

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

COMP TIME

There was a request for a transfer of comp time between two employees. The policy manual does not allow that to happen.

LEPC

The Commissioners attended the LEPC meeting at the firehall. Barb Beck presented a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

The hospital van was viewed by the Commissioners and was declared obsolete. The Senior Center has an extra computer that was declared obsolete.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Tempel made a motion to approve for payment the current county payroll. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

3200 ROAD SOUTH

Buck Dahlin inquired about getting 3200 Road South reshaped and graveled.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Pat Ludwig, Gary Jensen, Steven May, Mike Henke were in attendance at the monthly Council on Aging meeting. Mike and Steven showed drawings of the vestibule on the south side of the senior center. The group talked about some design aspects. Also discussed were the cemetery maps.

ROAD

The Commissioners filled out a Safety Performance History form for Shawn Norick and sent it to CHS.

JPT / EBMS

Gary Hablutzel was here to visit with the Commissioners about the annual renewal of the health insurance. There is to be a 6% increase if 70% attendance in the My Two Med program and the Commissioners agree to a 3 year commitment.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Tempel mad the motion to approve for payment the claims as they have been presented. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

EQUIPMENT BID

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to go out to bid for Road Graders. 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

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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.

#### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

We received the reimbursement check from the Bureau of Reclamation for road maintenance at Lake Elwell per agreement #R12AC60086 = \$11,475.91.

#### TRANSIT

We signed over the title on our oldest transit bus (1996 Ford truck, ~ 66,000 miles, vin 1FDKE30G25HCO8647) to the Havre Day Activity Center, Inc in Havre [% Garnet Bergren, CEO]. They provided 501-C-3 paperwork to satisfy our requests. We contacted Wood Insurance to cancel the insurance on this bus.

#### CEMETERY DISTRICT

We received \$35.00 from the Juvenile Probation Office for restitution by the vandals of cemetery property: R.D.= \$10 and J.D.= \$25. The information was sent to the cemetery secretary, Rachel Ghekiere. Additional note: we sold the old cemetery pickup via sealed bids for \$551.01, and these funds were deposited in the cemetery district.

#### OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Liberty Medical Center requested that two items be declared obsolete: 1. An old bathtub recently removed from the Wheat Country Estates; and 2. 1980's van that is in poor condition. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to declare these items obsolete. The motion carried.

#### ROAD CROSSING PERMITS

Kent Matkin was in to discuss a water pipeline project on a 1 ½ mile stretch of roadway near Pugsley Ranch. Two road crossing permits were approved by motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried.

1. Twp. 29 N., Range 5 E, Section 9
2. Twp. 29 N., Range 5 E, Section 10

Size of line = 1 ½" at 6' depth. Kent also plans to eliminate an old 14' cattle guard and install a new 24' at a different location.

#### SAFETY TRAINING

On 3-28-2013 Glenda Hanson and Rhonda Rocks attended a 4-hour "defensive driving course" in Shelby. Glenda also attended a 4-hour class on "Supervising for Success and Safety" that same day. We sent copies of their certificates to Wood Enterprises for insurance discounts and MACo requirements.

#### CONCERNED CITIZEN

Karen Hadford stopped in to offer continued displeasure for the parking arrangement of the Cliff Nelson equipment on the streets of Joplin. She feels it's a safety issue. She has found a surveyor who is willing to document the street boundaries.

**ROAD CROSSING PERMITS**

Elvin Sundgren was in to get permission to cross two Liberty County roads with water lines:

- 1. Twp. 34N., Range 7E, Section 29, 2000 South
- 2. Twp. 34N, Range 7E, Section 29, 2200 South Bison Road

A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried to approve the two crossings.

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Gail Cicon asked Liberty County to sign an Application for Administrative Grant through the DNRC. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried to sign the grant.

**ROAD SUPERVISOR POSITION**

The Commissioners interviewed two applicants for the job vacancy as road supervisor. An additional interview is still planned.

**LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE**

Undersheriff Doug Riggan stopped in to report that one of our prisoners being housed in Fort Benton allegedly tripped in his cell and injured his wrist. It required multiple medical treatments, which we will more than likely be billed. This prisoner, Justice Wharton, will be sentenced soon. He also has convictions from Hill and Lewis & Clark counties.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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.

AIRPORT INSURANCE

We received a new insurance quote from N.W. Insurance Group. Recommendations are to increase the liability limits from \$1 million to \$2 million at a yearly premium increase from \$150 to \$250; most airports are at \$5 million limits. We discussed this with Jim Briden and decided to go with the \$2 million limits and not pay the additional "terrorist" clause. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Tempel to accept the quote by Chartis Insurance Company at an annual \$2,000 premium for \$2 million limits. The motion carried.

AIRPORT BUSINESS

1. The EMS & Liberty County Sheriff's Office have requested a night light at the airport for air-ambulance transfers and general security near the buildings and loading pad. During our recent airport revamp project, we installed a few electrical lines / boxes for future use. We will get an electrician to provide this requested lighting.
2. Blaine Meissner has resigned from the Airport Board. Jim Briden made a recommendation that we replace him with Tyrel Hendrickson, who has an active business at the airport and is involved in airport related issues. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, (Commissioner Hendrickson abstained from voting), to appoint Tyrel to the Airport Board. The motion carried. The current Airport Board is Jim Briden, Joe Minnehan, and Tyrel Hendrickson.

CDBG / SENIOR CENTER

We received notification from the Montana Department of Commerce that the CDBG grant of \$450,000 has been finalized / certified. A requirement is that we must keep all records available through March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Glenda Hanson was notified.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters were sent to Blaine Meissner and Tyrel Hendrickson regarding the airport board.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to approve for payment the claims for this month. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to renew the health insurance contract with JPT. We will be extending one more year (3 year total commitment), 6% increase in premium. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Option 4 accepted.

NEW CEO AT LIBERTY MEDICAL CENTER

After several months and numerous interviews, the Liberty Medical Center Board hired a new CEO, Dustin Ahrens, a young man just finishing college (and formerly of the Shelby area). He starts the position in May.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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.

#### SENIOR CENTER

Last Thursday (4-11-13), the Center experienced various electrical problems in the kitchen area. Several outlets do not work at present, but breakers do. The electrician has yet to respond, so the Commissioners will do a quick check for reset mechanisms.

#### DOWNING, DENNING & ASSOCIATES

Christa Schallock, auditor, is here in Liberty County doing updates / reviews (completing the 2012 audit) on our accounting system. She interviewed the Commissioners about potential fraud within our system. None was found or suspected.

#### CLAIMS

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

#### SALARIES

County payroll was submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel to approve for payment all current salaries. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

#### ROAD SUPERVISOR POSITION

We re-met with applicant, Marc Holmes, to discuss a few philosophies and questions about supervisory skills and ideas about improving production and morale, etc. at the road department. On the basis of Marc's interview and positive input, we offered him the road supervisor's position as follows:

1. Starting salary = \$38,000/year or \$18.27/hour;
2. At the end of a positive 6 month probationary period, we will add 50¢ per hour;
3. At the end of a positive 1 year probationary period, we will add another 50¢ per hour and make it a permanent position;
4. Employee will be eligible to any cost-of living increases that occur during this time period;
5. Employee will be paid for legal holidays per usual [8 hours holiday pay + 2 hours of vacation or comp time used = 10 hour day]; and
6. Employee will assume the position tomorrow morning [April 17<sup>th</sup>].

#### CORRESPONDENCE TO MONTANA DES

We sent a letter to Sheri Lanz (via FAX), explaining our elevation/flood insurance issues re: the lake shelters; and requesting our final reimbursement from FEMA.

#### EXIT AUDIT

Christa Schallock returned for an exit audit. Everything looks good with two simple recommendations (findings):

1. Incoming / reimburseable funds should be deposited directly into the account it is intended for, rather than the originating account with documentation before transfer to a second fund [ex: FEMA refunds to the Road Dept]; and;
2. The Library Espresso Bar should document all receipts and expenditures through "normal" business practices and make timely deposits at the Treasurer's Office.

**GRADER SALE**

We did finalize the sale of the 1989 G-140 Caterpillar motorgrader (AKA: "Golden Girl") to the Blaine/Hill County Sanitation Department. In late March we received the payment check for \$75,000. [vin#72V12260].

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

A public social hour was held today at the Liberty Community Center to recognize Yvonne Hunnewell [28 years in EMS, many as director] and Dallas Denter [42 years in Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service] in their recent retirement. Many of their fellow volunteers attended with about 100 other public friends. The Commissioners made accolades and introductions. Gifts and plaques were awarded, and cake and ice cream were served.

**WEED DEPARTMENT**

Jim Ghekiere was in to discuss weed issues. BOR Grant = \$71,500 and BLM Grant = \$50,000 + MRLE Noxious Weed Grant = \$31,900 have been awarded. Jim has just one job applicant to date for summer help; he's looking for two workers.

**OUT-OF-STATE**

Holly Frederickson asked for permission to be out-of-state this weekend (Spokane, WA). A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to grant permission. 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

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ♦ Wednesday

ROAD SUPERVISOR

The three Commissioners met with the road crew and weed department this morning to officially announce the hiring of Marc Holmes as the new road supervisor. While there, we updated them on upcoming grader bids, health insurance increases, PERS issues, etc.

KENFIELD WIND FARMS

We met with John Brown and Corey Juhl of "Juhl Wind" and Tim Kenfield of Kenfield Farms, who provided updates on the wind farm project:

1. 20-megawatt project;
2. Contracts being prepared with NW Energy (1 of 2 finalists);
3. Underground wire (3 ½' deep), is now preferred to overhead transmission;
4. Need firm rate for taxable expenses via proposals from Public Service Commission and Liberty County; this may be centrally assessed by the DOR (established first five years at about \$75,000, then increased to about \$150,000);
5. 11-12 turbines at 1.5 to 1.8 megawatts each (via GE)
6. If everything goes as planned, they hope to start construction this summer; and
7. They will use local resources / business, when possible.

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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.

#### DES TRAINING

Liberty and Toole Counties attended an 8-hour training exercise [Coop-Cog 3.5] at the firehall in Chester on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 25 people attended, including area DES personnel, and the program was instructed by Ed Gerke.

#### EMS

Commissioner Hendrickson attended the monthly EMS meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Monthly training was on gunshot wounds. Current qualified EMS instructors are Yvonne, Tara, Ann VanDessel, Steve, and Denise.

#### BOARD OF HEALTH

The Liberty County Board of Health met on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Highlights:

1. Dr. Young reported on a new formulation for flu shots next year;
2. Dr. Young and Penny Walston will establish a new protocol on communicable disease reporting;
3. Karen Salo reported that Western Lumber is getting a toilet. In addition, there are sewer / water issues on the elevators on Highway 2 in Chester;
4. Lynda VandeSandt reported on anti-tobacco funding and new complaint procedures for indoor smoking violations.

#### LIBERTY MEDICAL CENTER

Commissioner Hendrickson attended the monthly LMC Board meeting. The new CEO starts the second week in May. The board examined the "LMC Annual Program Review" documents. There was discussion about the Wheat Country Estates residents (some of whom require more care than the admittance requirements).

#### LATE CLAIM

A late claim by the road department (due to Shawn Norick's departure) was submitted by Power Plan for \$412.95. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to pay this claim. The motion carried.

#### COMPUTER UPDATE

The computer bid package from Morrison-Maierle Systems was reviewed by the commissioners. This equipment will be used by the Clerk & Recorder and the Extension Offices. Total cost = around \$2,000 (research shows the bid is very competitive). A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to approve the purchase of this equipment. The motion carried.

#### SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson was in to update us on Center issues. An electrician is coming next week to address the motors in the serving doors. Delbert Anderson is presently taking "safe driving classes" in Missoula. Glenda will be attending Transit Association meetings in Missoula this Wednesday through Friday.



ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. He’s been organizing his office and familiarizing himself with necessary paperwork. The road crew, in general, is accepting of his new role. Marc has organized and “improvement plan” for several employees who need some direction on certain tasks. We discussed a few project priorities that need to be addressed ASAP.

BID OPENING – MOTOR GRADERS

Per required publications / advertising, we had an official bid opening today at 1:00 PM for request of 1 to 3 new motorgraders on a lease program. We opened two company bids as follows:

1. T & E Co. = Three 2012 Caterpillar 160M2AWD are priced at \$315,781 each; available immediately; 2.6% interest rate; Exceptions to spec include: has no cross-slope, has accu-grade ready, has 16’ mold board, and has additional hydraulics on front of machine; repurchase prices are 1-36 months (\$241,985), 37-48 months (\$219,986), and 48-60 months (\$197,987).
2. T & E Co. = Three 2013 Caterpillar 160M2AWD are priced at \$319,749 each; available on or before 10-1-2013; 2.6% interest rate; no exceptions to specs; 14’ mold board; repurchase prices are 1-36 months (\$244,232), 37-48 months (\$222,029), and 48-60 months (\$199,826).
3. RDO Equipment Co. = Three 2013 John Deere 872GP priced at \$307,750 each; delivery date is 100 days from purchase; 3.8% interest rate; no exceptions to specs; 14’ mold board; repurchase prices 1-36 months (\$261,300), 37-48 months (\$236,200), and 48-60 months (\$211,000).
4. Trade-in prices quoted for two motorgraders presently owned/offered by Liberty County for sale:
  - a. 1999 Caterpillar 140H, serial #27K03927=\$85,000 [T&E] and \$84,500 [RDO].
  - b. 2002 Caterpillar 140H serial #27K07527=\$101,000 [T&E] and \$98,500 [RDO].
5. Liberty County is also prepared to apply a \$75,000 cash down payment (the money obtained from the sale of our “Golden Girl” to Blaine County).

Conclusion: Both companies will plug these figures into a lease program for terms of 3,4, and 5 years.

TAX APPEAL BOARD

Bob Mattson stopped in to inform us that he would like to resign from the Tax Appeal Board due to his age and medical issues. He will give us an official letter.

PERMISSION TO BE OUT OF STATE

Commissioner Rockman asked permission to be out of state. Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to grant permission, and Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion. 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

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson and Commissioner Russ Tempel. Chairman Rlynn Rockman was present by telephone.

EXTENSION

Jesse updated us on what is happening in the fair. We talked about the upcoming cropping issues.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve the payroll as is presented. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jason Wanken, James Dahlen, and Jim Ghekiere were in to discuss an issue with a fireman that came up. The group talked about how to deal with it.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Both Tractor & Equipment and RDO presented their lease proposals, and both will be taken under consideration.

CEMETERY MAPPING

Pat Ludwig was in to update us on the cemetery mapping. She has a template to look at. She will progress with the plan.

GIS GRANT

Gail Shatkus updated us on the grant. She may have to scale back to get the grant.

MUSEUM

Commissioner Tempel and Commissioner Hendrickson attended the meeting.

JOPLIN ROAD ISSUE

Commissioner Tempel and Commissioner Hendrickson drove to Joplin to examine the road issue regarding continued complaint by Karen Hadford about equipment blocking/obstructing roadways. A letter will be written to Karen about our conclusions.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman