.



RESOLUTION 14-02

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-4-102, MCA, the board of County Commissioners shall establish by resolution regular office hours;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; by the Liberty County Commissioners that each office shall be open for the transaction of business during the office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on legal holidays, excepting the following offices, which are as follows:

County Superintendent of Schools: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, excepting the hour from noon to 1:00 PM.

Justice of the Peace Office: Tuesdays, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, excepting the hour from noon to 1:00 PM.

DATED THIS 7th DAY OF January, 2014.

ATTEST: [Signature] Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS [Signatures] Chairman, Commissioner, Commissioner

RESOLUTION 14-03

WHEREAS, the board of County Commissioners may, by resolution, establish mileage, lodging and per diem rates for business travel;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; by the Liberty County Commissioners, that Liberty County Employees, when traveling in the normal course of their duties to designated areas, shall be reimbursed for the cost of meals, lodging and per diem within the rates established pursuant to MCA 2-18-501, 2-18-502, and 2-18-503 and in accordance with the following provisions:

- 1) Lodging must be reimbursed at actual cost, not to exceed the prescribed standard state rate per day. All claims for lodging reimbursement allowed must be documented by an appropriate receipt.
2) Meal reimbursement may not exceed the prescribed standard state rate per meal per day.
3) The mileage will be reimbursed at the prescribed standard state rate.
a. Except that if the county vehicle is available for use and the choice is made not to use it, the mileage reimbursement for use of your personal vehicle for county business, will be at 60% of the state rate.

DATED THIS 7th DAY OF January, 2014.

ATTEST: [Signature] Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS [Signatures] Chairman, Commissioner, Commissioner

MACO SURVEY

Commissioner Hendrickson and Tina Wood completed a MACo survey for City / County Joint Boards. Tina sent it to MACo.

COUNTY PAYROLL

The current county payroll was submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried to pay the current salaries.

NEW HORIZONS

Alou Hornek stopped in to inform us that Bullhook Clinic in Havre wants them to help service their needs. They now operate under a DSM-4 program, but are changing to a DSM-5 system (which includes gambling addictions). Alou does not see any change in our services, but wants to make sure there are no conflicts with potential addiction grants locally (i.e., at LMC). She wants a provision that allows them to drop out of the Bullhook proposal if things aren't working out as promised / planned.

CLAIMS

The current claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried to pay these claims.

COUNTY INVENTORY

We reviewed the listing of our county buildings, inventory, equipment, and vehicles for insurance via MACo. The list was approved, signed and filed.

ANNUAL MEETING: COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman and Commissioner Tempel attended the annual meeting of the Liberty County Council on Aging. Harry Heimbigner updated the 18 people present on the events of 2013. The two projects on the slate for 2014 are the construction of the canopy + landscaping (pending CTEP grant) and re-instating the monthly supper club.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman and Commissioner Tempel attended the monthly Council on Aging meeting. A current account balance = \$25,606. The CTEP grant meeting was discussed. Betty Marshall is currently working on a historical plaque for our "Senior of the Year" members. New officers = Harry Heimbigner (President), Betty Marshall (Vice President), and Shirley Rudolph (Secretary).

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

January 8th, 2014 ♦ Wednesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

JUSTICE COURT

The three Commissioners attended a Justice of the Peace "bench trial" on a DUI charge to watch the judge, county attorney, and the Liberty County Sheriff's Office staff in action.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

1. Karla Kulpas visited with us about changing the vaccine fees from \$14.13 to \$21.32 (allowable fee via Medicare). It will be easier for billing / collecting. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried. Karla will put a notice in the local paper.
2. Commissioner Rockman signed the annual DPHHS (State of Montana) immunizations grant at Karla's request. She will inform us later on the funds available.

CATTLE PETITION

As advertised, the 1:00 public meeting for a "cattle petition" to collect \$.50 per animal per year to be used to control predators in Liberty County was held in the Commissioner's office. Five producers (Robert Thompson, Robert Pugsley Jr., Mark Lakey, Rick Belcher, and Mark Wickum) and the Extension Agent (Jessie Fulbright) attended the meeting. We read the MCA law regarding the provisions of these petitions. General information: 1. Helicopter fees are about \$500/hour; 2. Tax fees are on yearling and older cattle only; 3. Petition requires 51% of the county cattle, not 51% of the county producers; 4. "No fly zones" can be requested by any producer; 5. Presently, 53 out of 56 counties now have predator control on cattle; 6. Liberty County cattle count is approximately 10,600, which would produce around \$5,300 in taxes (calculated at \$.50 / head); 7. The petition has been signed by 47 Liberty County producers; 8. The petition can be changed via new petition at any time; that is, it's not a permanent tax unless the producers want it to be. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried to approve the petition at \$.50 / head.

COUNTY INVENTORY / EQUIPMENT

The Commissioners spoke with our insurance agent, Tina Wood, to discuss many of the listed values of county-owned equipment; some of which are the original purchase prices. These original values are carried over on our inventory each year; therefore, we are over insuring some of this equipment. After much discussion, we changed many of the values to "current estimates".

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

January 14th, 2014 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. He met with a Workman's Comp representative yesterday to discuss the status of injured employee ("D.S.R."); apparently, surgery is not an option and he allegedly has "compression fractures". The crew is cleaning the furnaces today due to unusual odors. Truck and loader safety course will be in Havre on January 30th; Marc will take many of the crew to this training. New auto lift will be here soon (cost around \$6,600).

DES GRANT

We received the EMPG grant for October 2013 to septemeber 2014 for \$11,034.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

We received the certified copy of the Interlocal Agreement for Incarceration of Adult Liberty County prisoners in the Hill County Detention Center.

RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT

Jason Castillon from Triangle Communications stopped in to get permission to bury fiber optics to Liberty County properties (i.e., firehall, county shop, hospital, etc.). A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried to approve access to these easements. Note: All road crossings will be bored.

MEDICAL REPORT

We received a medical report regarding our injured road crew employee ("D.S.R."), which suggests his condition is unchanged.

CROPPING SEMINAR

MSU Extension sponsored their annual cropping seminars in the Hi-Line. Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Tempel attended the afternoon session.

HRDC

Commissioner Tempel attended the monthly HRDC meeting in Havre on January 9th. He provided a financial report for Fiscal Years ending in 2012 and 2013, plus the audit by Hamilton Consulting Group, PLLP. FYI: Assets and liabilities totaled \$1.3 million (2013); Revenues totaled \$3.7million (2013); Expenses totaled \$3.6 million (2013); Net assets at end of 2013 total \$147,000.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson provided MASTS summary reports for the center. We were down around 15 total meals for December 2013 versus December 2012. The same 6-month period (July 1 to December 31), we were down around 500 total meals for 2013 versus 2012.

LMC BOARD

Executive committee meetings have been held at Liberty Medical Center regarding hospital issues and CEO concerns. Commissioner Hendrickson attended three meetings this past week. The CEO, Dustin Ahrens, officially resigned, letter effective 1/14/2014; his last day on the job will be 1/17/2014.

STONE GARDEN GRANT

We called Jessica Davies to discuss our current options on receiving all or part of the current \$78,000 grant.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

January 15th, 2014 ♦ Wednesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

LIBERTY MEDICAL CENTER

Commissioner Hendrickson met with the executive committee of Liberty Medical Center plus the providers on Tuesday evening (January 14th) to discuss the current problems (loss of CEO, clinic visits are down this year, finances are also down, need of another provider, etc.).

MACO WEBINAR

JPIA /JPA mid-policy year update webinar was presented by Gregg Jackson. The three commissioners participated in this 1 ½ hour presentation.

MARIAS FAIR BOARD

We requested the minutes of the Marias Fair Board meeting dated January 8th, 2014 to confirm a few items that were brought to our attention:

1. Purchase of \$720 worth of tickets to the Great Falls Rodeo Circuit Finals by the fair board.
2. Request by Helen Brown for a "closed meeting" to discuss her contract with the board in selling annual sponsorships (regarding salary, percentage of sales, etc.)
3. Rehiring of the sponsorship sales person (contractor, Helen Brown versus an existing county employee) and the possible conflict of interest issue (MFB president Buster Brown and wife, Helen).

We visited with Toole County Commissioners, Deb Brandon and Ben Ober, regarding our concerns. We will continue to communicate about these issues.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Tempel and the motion carried to pay the current claims.

MLIAC GRANT

Gail Shatkus and Tyler Good (intern) came in to inform us on their progress on the GIS / GPS project. References were made to CORS (continuously operating reference stations), specifically, preferred materials, mounting recommendations, and best location for the monument. There will be "Mobile Mapper 10" training on February 6th and 7th. Document:(3/4 hour X 3 = 2 ¼ hours in-kind for Commissioner's match on this project).

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

January 21st, 2014 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

WEED / ROAD MEETINGS

The three commissioners attended the annual meeting of the Toole County Road Board and Toole / Liberty Weed Departments at 8:00 am on this day in Shelby; 21 people attended. Two guests from the Department of Ag spoke on aquatic weeds, weed grants, and general funding.

PERMISSION TO BE OUT-OF-STATE

Commissioner Tempel requested permission to leave the state following our MACo meeting on February 13th. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to grant permission.

PAYROLL

The county payroll was offered for consideration. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried to pay these salaries.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Commissioner Rockman attended the "Suicide Prevention" seminar sponsord by the Public Health Department and Trivent on Wednesday evening (January 15th). Attendance was about 20 students plus about 20 adults. Good program for our youth!!

CITY OF CHESTER

Mayor Noel Walston stopped in to discuss two items: 1. Eliminate duplication of effort on the school parking lot – the city sanded the icy lot, then the county came to plow it – we need to communicate better on this. 2. The city wants to replace the water meter in the pit at the main line to the cemetery, but it is presently full of water. Can we get this pumped and dried out?

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. Charlie's pick-up suffered some smoke and fire damage to a motorized part, which has been ordered. This pick-up is a 1993 model and needs upgrading so we authorized him to take the "county" pick-up, which is a 1-ton model (which is what they need to haul the equipment trailer). We also authorized Marc to put a hold on any further repairs to the county van (AKA; the "Soccer Van"), as it's time to dispose of it. Of interest is the fact that the Town of Chester took our old 1973 Chevy truck (sander truck) to Pacific for recycling purposes – this could be construed as "grand theft auto"! – Noel will follow-up on this.

CONCERNED CITIZEN

Dale Hawks stopped in to express concern about all of the Canadian trucks that will be using the Whitlash Road to haul wheat to Gavilon. The use and/or abuse of the road may be severe.

ALL SEASON'S HEATING

Peder Underdahl stopped in to report that he finally replaced the motor on the commercial dishwasher fan at the Senior Center. The old one was not properly wired, causing the motor to burn out. He will bill us for the motor only – no labor fees due to a previous overcharge. He still owes us around six hours in labor on a previous agreement.

GIS GRANT

Gail Shatkus and Tyler Good were in to update us on the bracketing system for the GIS antenna.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

January 28th, 2014 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Commissioner Rlynn Rockman, and Commissioner Russ Tempel. Commissioner Hendrickson is attending MACo meetings in Great Falls.

YOUTH COURT

We received a \$20 restitution check, from one of the juveniles ("R.D.") who damaged the cemetery shop pick-up, via the 12th Judicial District Youth Court. Check sent to the cemetery.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. The road crew staff are all sick or getting sick this week. The crew is scheduled for LTAP "truck safety" in Havre on January 30th. There is also a DNRC "wildlife fire" training planned for February 20th.

SENIOR CENTER

Montana Transit Grant for Fiscal Year 2015 was presented for signature by Glenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to approve the grant. The motor above the commercial dishwasher has finally been replaced. The venting system above the ovens is being "steamed cleaned" to eliminate 2+ years of grease build-up. The solenoid on the garbage disposal has gone bad.

LIBERTY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The annual Liberty County Chamber of Commerce dinner was held January 26th. Commissioner Tempel attended with 77 other members. The guest speakers were two state senator contenders, Kris Hanson and Greg Jergeson. The newly elected Chamber Chairman is Jesse Fulbright.

DES

Penny Walston stopped in to discuss getting a generator for the Senior Center, which is one of our emergency evacuation sites. We will investigate resources and options.

4-H

Mary Ann and Ted Zorn were in to discuss the recent good news regarding the 4-H air gun target shooting program. Since their news article ran in the local "Times", they have received \$2,000 + in donations from friends of 4-H to purchase additional guns. They also received an NRA Grant for \$2,833.

MUSEUM BY-LAWS

Betty Marshall submitted copies of the draft of the By-laws for the Liberty County Museum that were recently revamped by Hugh Brown. Upon review the Commissioners OK'ed the bylaws. Betty and Hugh were notified.

DPHHS

Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home and the Wheat Country Estates received their annual "Retail Food Large" licenses, which require an approval signature from the "local health authority" and payment of \$115 each. Karen Salo is reportedly on an extended vacation and Dr. Young is reluctant to sign the license without a current inspection. Commissioner Rockman called Ron Anderson (Sanitarian for Glacier / Toole / Blaine counties) to discuss the licenses. He claims we do not need them, because these two facilities fall under MCA 5050-127-A&B and Administrative Rule #37.110.203 (26)(G), which say *no licenses* are required by private organizations who serve food only for its members or registered guests. Therefore, these two licenses have been paid each year with no explanation or clarification by DPHHS! Shari Dolan and Brandi Thielman were notified.

MACO MEETINGS

Commissioner Hendrickson and Tina Wood attended an all-day conference in Great Falls sponsored by MACo that dealt with hiring, firing, ADA, and other issues regarding employees.

EXTENSION

Commissioner Rockman and Commissioner Tempel attended an evening meeting at the Extension Office regarding the Montana Community Foundation. This second meeting was attended by 10 community members and was presented by Cathy Cooney. The general consensus by those present is that we should pursue a Montana Community Foundation here.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman