

October 5th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

LEPC

The Commissioners attended the monthly LEPC meeting held at the firehall on the above stated date.

LIBRARY

Teresa Fenger came in to update the Commissioners on the espresso sales.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Penny Walston was in with the proposed budget for Public Health. The Commissioners will finalize it later.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike LaFrentz was in and explained a letter from the Billings office. After some discussion regarding the letter which addresses the approximate \$4,000 BOR surplus that was left from an over-estimated budget by Mike, Commissioner Rockman made the motion to agree to sign off on the letter. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Commissioner Russ Tempel will sign the letter as "project head" when he returns next week. [Commissioner Tempel signed the letter on 10-12-2010 and it was forwarded to BOR].

VEBA

MACo was telephoned about the VEBA program. The contact name and information for VEBA is Melanie Denning, whom the Commissioners called and requested some information.

CLAIMS

Two claims for NorthWestern Energy totaling \$1,500 for hook-ups for the new Center, and two claims for Worker's Comp and Unemployment Insurance were submitted for payment. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to accept them for payment. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

LIBERTY COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly meeting. Highlights included:

1. COA received a \$1,000 donation from WAG as a contribution towards a fireplace in the new center;
2. Noted expenditure was for a new computer at about \$1,500 (the cost was split between 3 different funds);
3. The CD funds at the Bear Paw Credit Union (approx. \$20,000) were moved into a savings account for quick accessibility, if needed for new center purchases;
4. There are some additional ARRA monies available, so we're pursuing some for a new bus;
5. Recently COA was awarded a state grant for a new van (approx. \$26,000 with a 15% local match);
6. Discussed possible names for the new center;
7. COA is presently forming a committee to get the fund-raiser program going; and
8. Total of all accounts on hand is \$68,775.93

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues.

- ❖ They've examined the internal motor on the Valtra; we're looking at a long-block at approximately \$18,000;
- ❖ The crew is presently hauling an additional 500 yards of fill-dirt to the senior center project and will also have the gravel pile at the airport;
- ❖ Two different gravel screeners have been looked at for possible lease. Calculations on a 1-month lease, working four 8-hour days with 2 employees, would yield about 12,000 yards of screened rock at a price of approximately \$26,000.

NEW SENIOR CENTER

Paperwork was submitted by Annmarie Robinson for approval as follows:

- 1. Requesting to draw funds from our CDBG grant, and
- 2. A budget amendment for the Department of Commerce.

Commissioner Rockman made the motion to authorize these items. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The forms were signed and sent to Annmarie.

COUNTY PAYROLL

The County payroll was submitted for approval. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to accept the payroll as presented for payment. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

REGION 2A EMS

Yvonne Hunnewell and Ann VanDessel were in and discussed the bid package for the new ambulance. They also discussed some crew relations issues with the Commissioners.

The annual agreement for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 with Region 2A EMS was also submitted for consideration. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve and sign the contract. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. The signed contract was placed in Yvonne's file for processing.

TOWN OF CHESTER

John Kleinsasser from the Town of Chester was in and asked about paving Adams on the east where south Chester has hooked into the water line. Knife River was telephoned and it was discovered that they may not be able to complete this.

ABSENCE OF OFFICER FROM THE STATE

Commissioner Rockman made the motion to allow County Attorney Hugh Brown to be absent from the state the week of October 9th to the 16th. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

DEMO AMBULANCE

On Sunday, October 3rd, Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Rockman spent time at the firehall with Yvonne Hunnewell, James Dahlen, Noel Walton, and Barb Vinson examining, questioning, and test-driving a new Ford E-450 Diesel – turbo charged ambulance. The retail price is \$128,500 plus a paint job of approximately \$3,500.

October 6th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

BIDS FOR AMBULANCE

The Commissioners put a bid package together for a new ambulance. The information was given to Yvonne Hunnewell for distribution and to the Liberty County Times for publishing.

LETTER TO FIRE AND AMBULANCE

The Commissioners conveyed a letter to the Liberty County Fire and Ambulance departments concerning the question of "on call" compensation.

GRAVEL SCREENER

Commissioner Rockman, Shawn Norick and Jerry Ghekiere travelled to Fort Benton to meet with the Chouteau County Road Supervisor, Russ Albers, who showed the group the necessary paperwork/documents regarding MSHA rules and regulations as related to gravel pit mining. Then the group went to the Almstead pit in Chouteau County to demo their Kulberg-271 gravel screener. It is a good outfit and comes highly recommended by Albers, but the daily production levels are closer to 250-400 yards (depending on 1 or 2 workers).

CLAIMS

The month's current claims were submitted for approval. The claims were scrutinized. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve for payment all current claims. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

CEMETERY BOARD

Commissioner Rockman and Elvina Tempel discussed the Fiscal Year employee raises. They decided to give the two employees (Terry Thielman and Rachel Ghekiere), who are salaried, the 2% raise retroactive to July 1, 2010. No other new business.

October 12th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Present for the monthly department head meeting in addition to all three Commissioners were Jesse Fulbright, Shawn Norick, Jim Ghekiere, Rachel Ghekiere, Rhonda Pimley, and Rod Keith. Main items of discussion were the institution of a VEBA program for retiring employees and the potential for a new unit train loader system in Chester.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues:

- 1. Gravel screeners were debated and MSHA training info was discussed;
- 2. Tilleman's quoted Shawn approximately \$5,000 for a short block for the Valtra;
- 3. Jerry Ridgeway reported that our new grader will be here soon.

E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Harold Blattie representing MACo, is preparing a bill to eliminate county classification, since we now have overall levy limitation and setting elected officials salaries are no longer based on county class. He sent Liberty County a completed list of 2010 County Classifications.

WIC AGREEMENT

The County received the WIC Satellite Agreement for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve and sign this annual agreement with Hill County. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The agreement was signed and mailed.

GRANT PROGRAM

A local government infrastructure grant program contract amendment (#STMGF-60-CP-027A) was sent to Liberty County by Annmarie Robinson regarding the Senior Center project. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve the contract amendment. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

BOILER INSPECTIONS

Dennis Cornelius, Boiler Inspector, examined Liberty County's two boilers (Liberty County Sheriff's Office and the Courthouse). The one at the Liberty County Sheriff's Office has a leak in the safety valve. Neal Eveland will repair per Richard Burrows.

CASCADE COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES

The Commissioners responded to the Cascade County Youth Services Center to report that we did not use their services this quarter.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Commissioners received a memo from MDT regarding the scope of work planned at the Pugsley Bridge project. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to sign and approve the letter, and forward it to MDT. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PROJECT SITE

The three Commissioners visited the project site for the new senior center and was updated by project supervisor, Tracy McLain.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FORUM

During the Commissioners lunch break, they attended a forum sponsored by the Senior Center where both Justice of the Peace candidates (Neal Eveland and Holly Frederickson) gave presentations on their campaigns.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

October 13th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to follow-up on several issues:

1. The gravel screener unit in Billings is \$45,000 plus \$7,500 for conveyor / hopper. Rental on this unit is \$6,000 per month plus \$1,000 per month for the conveyor. (85% of the rental will go towards purchase price);
2. Shawn just purchased a new (small) generator for shop use;
3. Shawn will deliver some screened pit run to the "hole" in the street at Vern Pimley's in Joplin;
4. Shawn will check on fixing the "abrupt edges" on some of the roadways at the Airport.

VEBA

After much discussion and researching the PERS Defined Benefit Retirement Plan; and considering the recommendations from Melanie Denning (State of Montana, Health Care / Benefits division), and in-put from Cyndee Fraser (Liberty County payroll clerk), the Commissioners decided to use the same parameters as the Montana PERS plans for our VEBA enrollment. The motion was made by Commissioner Tempel to use the PERS parameters. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Those employees who presently qualify are Jerry Ghekiere, Jim Ghekiere, Steve Cameron, Teresa Fenger, Ann Wickum, Dale Carlstad, Tim Snyder, Rod Keith and Doug Riggan; possible qualifiers are Bev Jochim and Yvonne Hunnewell. The Commissioners will administer a vote for those qualifying employees with the help of Cyndee Fraser.

LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE

Sheriff Richard Burrows was in to report that the office hot water heater has a leak. Neal Eveland will replace it and fix the valve on the boiler. Our young man who needs to complete community service was contacted by Sheriff Burrows. He will contact Terry Thielman at the cemetery to work this out.

EXTENSION OFFICE

The Liberty County MSU Extension Office provided a salary adjustment verification form and the FY2011 Extension services agreement form for the consideration of the Commissioners. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve and sign the paperwork. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The paperwork was delivered to Ann Wickum. Jesse Fulbright came in with a few questions / clarifications regarding the forms.

EMS

Yvonne Hunnewell was in to discuss several items:

1. Approval of letter that the Commissioners composed on 10-06-2010 for the Fire and Ambulance departments. The letter was sent to Quannah and Yvonne today;
2. Bid packages for new ambulance;
3. Pros and cons of offering a Trade-In; it was decided to try to sell the old ambulance through MACo, e-bay, Craig's list, etc.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere came in at the request of the Commissioners. They wanted an explanation on a voucher regarding registration fees at a weed district seminar.

CALL FOR BIDS

Equipment list sent to the Liberty County Times for publication (10-20-2010 to 10-27-2010). These items are for sale. The bid opening will be 11-02-2010.

Call For Bids

- 1- Bivens Inc Tar Buggy – Little Ford Mod UT-101 600 gallons
- 1- Black Hawk 4 ton Floor Jack
- 15- 400 watt, 240 volt, Mercury Halogen Lights
- 1- Spread Master Chip Spreader with MPLS Moline U-drive train
- 1- 300 Gallon Poly Spray Tank
- 1- 1991 Dodge ¾ D250, 360 V8, 4 speed, 2 WD, with 141,000 miles (Min bid \$500)
- 1- Trail King Trailer TK40, 20 Ton Dual Wheel Beaver Tail, Pintal Hitch (Min bid \$6,500)

For more information call Liberty County Road Department at 759-5623. Bids will be accepted at the Liberty County Courthouse until November 2, 2010 at 10:00 AM. Liberty County reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

October 14th, 2010 ♦ Thursday

Commissioner Rockman and Shawn Norick drove to and from Billings on this date to examine a gravel screener for sale at Westate Equipment. The screener is a 1998 Kolberg Model #271, similar to the one at Chouteau County. There are also two conveyors for sale. It was a positive trip and we will probably make a deal on this equipment in the next week or two.

October 15th, 2010 ♦ Friday

Commissioner Hendrickson met with George Ferda of Advanced IT to discuss security issues. He stated that staying with the State for Internet and e-mail would make security easier. The County has two back-up hard drives that are exchanged every week.

October 19th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

CTEP

A meeting was scheduled for 1:00 on Tuesday, October 26th for the CTEP project. The meeting will be held at the city office.

Noel Walston updated the Commissioners on the proposed water line north of Town and placement of the Rest area shelter. Also discussed were some EMT issues.

GRAVEL

Jerry Fenger brought in some gravel samples from a pit in Toole County that is for sale.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve for payment the payroll as it has been presented. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

GRAVEL SCREENER

The Commissioners telephoned West State Equipment about a gravel screener.

The Commissioners also visited with Wade DeBoo with TD&H.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

October 20th, 2010 ♦ Wednesday

HOSPITAL BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Hendrickson attended the monthly Hospital Board meeting on the above stated date. It was Ray Standiford's last meeting.

October 25th, 2010 ♦ Monday

A Monday construction meeting regarding the Senior Center / Transit facility was conducted on the above stated date at 1:00 PM. It was attended by 14 people including all three Commissioners.

Highlights:

- 1. Clausens will call Patrick's regarding the final site work;
- 2. Clausens report that the building will be enclosed in approximately one week;
- 3. The overhead door man says the doors will be installed by the end of November;
- 4. Natural gas hook-up will be next week;
- 5. Questions:
 - ❖ Cable TV hook-ups?
 - ❖ Fire place vents and wall vs. roof?
 - ❖ County to call Triangle Telephone regarding a phone system.
- 6. Knife River regarding street patch? Knife River has finished the airport job and have moved all their equipment to Big Sandy / Havre. They neglected to call the County about a few little jobs we had in store for them.

October 26th, 2010 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

POST ELECTION AUDIT

The Commissioners contacted Morb Wicks regarding the Post Election Audit which will be conducted on November 10th, 2010. She is interested in helping with the Audit.

TRIANGLE TELEPHONE

The Commissioners telephoned Triangle Telephone and began the process of acquiring a phone system for the new Senior Center.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

County Attorney Hugh Brown provided paperwork on a legal case of Montana vs. Rex Wetzel, who is being charged with attempting to obtain prescription drugs fraudulently. The state has a special prosecutor handling these types of cases. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel to accept Chad Parker as a deputy county attorney to prosecute this case. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Liberty County Attorney has requested prosecutorial assistance in the case of State v. Rex Wetzel, and

Whereas, it is desired and deemed appropriate that a special deputy county attorney be appointed to assist in the prosecution of the aforementioned case, and

Whereas, Mont. Code Ann. § 44-4-111 authorizes and contemplates that the training coordinator for county attorneys and the bureau chief of Prosecution Services Bureau (together with the deputies within said bureau) act as special counsel on request of the county attorney and upon the approval of the board of county commissioners, and

Whereas, Mont. Code Ann. § 2-15-501(6) authorizes the Attorney General to provide assistance to county attorneys in the discharge of his or her duties.

It Is Hereby Resolved:

That the attorneys assigned to the Prosecution Services Bureau of the Department of Justice are hereby appointed as special deputy county attorneys for Liberty County for the purpose of assisting in the prosecution of the aforementioned case and that any of said deputies can fulfill the functions set out in Mont. Code Ann. § 44-4-103.

It is Further Resolved:

That under the terms of this agreement, no fee will be charged for attorney time provided by the Bureau based upon the fact that pursuant to the internal operational policies adopted by the Attorney General September 1, 1999, assistance in such cases is provided without an hourly fee. Witness fees and expenses, jury costs, and other normal costs associated with trial will be the County's responsibility as with all other prosecutions.

Dated this 26 day of OCT, 2010.

Larry Hendrickson
CHAIRMAN

Russ Tempel
MEMBER

Rlynn Rockman
MEMBER

ATTEST:

Ronda S. Pinley
CLERK AND RECORDER

RESOLUTION 10-17

Budget Resolution 10-17 was offered for the Commissioners approval. This resolution includes the CTEP Budget, which hadn't been included in the original budget. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to accept this Budget Resolution. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION 10-17

WHEREAS, Liberty County has become eligible to receive a Community Transportation Enhance Program (CTEP) grant from the Montana Department of Transportation, for the purpose of construction of a Visitor Info Center; and

WHEREAS, the provision for this project was not made in the fiscal year 2010-11 County Budget; and

WHEREAS, the County may appropriate federal or state money received during the fiscal year by formal resolution, and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the project has been set at \$55,586.79 with a federal contribution of 86.58%, or \$48,127.04 and a local match of 13.42%, or \$7,459.75 (to be paid by the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Liberty County Commissioners hereby appropriate the anticipated \$48,127.04 from Fund 2956 to be expended on the Visitor Info Center project.

DATED THIS 26th day of October, 2010

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ray Hoffman

Chairman

Russ Tempel


Commissioner

Ryan Rockman

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Phonda S. Pinley

Clerk


CLAIM FROM JEREMY SIEMANS

CTEP engineer Jeremy Siemans had submitted a claim via e-mail for services rendered on the CTEP project (\$2,413.01). Because it had been initially overlooked (as not an official bill), the Commissioners agreed to pay it today. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve this claim for payment. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to report the following:

1. New grader came in yesterday;
2. Shawn, Jerry, and Charlie travelled to Billings yesterday to pick up the gravel screener and two conveyers that were purchased. Negotiated price for Kolberg Model 271, 1998 vintage screener, with approximately 6,000 hours plus two hydraulic conveyors (50 ft each) from Westate Co. for \$54,000; no warranty (as is); includes 30 new rollers; and we transport;
3. Three culverts are planned for road 2000 west of Tom Graff's. We're rebuilding a stretch of road in that area;
4. Shawn called MCR (Gary Larson) about getting help on replacing / repairing several cattle guards that their trucks are using / abusing. Larson will get back to us.
5. Jesse Fulbright came in to discuss the beaver dams at the 4-H Campground. Shawn will follow up;
6. The Case tractors are both close to 225 hrs. We have a damaged mirror on one, which Shawn will replace. Both tractors will be detailed / cleaned before returning to the lease company.

COUNTY CAR

The County Ford Taurus was being used on county business in Great Falls when the car developed transmission problems. The car was driven to Winter Transmissions, who reported that the transmission is damaged to the tune of approximately \$2,500. We decided to declare the car obsolete. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to declare the car obsolete. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Shawn will get the car back to Chester when they can. Gary Layton might be interested in the car.

RDO

Jerry Ridgeway stopped in to check on the delivery/acceptance of our new John Deere grader. The Commissioners went to the county shop to scrutinize the machine and complete the "check-list".

TD & H ENGINEERS

Wade DeBoo, civil engineer for TD& H Engineering Consultants of Great Falls stopped by the County shop to visit with the Commissioners and Shawn about the Train Loading project. The Commissioners offered assistance with easements, road-crossings, paperwork, and any political pull to help expedite this process. The project is being done by EGT Development and Bungy Corp and CTX Pan Ocean.

CLAIMS

Current withholdings, insurance and other employee benefit claims were offered for payment. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to accept these claims for payment. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

MECEA MEETING

Commissioner Tempel will attend a MECEA meeting (Montana Early Childhood Development) in Helena on Wednesday, October 27th. This meeting is related to his work with HRDC.

COUNTY PLANNING

Jim Ghekiere stopped in to answer questions about Minor Subdivisions. Wade DeBoo suggested "Relocation of a common boundary" in relinquishing unused property after the project is completed. Jim will follow up on what is easiest here.

POTENTIAL FURNACE REPAIRS

A relatively new business "All Seasons Heating & A/C" of Shelby (owners, Wes Hannon and Peder Underdal) would like to service our heating and A/C units, if need be.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sympathy cards were sent to Maureen Cicon (for the loss of her mother, Florence Johnson) and to Allan Underdahl, Toole County Commissioner (for the loss of his father).

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

October 27th, 2010 ♦ Wednesday

Shawn Norick and Commissioner Hendrickson visited Eagle Creek Colony and talked to Dave Hofer about purchasing gravel. The County will have Roy O'Brien crush at the Hofer pit. He will start next week.

Commissioner Hendrickson attended a meeting in Havre at Bear Paw Development where Governor Brian Schweitzer presented a program on the financial health of Montana.

October 28th, 2010 ♦ Thursday

JUNK VEHICLE

Commissioner Hendrickson and Clerk & Recorder Pimley met with Mitzi Hanson of Montana Department of Environment Quality to discuss the Junk Vehicle program in Liberty County. Commissioner Hendrickson requested that she e-mail us a copy of an example contract with a vendor, as we need to update ours. The County will need to return the excess balance of the \$7,500 allowed that was paid to us in error by the State.