

March 2, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

LEPC

Commissioner Hendrickson, Commissioner Tempel and Commissioner Rockman, as well as many other community members, were in attendance at the regular monthly LEPC meeting held at the Liberty County Emergency Services Building at 8:30 AM.

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

BOR

Mike LaFrentz and Rick Malta from the Bureau of Reclamation were in to discuss the road on the top of the dam at Lake Elwell. The group agreed that the County would continue maintenance of this road. The group also briefly discussed the funding for the two additional shelters that are being planned for this summer.

ROAD

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. Shawn brought in revised road crossing permits to be signed. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to sign the permits with the Chippewa Cree Construction Corp. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Commissioner Tempel made a motion to sign the road crossing permits for North Central Regional Water System. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Rockman made a motion to sell the Century 225 welder to Mark Holmes for a bid of \$370. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion and the motion passed. Two bids were submitted (one other from John Laird).

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR: EMS

James Dahlen has been hired to replace Dave Hunnewell as Maintenance Director for the ambulance service. James came in to discuss his maintenance responsibilities. Jim Ghekiere explained to James how supplies are purchased for the building.

SENIOR CITIZENS BUILDING PROJECT

The Commissioners met with Rodney Keith to discuss the most recent news on the Senior Citizens building project.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Liberty County Attorney Hugh Brown stopped by to inquire with the Commissioners about any news.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Commissioner Tempel, Commissioner Rockman and Commissioner Hendrickson went to the sheriff's office to look at the new window that was installed on the dispatchers counter. The Commissioners decided to accept the recommendation of the head dispatcher to have the window removed.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

March 3, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

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

UNION

The county received a letter from Max Hallfrisch, representative for the road department union, regarding ending negotiations. Commissioner Tempel made a motion to sign the amended letter. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PROPANE TANK

Don Koon from Ben Taylor of Shelby met with the Commissioners to further discuss an "Industrial Park Ground Lease" regarding the propane tank storage for local distribution. These discussions were started back in August of 2008. The proposed lease was reviewed. After visiting the site with Don Koon, he agreed to prepare the area and roadway with safety poles, etc. The lease will be signed for \$1000/year for five years.

ROAD

Cliff Wickum was in to discuss poor road conditions on the north Laird Road due to ice buildup and melting snow.

Shawn Norick was in to update the Commissioners on current road matters. Shawn said he went and checked out the Joplin streets and visited with the Joplin Post Office to see if anything can be done about the snow/ice issues. Shawn also reported there is water running over the road near Bo Woods' place.

CTEP

Krystal Steinmetz of Bear Paw Development sent the Commissioners some paperwork related to our newest project at the Lion's Park, which has a projected completion date of June 18, 2010.

TRANSIT GRANT

Commissioner Rockman made a motion to authorize an addendum to the transit grant for application for a new van to replace the recently received van. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Rockman made the motion to pay the end of the month claims as they have been presented. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

CUSTODIAN JOB

Ruth Ann Norick was in to discuss the janitor job. She agreed to do the job at 32 hours a week at \$11.20/hour.

CTEP

Additional information was received in the mail from Krystal Steinmetz of Bear Paw Development regarding the CTEP Environmental Review on the Lion's park project. Commissioner Tempel made a motion to sign the CTEP Environmental Review. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The forms were mailed back to Krystal.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

March 8th, 2010 ♦ Monday

SENIOR CITIZENS BUILDING PROJECT

SPECIAL MEETING WITH WAG ARCHITECTURE

Present on the above stated date for the meeting held regarding the Senior Citizen's Building Project were: Russ Wolfe (WAG), Commissioner Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, Rodney Keith, Harry Heimbigner Jr., Betty Marshall, Ron Gleason, Bill Gunderson, Annmarie Robinson, Priscilla Pimley, and Jane Allen.

Rodney Keith read and reviewed the Title 6 Act for the group.

Russ Wolfe explained that his visit with the contractors has revealed that the cost estimates were about 15% higher than necessary. The group still needs to find out about the survey from Cicon and Associates and about the soil samples.

Russ showed the group the latest kitchen design, and they discussed the range hood. It may not be possible to utilize the hood received from the school district. The group also discussed health code requirements and the need to be able to lock the kitchen up.

Alternates: there will be many bids at the same time. First, complete the basic building and then ad extras as funding is available. However, the Commissioner's stressed the point that they would like the outside to be maintenance free.

The group still hopes for May bids and building start-up in June.

The group also discussed the Interior finish and concerns about noise levels. Acoustic ceiling tiles will be installed.

The next meeting with WAG Architecture is scheduled for March 29th, 2010 at 9:00 AM.

March 9th, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

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

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

In addition to the three Commissioners, present for the regularly scheduled Department Head meeting were: Rodney Keith, Shawn Norick, Jim Ghekiere, Jesse Fulbright, and Rhonda Pimley.

Rod Keith spoke about the progression of the building project for the Senior Center. The State Department of Transportation is requiring changes to the already signed contract with the architect. He also visited with the group about troubles with one of the existing buses continuously breaking down.

Shawn Norick visited with the group about road conditions. So far, Liberty County has been fortunate with how the snow is melting off. There are no bad run-offs yet. He reported that they are in the process of hiring someone new on the crew. Shawn also reported that the gravel pile is already almost depleted.

Jim Ghekiere reported on the status of the State Weed Grants that he is just now finishing up. They are repeat grants that the County has had for the past several years. Jim also reported that he testified in Helena last week on these grants. Jim will again be hiring additional summer-time help. He has already had several people inquiring about the status of those opportunities.

The Commissioners inquired with Jim if fire key boxes for the County Buildings would qualify for Rural Fire Grant money. The boxes run about \$300 a box. Jim did not believe they would qualify.

Jim also continues to work with the Sheriff and the Fire Districts for radios.

Jesse Fulbright reported that he has been doing a great deal of traveling (fair meetings, trainings, saw fly meeting, etc). He discussed briefly the ground squirrel program scheduled next week at Kurt Kammerzell's farm.

Rhonda Pimley briefly discussed the Election cycle. The Mail Ballot school election is scheduled for May 4th, and the Federal Primary is scheduled for June 8th. She is busy preparing for those elections. She will be conducting an election judge schooling next month, and commented that more election judges will be needed.

Commissioner Larry Hendrickson discussed the DES tabletop exercise that he recently attended. The "event" explored was "What happens if the Courthouse was not able to open for a day or two?" He found the exercise to be relevant and most interesting.

Commissioner Russ Tempel visited with the group about their recent attendance at the MACO Mid-Winter conference. The State's revenue shortfall will surely have a trickle down effect on the Counties.

HRDC

Darrel Hanum was in to visit with the Commissioners regarding employment issues and the ARRA money available to HRDC. He visited about their Adult Basic Education that they are able to offer. HRDC has now hired an additional teacher for their Outreach Program (Matt Twedt). Matt is currently attempting to set up a regular schedule to reach out to all of the outlying area.

Darrel also highlighted some of the other things they offer like assessment testing for Home-schooled children, assistance with GED's, assistance with preparing for SAT's and ACT's, etc. He visited with the Commissioners about the Subsidized Employment programs (WIA, TANF, & SKILLS). They also briefly discussed the Youth Building Program offered through Northern-MSU that allows 16-24 high school drop-outs to spend part time working on their GED and part time working on plumbing and building skills constructing a home.

ROAD & WEED

Jim Ghekiere and Shawn Norick visited with the Commissioners. They both asked to be allowed to update their cell phones. Jim Ghekiere also updated the Commissioners further on the status of the weed grants. Shawn Norick discussed in more detail the road conditions in Joplin.

ROCKY BOY / NORTH CENTRAL WATER DISTRICT

Tom Montgomery and Chip Miller from the North Central Water District project stopped in to visit with the Commissioners. The project is scheduled to begin this Spring. They will be installing 13 miles of water-line at 400 feet per day; this particular stretch has a budget of approximately \$20 million. The good news is they are purchasing backfill gravel locally, they have contracted with a local farmer to haul the gravel, and they hope to spend money locally on fuel, food, etc. The group discussed a simple written agreement concerning care and damage to the roads. Shawn Norick will have a proposal drawn up regarding this matter.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve for payment the monthly claims as they have been presented. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

BOND POLICY

Insurance Agent Tina Wood mailed to the Commissioners a copy of the County's Bond Policy for examination. This policy will be kept on file for reference.

SAFETY MEETING

Tina stopped in to review for the up-coming "safety meeting" with Amelia from MACO. This meeting is scheduled for 10:00 AM on Monday, March 15th, 2010.

HRDC

Commissioner Russ Tempel attended the executive board meeting held in Havre on March 1st, 2010.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Council on Aging and Transportation Committee meetings on Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Special levy for Senior Citizen's programs will be put on the upcoming Primary ballot
- The annual RSVP dinner will be in Great Falls on May 21st
- The new building project was discussed; and
- There is some employee dissatisfaction with the new van.

CEMETERY BOARD

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Cemetery Board meeting on Thursday, March 4th, 2010. The Cemetery Board secretary and sexton were granted the 1% salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2009.

COMPUTERS

Kyle Cicon came in to work on the Extension Office computers as well as e-mail problems in the Clerk & Recorder's Office. He will put a quote together to provide a "back-up" system for the computerized courthouse records.

BALLOT ISSUES FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION

Deputy County Attorney Elizabeth Woods dropped off the proposed Senior Citizens Transportation & Activities special mill levy request for the approval of the Commissioners. The Commissioners have questions regarding the wording referring to "passage of this proposal results in an *increase of 15.07 mills.*" The Commissioners would like the verbiage to more accurately reflect that this levy is an extension or continuation rather than another increase.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to accept for payment the payroll as it has been presented. Commissioner Rockman 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

March 10th, 2010 ♦ Wednesday

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

ROAD

Shawn Norick was asked to haul some pit-run to the County yard and to the Senior Center project site before moving the loader to town.

BROWNFIELD PROGRAM

Paul Tuss and Christin Hileman of Bear Paw Development and Chris Cerquone of AMEC Geomatrix came in to visit with the Commissioner's about the Brownfield Program, which was started by the EPA in the 1990's. By definition, a Brownfield is a property where expansion, re-development, or re-use is complicated by the presence (or potential presence) of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. This program is an economical development tool with the main focus as *Re-development*, not for clean-up but rather for assessment. The program is a 3-year grant with \$400,000 in stimulus funds (\$200,000 for petroleum issues and \$200,000 for hazardous wastes). Bear Paw has a Brownfield link on their web-site and supplied the Commissioners with brochures to be distributed to public members who may be interested in this program.

NCAAA CORRESPONDENCE

Karen Roehm, Director of the NCAAA, sent Commissioner Rockman an updated copy of the advisory council's 2010 revised By-laws for review. Upon his review Commissioner Rockman telephoned Betty Marshall for any input, and also visited with Rod Keith. Commissioner Rockman telephoned Karen Roehm and offered Liberty County's approval of these by-laws.

FLOOD PLAIN HEARING

The Commissioners have advertised this public hearing for the past two weeks. Present for the meeting in addition to the three Commissioners were: Annmarie Robinson, Rodney Keith, and Wayne Wardell. There was open discussion regarding the proposed lots that will house the new Senior Center and Bus Barn. The south-east corner of these lots is in the 100 year flood plain; Mayor Wardell said that the Town of Chester has no adverse issues with the County's project and the use of these lots as planned.

The 8-step decision making process on the flood plain issue follows:

1. Public notice – 2 weeks
2. Hearing on 3-10-2010; the public has until Friday (3-12-2010) to respond
3. Alternatives established by the PAR
4. Identify any impacts
5. Mitigate
6. Additional notice explaining why we are working in the flood plain
7. Re-evaluate the results
8. Implement the proposal action

The County may seek a LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment). There will also be a construction notification sent to the Town of Chester.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman to sign the two forms presented. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried:

1. MDT Transit Facility Construction Clauses (which will be added to WAG's contract).
2. Architect's Certification: Compliance with minimum standards for accessibility by the physically handicapped.

REFUND ON PROPERTY TAX OVERPAYMENT

A suggested \$1,667.59 refund to Doug Demarest on re-adjusted taxes approved by the Department of Revenue was discussed. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve the payment of this refund. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The refund check was issued on this above stated date.

GRAVEL TO C-J-I SCHOOLS

Per previous discussion with Superintendent of Schools Cal Moore, the Commissioner's agreed to provide approximately 40 yards of gravel at \$7.27/yard for the school parking lot. Shawn's crew will handle this as soon as possible, including grading it out. It was also agreed that the County will deliver some pit-run to the area around the bus-barn on the school grounds.

RESOLUTION #10-07

MILL LEVY BALLOT ISSUE

The Commissioner's worked with County Attorney Hugh Brown to establish the verbiage on the resolution calling for a Mill Levy Election for the Liberty County Senior Citizens Transportation & Activities Funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel to adopt the following resolution and place this levy on the Primary Election ballot. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION #10-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE LIBERTY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CALLING FOR A MILL LEVIES ELECTION FOR THE LIBERTY COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION FUND AND ACTIVITIES FUND

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-2527(5), Mont. Code Ann. provides that a Board of County Commissioners may annually fix and levy a tax upon all property within the county to operate county-owned or county-operated senior citizens and persons with disabilities transportation programs as provided in Sec. 7-14-111; and,

WHEREAS, the Liberty County Senior Citizen Transportation Program operates a senior transportation program; and,

WHEREAS, in order to continue to provide this service to the community, Liberty County Senior Citizens Transportation Program must have additional revenue per year through 2018 to meet its financial obligations; and,

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-2527(8), Mont. Code Ann. provides that a Board of County Commissioners may annually fix and levy a tax upon all property within the county to provide for recreational, educational and other activities of the elderly as provided in Sec. 7-16-101; and,

WHEREAS, the Liberty County Senior Citizens Activities Program operates out of the property owned by Liberty County; and,

WHEREAS, in order to continue to provide these services to the community, the Liberty County Senior Citizens Program must have additional revenue per year through 2018 to meet its financial obligations; and,

WHEREAS, the voters of Liberty County approved the prior mill levy request and this is a continuation of said mill levy request;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following mill levy request shall be placed on the ballot for election by the registered voters of Liberty County:

Senior Citizens Transportation and Activities Mill Levies

Shall the county governing body be authorized to continue to expend the sum of \$45,000 per year and continue to make a special levy (approximately 6.25 mills) in addition to the regular levy of 3.14 mills to fund continued operation of Senior Citizen services including congregate meals, home delivered meals and other activities; and to expend the sum of \$55,000 per year and continue to make a special levy (approximately 7.64 mills) in addition to the original levy of 1.41 mills to fund the continued operation of services for the senior citizen and persons with disabilities transportation program? These funds (totaling \$100,000) will be used for both operating and capital needs. Passage of this proposal (continuing the increase of approximately 13.89 mills over the original mill levies) will continue the currently increased taxes of approximately \$40.71 per year (\$3.39 per month) on a home with a market value of \$100,000 and approximately \$81.40 per year (\$6.78 per month) on a home with a market value of \$200,000, for an additional six years beyond the six-year levy passed in 2006 to 2018.

- For the continued levies
Against the continued levies

DATED AND PASSED FOR FINAL ADOPTION This 10th day of March, 2010.

[Signature]
Liberty County Commissioner

[Signature]
Liberty County Commissioner

ATTEST: [Signature]
Clerk

[Signature]
Liberty County Commissioner

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The "Yearly Certification of Roadway Mileage" (fuel tax certification) was mailed to the Commissioners for approval. The motion was made by Commissioner Russ Tempel to sign the certification. Commissioner Rlynn Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

One copy of the map and certification form was signed and mailed back to the MT Department of Transportation.

MILL LEVY BALLOT ISSUE -- SOIL CONSERVATION

Rod Oraw offered a resolution calling for a Special Administration Assessment for the Liberty County Conservation District (Board of Supervisors), and asked that this special levy be placed on the Primary Election Ballot. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Commissioner Tempel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried.

EMS

1. Commissioner Rockman spoke with Yvonne Hunnewell about possible CPR / First Aide Training for County employees. The transit bus drivers are up for renewal. They also visited about the road crew and deputies. Yvonne can probably organize some training in mid-April.
2. The Ambulance department is presently researching the purchase of a "bear hugger", which is a mattress-type warming unit for hypothermic patients.
3. Yvonne is aware that James Dahlen is the County's new maintenance director at the Firehall and looks forward to working with him.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

March 16th, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

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

DPHHS

Alou Hornek was in to visit with the Commissioners about the substance abuse grant. She is working on having it completed by next week. A meeting was scheduled with New Horizons on April 6th, 2010.

AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Commissioner Hendrickson met with the Airport Board and Bill Burkeland of Robert Peccia and Associates Engineering firm (RPA), on Monday, March 15th, 2010, to discuss improvements at the airport. The plan is to resurface the runway, rehabilitate the taxiways, and reconstruct several aprons at the airport this fall. Total project will be about \$1.2 million with a 5% Liberty County match (approximately \$51,000).

The motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to approve the airport project and approve two agreements for the transfer of federal aviation money. The motion carried. The details of the transfer of entitlement funds are as follows:

- A. \$293,550 from Jordan Airport in Garfield County
- B. \$97,850 from Wokal Field at Glasgow International Airport in Valley County

Liberty County's future federal aviation and administration money will be refunded to these two entities. The forms were signed and mailed to RPA.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss current road issues. The crushed gravel pile is now gone, but there is enough gravel saved to complete the roads in Joplin.

The group discussed the upcoming KEARL Project, a \$7 billion USD oil project planned in NE Alberta. A potential issue is the transport of heavy, oversized modules through Toole County and the effect on roads and safety. Shawn attended a meeting in Toole County regarding this project.

Commissioner Hendrickson will present a short "welcoming address" at the MACRS convention on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 per Shawn's request.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Hugh Brown was in to go over a couple of things with the County Commissioners:

1. Attorney Brown signed the Airport transfer of federal aviation money agreements.
2. Attorney Brown provided a letter to the Commissioners regarding the Ronald Weimer unemployment benefits negotiations with the State of Utah.

EXTENSION AGENT

The County Extension Agent was in to update the Commissioners. The gopher demonstration is set for 9:00 AM on Tuesday, March 23rd, 2010 at Kurt Kammerzell's farm. Jesse also wanted to let the Commissioners know that he has agreed to serve on the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce Board.

GEO-TECH REPORT

The Commissioners reviewed the Geo-Tech evaluations from SK Geo-Tech regarding the new Senior Center project. Four sites were bored at depths of 15 ½ to 25 ½ feet. Groundwater was discovered in two sites at 11 feet down. The summary of the recommendations indicate that compacted structural fill is advisable. A copy of this report was given to Rod Keith.

SWEETGRASS LODGE

Commissioner Rockman attended the annual meeting of the Sweetgrass Lodge. Highlights of interest:

1. The facility cost approximately \$1.2 million in 1979;
2. Since then, they have spent approximately \$1 million in improvement and maintenance;
3. Their newest addition is the 2nd duplex, which was completed this past year at a cost of \$194,000 (about \$100 / sq.ft);
4. Planned projects include sidewalk construction and repair, roof repair, and possibly moving the existing fireplace.

MACO SAFETY REVIEW

On Monday, March 15th, 2010, Commissioner Rockman met with Emelia McEwen from MACO and Insurance Agent Tina Wood for the yearly evaluation.

Suggestions included the following:

1. Complete more detailed JSA's;
2. Have each department address their "high risk" issues;
3. Annual inspections of all departments are recommended;
4. Thorough reporting of safety incidents and follow-up's are recommended (Emelia will send us a questionnaire form);
5. Identify all hazardous chemicals in each department;
6. The County must write our own program for blood-borne pathogens;
7. Emelia suggested a "spreadsheet" for "training exercises" and building / equipment maintenance.

COUNTY COMPUTERS / TECHNOLOGY

Per the Commissioner's request Kyle Cicon was in to discuss a "back-up" system for the computers at the courthouse. After discussing several options, the Commissioners approved the purchase of a Buffalo Tech 1TB Tero Station Duo-Single Drive for about \$335, software for \$30-\$50, battery for \$40, and installation labor 3-4 hours. This back-up unit will be housed at the County Library.

NOMURA RESEARCH INSTITUTE AMERICA

The Commissioners received written correspondence and telephone calls from NRI, who is interested in investing in small wind turbines (manufactured in Asia). These particular generators are 20-100 kilowatts as compared to the County's current generator at the County shop, which is a 10 kilowatt unit. Contact person is Bonnie Kortrey. (For the record, the single turbine at the County shop generated 7,672 kilowatt hours from March 2009 through March 2010.)

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

Scott Patera came in to say that there will be an increase of approximately 5% in both gas and electricity in this coming fiscal year. He also explained how "demand" affects the rates. Current fees are approximately 10¢ / kwh.

MACO HEALTHCARE TRUST

Owen Voigt from MACo HealthCare Trust was in to visit with the County Commissioners and the Health Insurance Committee regarding their health insurance plan. Present for the meeting in addition to the Commissioners were: Gayle Dahlen, Sheila Duncan, Teresa Fenger, Anne Seidlitz-Melton, Cyndee Fraser, and Scott Ross. Owen explained to the group that the Health Care Trust began in May of 2005 and that there are presently 27 counties that are members in the Trust that is governed by a 6 member board. The Trust can offer to the employees a minimum of 3 different plans, and they will allow the current deductibles and out-of-pockets to transfer from the current plan if we decide to switch. Owen detailed for the group the many things his insurance can offer, and the many things that should be considered when purchasing health insurance.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

March 23rd, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

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

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Scott Decker from the Hill County Water District came in to discuss the district's long term improvement plans. They are seeking grants for these improvements, which involves water conservation and tracking usage through metering. Because Joplin is part of the water district, Scott asked the Commissioners to offer a letter of support. The Commissioners agreed, and the letter was composed and mailed to Scott later on this date.

ELECTION / CANDIDATE ISSUE

Commissioners Hendrickson and Rockman visited with Hugh Brown about Cliff Wickum, who has filed for District #2, Liberty County Commissioner. Per MCA 7-4-2104, a person may not be elected as a member of a board of County Commissioners unless the person has resided in the county and the district for at least two years prior to the general election. It is recognized that Mr. Wickum has property and a house in District #2, but it is contended that he actually resides in District #1 and is a registered voter in District #1. Telephone calls were made to the Secretary of State's Office and MACo (Jack Holstrom) for additional advice on how to address this potential issue.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Rick Malta came in to discuss the two new planned shelters. The BOR needs the following information:

1. What is the value of our in-kind services;
2. How much will Liberty County contribute; and
3. The Commissioners will need to select two sites for these shelters.

Liberty County will need to spend this money to satisfy FERC per suggestion via Mike LaFrentz.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The gravel work in Joplin will be completed today. Shawn also reported that the new trailer works good. The group discussed the applications received for the road crew position, and a cattle-guard issue was also discussed.

CATTLE GUARD CONSIDERATION

Jim Fritz came in to discuss possible installation of a cattle guard on the Spring Road north of Highway 2 (just north of Frank Hemmer's). He will provide the cattle guard if the County will install it. Mr. Fritz will also extend the fence line to the cattle guard and maintain it. He hopes to make this land his annual spring pasture beginning around April 20th. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to install the cattle guard. Shawn Norick will get the GPS reading, obtain a digging permit, complete an agreement form with Mr. Fritz and schedule the job.

FRITZ CONSIGNMENT SALE

Jim Fritz asked for permission to use the county yards for their annual sale on May 22nd. They will sell any old county equipment at zero commission in exchange for use of the yards.

C-J-I SCHOOLS

Cal Moore stopped in to ask for two more loads of pit-run for the C-J-I parking lot area. The group also visited about the HRDC work program for students. Mr. Moore has a few candidates in mind. The Commissioners will contact HRDC.

PAYROLL

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

Robert Pugsley stopped in to share important facts regarding the Conservation District in support of the upcoming special levy request.

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to declare obsolete the cook stove/oven at Liberty County Medical Center and the Public Health lap top computer. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

DNRC

The Commissioners participated in a telephone conference call with Marv Cross, Civil Engineer specialist from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. He explained the flood plain issue with the new Senior Center. His recommendation is to use the farthest east lots to build on and leave the west lots for parking. He further recommends adding fill dirt to bring the building site up two feet over the flood plain level to include a 15 foot distance from all sides of the building edges.

PERSONNEL ISSUE

Jack Holstrom of MACo was telephoned regarding a current personnel issue.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

March 23rd, 2010 ♦ Tuesday evening

- Commissioner Rockman attended the Chester Rotary meeting held Tuesday evening to report on the progress of Senior Center building project. He presented the group with the proposed architectural sketches and funding resources.

March 24th, 2010 ♦ Wednesday

- Jim Ghekiere notified the Commissioners that he applied for a grant for several Fire Department radios.
- Shawn Norick inspected the cattle-guard spot near Lothair. The County will most likely proceed with this project as discussed on March 23rd, 2010.
- Betty Marshall stopped in to discuss Museum issues. The Museum Board met on March 23rd, 2010. They are loosing a few of their regular summer workers. They would be happy to get a few younger workers through the HRDC program. The Museum will officially open the week of May 23rd.

March 29th, 2010 ♦ Monday

- Commissioners Hendrickson and Rockman attended the District DES meeting at the Liberty County Firehall from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The meeting was presented by Ken Mesch and Judy from the state office and Ed Gherke the District representative. Approximately 25 area coordinators and commissioners attended to obtain updates in the EMPG grant process. Grant applications are due May 30th, 2010 for fiscal year 2011. The Liberty County Commissioners and the Toole County Commissioners will meet with Ed Gherke and Darrell Stafford on May 5th, in Shelby to finalize our applications.

March 30th, 2010 ♦ Tuesday

There was no official business conducted on this above stated regularly scheduled meeting date, as the three Commissioners were in attendance at the annual MACRS conference in Great Falls.

Commissioner Hendrickson offered a "welcoming address" at the conference on behalf of MACR's outgoing president, Shawn Norick.

- Commissioner Rockman attended the local R-C Airplane Club meeting as a guest on the evening of the above stated date. He was present to update them on the Airport renovations planned for this Summer / early Fall. They are trying to re-vitalize their club and were hoping to update their R-C airport for club use, boyscout derby races, bicycle safety classes, and other community needs.

April 1st, 2010 ♦ Thursday

Commissioner Rockman attended a Cemetery Board meeting on the above stated date. No pressing issues were discussed. Terry Thielman is getting the equipment ready for spring work.