

May 1st, 2012 ♦ 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.

PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS

The current payroll deductions (withholdings) were paid.

DES

Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Tempel attended a planning meeting for a future "disaster drill" at Wheat Country Estates. Liberty Medical Center and Penny Walston will participate in this exercise to receive "credit" in their perspective programs

ROAD CROSSING

An application for permission to cross a Liberty County road (Dugout Road, near Dayton Kolstad's lane at GPS 48.176339-111.173616) by the Tiber County Water District was offered for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to approve this crossing. A drawing was attached.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The crew are all grading today. A new culvert (6') has been ordered for replacement at the Liberty / Chouteau County line; Chouteau County will install. Fabric has been ordered for the BOR project at the boat ramp. We discussed the Railroad crossing to EGT; repairs are needed.

LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFF

Sheriff Burrows stopped in to express his disdain for the city contract in the belief that the \$60,000 agreement is \$7,000 less than previous years. We explained that this Interlocal contract is the same as the one signed three years ago.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Julie Gagnon stopped in to update us on the website. She also asked if she could work on occasion (if needed) at the library, and how this might affect her benefits.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE STATE

May 23rd – 27th, Commissioner Hendrickson plans to be out-of-state at a family function. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to grant Commissioner Hendrickson permission to be out-of-state during these days.

CTEP

We met with Jeremy Siemens, Krystal Steinmetz, Greg May, Don Parsons (MDT liaison), Bob Mattson, and Lynda VandeSandt to discuss the necessary CTEP paperwork to get this project started. All parties concerned signed the contract.

CHIPPEWA CREE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Tom Montgomery of the Chippewa Cree Construction Company came in to discuss additional road crossings on the Rocky Boy Water Project. Shawn will forward permits and special "slurry" fill requirements. We also reminded Tom that their previous work on the Osterman crossing is not satisfactory regarding gravel replacement and repair.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

May 2nd, 2012 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel.

KENFIELD WIND FARM

Commissioner Tempel did some research for Bret Kenfield by calling Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and several bird biologists to obtain records regarding bird activity at Kenfield’s wind farm. There is a request for documentation of birds in the future site of the wind farm.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

BOR was notified that Greg May plans to begin re-building the shelters at Lake Elwell in the next two weeks. BOR wants to be there when Greg moves the one shelter that survived the flooding.

CLAIMS

A single claim for Coroner’s training fees was submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to pay the claim.

PAYROLL

County payroll was submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to pay current county salaries as submitted.

MARIAS RIVER MANAGEMENT

The MRM committee of 8 members met with the following reports:

1. Liberty County Weed Department (Jim Ghekiere):
 - a. A BOR weed grant was awarded for \$27,700 of which \$10,000 will be used on the Liberty County BOR land, \$10,000 will be used on Toole County BOR Land, and the remaining \$7,700 will be used on the Meissner / Pugsley river areas.
 - b. A DNRC Aquatics monitoring grant was awarded for \$7,000 (to be used at Lake Elwell in late July / early August to check for weed growth at lake’s edge.
 - c. A BLM funded grant was approved for \$80,000 of which \$65,000 will go locally for noxious weed and Russian Olive control and \$15,000 is “pass through” money that will go to a special Wyoming Russian Olive test project.
2. BOR updated (Mike LaFrentz & Mike H.):
 - a. Lake Elwell’s maximum elevation in 2011 was \$3,011.42 (during our flooding crisis).
 - b. Tiber Dam (built 1952-56) has prevented over \$234 million in flood damages.
 - c. Their goals in 2012 are to restore the flooded areas, including seeding those affected areas above elevation 2993, aggressive weed control, and repair of damaged ramps, shelters, facilities, and furnishings.
3. A pictorial presentation of before and after shots of affected areas, including destruction of vegetation and shelter belts, weed manifestation, and property damages was shown. Questions, complaints, and suggestions were shared by those present.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

May 8th, 2012 ♦ 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.

CEMETERY BOARD

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly cemetery board meeting on April 6th. Pre-Memorial Day work is being done. Ted would like a truckload of gravel at the Southwest corner of the Joplin Cemetery so he can repair cemetery roads. Rlynn will contact the LDS church about their offer to provide a free public Memorial Day breakfast.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Rachel Ghekiere was in to discuss the Whitlash School. She recommended that we sign the isolation application for Whitlash Elementary School, so Commissioner Rockman made a motion, Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. This will give the school district three years to contact the OPI to reconsider reopening the school, if that becomes a possibility.

FIRE DISTRICT

Two reappointments to the West Liberty County Rural Fire District were offered for approval. The appointees are Steve Backen and Mark Engstrom for terms dated May 2012 to April 2015. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried.

MUSEUM BOARD

Commissioner Tempel attended the spring meeting of the Museum Board. The Liberty County Museum will officially open on May 19th. Greg Tilleman at HRD will be contacted to qualify Sue Layton in the "older worker" program.

TRI AGENCY DRUG FORCE

A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to approve and sign the annual agreement with the Tri-Agency Drug Force.

AMBULANCE / EMS

Commissioner Hendrickson attended the Liberty County DES / Ambulance training session on Monday evening, May 7th. The crew went to the EGT elevators to practice and evaluate future emergencies at this plant.

WEED BOARD

Commissioner Rockman attended the annual Liberty County Weed Board meeting on Wednesday evening, May 2nd (7:00 to 10:30pm). Many items were discussed, including budgets, grants, updates to the current weed plan, spray crew salaries, potential boat purchase, and an update on current equipment. The board made several recommendations regarding starting salaries, raises to existing employees, and the boat wish for the commissioner's consideration.

INVESTMENT FRAUD

Commissioner Rockman attended the "Investment Fraud" workshop put on by Monica Lindeen's office at the Senior Center on Thursday, May 3rd.

GAS & OIL FUNDS

The current county payment on "gas & oil" funds is approximately \$182,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried that we put these monies in the "Fulton" account (until such time we need to distribute these funds).

JPT

We communicated with Vern Petersen at JPT regarding the recent alert that a retired employee remained on the county medical insurance plan at reduced premium rate; however, we're being billed by JPT for that employee at the full premium rate. Vern's e-mail specifies that any previously reduced premiums for retirees were made in error and went undiscovered, so those are "water over the dam". The correct premiums will be billed / payed at the current non-Medicare eligible rates effective June 1, 2012. This is not a new JPT policy. Because of the confusion, JPT will "forgive" the additional premiums (the difference between the reduced premiums and the billed premiums) due since January 1st, 2012.

NOXIOUS WEED PLAN

The weed advisory board recently updated and revised the Noxious Weed Plan for Liberty County. Some of the changes dealt with organic farms, buffer zones, signs, and maps. The Commissioners approved the plan per motion by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried. We signed the plan and gave it to Jim Ghekiere.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson reported that one of the old chest freezers quit working and the Hobart upright is "acting up" (the temp. is 30°). Glenda called Ed VanEck to work on the Hobart. She got online and found a nice Sears upright freezer for \$760, which we approved.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. Rick Richter is willing to haul grave from the Wickum pit to his section of 1400 Road if we will provide the gravel & grade it. We agreed to provide 200 yards for that 1/2 mile section. Shawn's crew will deliver a load of gravel to the Joplin Cemetery as requested. Most county roads have been graded and are in good shape. The crew will be moving to the Meissner pit to begin work on the BOR project.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Council on Aging board meeting. The current balance in their special accounts is approximately \$83,100. The initial quote on the parking lot cement work / curbing is approximately \$50,000. The Council voted to approve the financing of this project. They did say that they might come to us later for partial funding of the planned canopy.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

May 9th, 2012 ♦ 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.

CLAIMS

The current county claims were submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, and the motion carried to pay all the current claims.

EXTENSION

Jesse Fulbright and Julie Gagnon brought in photos of the bridge at the 4-H Campground and the nearby deterioration of the creek beds and banks. There was also some damage (due to weather and age) to the picnic tables and playground equipment. We will consider "shoring up" the banks at the bridge site later this fall.

JPT INSURANCE

We discussed the new medical insurance rates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013, which are \$594.24 /month on option #4. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried to authorize the county contribution of \$592 / month / qualifying employees to be paid to JPT for the upcoming fiscal year.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Hendrickson sent an e-mail to Rob Crestwell of EGT, thanking him for the special EMS tour and his offer to purchase some medical equipment. We recommended a Brewer exam table for Liberty Medical Center.

POST ELECTION AUDIT

We placed calls to several citizens to assist with our upcoming post-election audit on June 13th at 9:00 am: Dana Lalum=OK; Mike Walstad=OK; Morb Wicks=can't; Betty Ann Wolery=can't.

LIBERTY COUNTY COMBINED FUND DRIVE

Liberty County Mental Health Board received \$616.71 from the annual combined fund drive. It was deposited today at BPCU account.

REHBERG REP

Mike Waite, area rep for Congressman Dennis Rehberg, stopped in to update us on Montana concerns.;

GATEWAY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Jennifer Ramberg of Gateway Services met with the three Commissioners and Rita Chvilicek (CJI Superintendent) to discuss her program. Jennifer is an informational specialist and teacher, not a counselor. Her office deals in prevention, mainly environmental, depending on each county's specific needs. She works with coalitions and task forces relating to alcohol and drugs. She says DUI & MIP task forces are definitely needed here. Liberty County provides \$5,000 / year to Gateway.

NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA RC & D

Gerald Smith, North Central RC&D, met with the Commissioners to discuss their program. They represent ten counties and are federally authorized. They did our fire plan about 3 years ago, so it will need updating in a few years. Their main programs are:

- 1. Young home buyers educational program, and
- 2. "Youth Build" program in Havre.

They recently gave \$5,000 to the CJI Industrial Arts program. Because of cutbacks in federal funding, their programs are suffering. They're asking each county to give \$300/year. Also, they would be more than happy to offer endorsement to any of our new projects!

After some discussion, Commissioner Rockman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, to authorize payment of \$300 to RC & D for present / future services to Liberty County. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #12-05

Hugh Brown provided a resolution requesting prosecutorial assistance from the Attorney General in an upcoming case of the State vs. Donald W. Pulst. Commissioner Rockman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to sign the resolution. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION
12-05

Whereas, the Liberty County Attorney has requested prosecutorial assistance in the case of State v. Donald W. Pulst, 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.

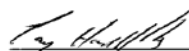
It Is Hereby Resolved:

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 9th day of May, 2012.


CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:


MEMBER


CLERK AND RECORDER


MEMBER

COMPLAINTS

We have received several complaints about the vehicles and machinery in Joplin that are blocking streets, parked on and beyond shoulders, causing safe visibility problems, and are generally a nuisance and unsightly. After discussion with the County Attorney, we composed a letter to the complainant, Cliff Nelson. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to send this warning. The motion carried. [A copy was forwarded to Karen Hadford at her request, and the original to Cliff Nelson on 5/15/2012].

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

May 15, 2012 ♦ 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.

WEED CREW SALARIES

The Commissioner's discussed the recommendations of the Weed Board regarding salary increases for their summer crews:

1. Wayne Wardell is currently at \$11.00/hour (since 2007) and Stan Huhtala is currently at \$10.00/hour. Both men are entitled to a 50-cent/hour raise as agreed for "returning employee" incentives. The Weed Board recommended salary adjustments as follows: \$13.00/hour for Wayne and \$12.00/hour for Stan. To keep in line with recent salary hikes, the commissioner's decided to give Wayne \$.50 (incentive) + \$.86 (standard), totaling \$12.36/hour and Stan \$.50 (incentive) + \$.86 (standard) totaling \$11.36/hour. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Tempel to approve these raises. The motion carried.
2. Starting wages for new weed crew workers is currently \$8.50/hour with a 50-cent/hour incentive if they pass the MDA applicators test. The Weed Board recommended salary adjustments as follows: \$9.50/hour + \$.50 (test incentive) + \$.50 (returning employee incentive). A motion by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to adjust the starting salary at \$9.50/hour + the two incentives (as recommended by the Weed Board). The motion carried.

CHESTER MAYOR

Noel Walston came in to inquire if the county would consider providing \$10,000 towards the operation of the local swimming pool. It costs about \$40,000 / year to operate the pool and the income from swimming passes, lessons, and donations is about \$10,000. If we chose to contribute, the fee schedule for "in-town" versus "out-of-town/country" would be the same.

HRDC MEETING

Commissioner Tempel attended the monthly HRDC meeting in Havre on May 10th.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick came in to discuss road issues. They're working on a culvert extension near Stewart's in south Liberty County. They got the alleyway done on the east side of the Senior Center. They're waiting to hear from the State regarding the BOR work.

Shawn was informed about the 310 permits (see below).

All of the road crew (except Charlie Thielman) completed the MSHA training.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Correspondence from the Extension office confirms via Ken Gagnon and Marlene Moon from the Liberty County Conservation District that our only perennial stream in Liberty County is the Marias River. Therefore, a 310 permit is not needed for erosion damage repairs to non-perennial streams (i.e., the one at the 4-H campground). Julie Gagnon stopped in to discuss our web-page and her probationary period.

NEW HORIZONS

Alou Horinek and Wanda Bennett from New Horizons came to explain their program(s). CJI Superintendent, Rita Chvilicek, also attended. Alou is the area dependency counselor, who handles mostly court-ordered DUI's, MIP's, and drug-related cases (past-offense). Alou doesn't do much in prevention, but is a strong believer in preventative programs; the "Prime for Life" program is a good one for grades 2 through 8 and is a 12-hour program. Liberty County provides \$4,700/year to New Horizons.

PAYROLL

Current county payroll was offered for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to pay current salaries as submitted. The motion carried.

FSA DOCUMENT

The county's land lease with Marty Lyders was confirmed with Commissioner Hendrickson's signature on a required FSA form. A motion by Commissioner Rockman was made, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to confirm the lease. The motion carried. The form was delivered to the FSA office.

RETIREMENT INSURANCE

The Commissioner's composed a letter to all employees regarding retirement and maintaining county medical insurance. The Commissioners referred to our "policy manual" and conversations with JPT agent, Vern Peterson. According to Vern, any billing errors or unconfirmed decisions made prior to June 1st, 2012 will be forgiven by JPT, but any premiums from that date on will be billed as recorded.

COURTHOUSE JANITOR

On 5-9-2012 Ruthann Norick gave her official verbal notice to resign as the county courthouse / library / senior center custodian effective June 2nd, 2012. We published a "help wanted" for this position to run in the TIMES on 5-16-12 and 5-23-12; applications close on 5-25-12.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

May 22nd, 2012 ♦ 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.

DPHHS

We received two copies of the Master Contract from DPHHS that specifies the scope of public health services by Liberty County. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried to sign the contract(s), which were forwarded to Kim Venetz on 5-29-2012.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

JPT is offering "wellness" health screening to qualifying county employees on June 7th, at the Liberty Community and Senior Center.

LAKE ELWELL SHELTERS

Greg May re-constructed the six damaged shelters at Lake Elwell near the Marina recently (ready for Memorial Day weekend). The two shelters south of Lothair will be finished in early June. Reportedly, there is enough material for one more shelter (not including cement and labor), so we may pursue this possibility.

The Commissioners and Shawn Norick took a road-trip to Lake Elwell to inspect the rebuilt shelters. In addition, we picked a few potential sites for one more.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The culvert job is done. The crew is replacing bits and working on equipment (including radios). Torgerson's called about our "lease" tractor, which is apparently a bigger unit than we need, but we won't refuse this "gift horse".

DNRC

Greg Archie, Dave Hamilton, and Erik Eneboe from DNRC stopped in for an annual visit. We invited Sheriff Burrows to the meeting also. The main items discussed:

1. There are 45 million acres of State Land to protect through the State-County coop program. DNRC provides equipment, training, and monetary resources;
2. If a fire has potential to being a serious problem, please call DNRC immediately for mutual aid. Their goal is to keep fires small;
3. All Stage-1 Restrictions must go through the Central Land Office in Helena (as opposed to Lewistown in the past).

RESOLUTION #12-06

County Attorney Hugh Brown offered a resolution authorizing prosecutorial assistance in District and Justice Court cases by Stephen Gannon, Fort Benton area attorney. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, to approve the resolution. The motion carried.

LIBERTY COUNTY, MONTANA
RESOLUTION 12-06

AUTHORIZING PROSECUTORIAL ASSISTANCE
IN DISTRICT AND JUSTICE COURT CASES

WHEREAS, the Liberty County Attorney has requested prosecutorial assistance in certain causes in Twelfth Judicial District Court, Liberty County, and/or Liberty County Justice Court as deemed necessary; and

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

WHEREAS, Montana Code Annotated §7-4-2705 authorizes the board of county commissioners to employ special counsel to assist in the prosecution of any such criminal case pending in the county on request of the county attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty County Attorney has requested that a special deputy county attorney be appointed to prosecute causes pending in the Twelfth Judicial District Court, Liberty County, and/or or the Liberty County Justice court; and

WHEREAS, STEPHEN GANNON, Chouteau County Attorney, has agreed to act as a Special Deputy Liberty County Attorney in pending causes;

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

That the Chouteau County Attorney, STEPHEN GANNON, shall be appointed a special deputy county attorney for Liberty County for the purpose of assisting in the prosecution of the pending causes and that he can fulfill the functions set out in Montana Code Annotated §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 special prosecutor of this case. Mileage will be paid at the current rate of \$.50 per mile. Witness fees and expense, jury costs and other normal costs associated with the trial will be the county's responsibility as with all other prosecutions.

Adopted this 22 day of May, 2012 as moved by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson and passed on a unanimous vote of the full board. Effective on passage and approval.

LIBERTY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Liberty County, Montana

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Vice-Chairman

ATTEST: [Signature]
RHONDA S. PIMLEY, Clerk & Recorder

[Signature]
Member

MEDICAL BILLING

Julie Erickson came to see us at our request. Julie presently handles the billing for our ambulance services. We are presently liking for a new mental health counselor and may request Julie to handle the billing for these services. She is more than willing to work with us when the time comes.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

May 29th, 2012 ♦ 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.

BOR

Mike LaFrentz and Mike Hilliard came to visit us regarding updates at Lake Elwell. This is the last week for public comment on the construction project at the Marina. They're happy with the shelters; we discussed locations for a new one. The BOR will contribute up to \$3,000 for the cement work.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. We had two broken windshields on equipment last week. Considering a gook moisture weekend, the roads held up very well. We had compliments on the recent grading of the Laird Road. The crew is blading today; Scott Ross is working at the pit. The Whitlash Road is in good shape, considering the damage done last fall with the construction projects. Work needs to be done on the adobes.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson was in to discuss center issues. We approved her to order another upright freezer. We discussed janitorial issues at the center, specifically, the cleaning after a lease agreement. We decided to increase the hall rental from \$35 to \$65 (which would include \$30 for janitorial expense). The renter is obligated to empty garbages and sweep the area, but there is still cleaning to be done (i.e., mopping the hall and disinfecting the restrooms). Lastly, Glenda has no one on her present staff who wants extra hours to do janitorial tasks.

COUNTY WEBSITE

Julie Gagnon was in to update us on our website. We made a few corrections to hours, wages, etc. and will continue to add photos and other information. She would like a short personalized story on all county officials and department heads.

NEW HORIZONS

Alou Horinek stopped in with additional information about addiction preventive programs. Statewide, there are eleven agencies that have about \$700,000 available. Our agency comprises Liberty, Cascade, Teton, Glacier, and Toole Counties. The director is Curt Weiler.

CJI INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Gail Shatkus came in to discuss an upcoming seminar in Madison, Wisconsin. She's been awarded a \$1,200 grant from RCND to attend; however, it will not cover all of the travel / lodging / food / fees. Because she graciously supervised the work on the Senior Center Memorial wall, we agreed to offer \$250 towards her travel and she will represent Liberty County at the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. MDT sent a letter to confirm the crack seal / chip seal job on Highway 2 from Lothair to the Hill County line and striping to a Two-Way-Left-Turn-Lane (TWLTL) at EGT elevator (Laird Road).
2. Toole County sent a letter that confirms our junk vehicle storage count at 84 vehicles X \$10/vehicle = \$840 due.

CENTRAL MONTANA RUSSELL COUNTRY

The three Liberty Count representatives to the Central Montana Russell Country board are Judy Tempel (expires 6-30-12), Betty Marshall (expires 2013), and Lynda VandeSandt (expires 2013). Judy is willing to serve another 3-year term. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to re-appoint Judy to the board. The motion carried, and the decision was e-mailed to Gayle Fisher.

PAYROLL

Current payroll was offered for consideration. A motion by Commissioner Tempel was made to pay employee salaries. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rockman, and the motion carried.

GAVILON

Paperwork dated 5-29-2012 confirms that the Gavilon Holdings LLC has been sold to Marubeni Corp for approximately \$3.6 billion.

NOXIOUS WEED TRUST FUND GRANT

Jim Ghekiere stopped in to discuss the N.W.T.F. Grant for \$27,770. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman, that we accept and sign this grant. The motion carried.

LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFF

We asked Sheriff Burrows to meet with us regarding Cliff Nelson’s equipment hazard in Joplin. Mr. Nelson has not contacted us nor made any effort to rectify the potential hazards that were addressed in our letter to him two weeks ago. Sheriff Burrows will follow up.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

May 30th, 2012 ♦ Wednesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in the office on the morning of the above stated date. Those present were: Chairman Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

GRAVEL REQUEST

Phil Nordstrom stopped in to ask if he could acquire some of the larger rocks and “sand” (the by-products of our screening at the Laas Pit). He needs this material to repair some of the private gas-well roads. Decision made was that the rocks will be free and the sand is \$2.00/yard. Shawn Norick was notified.

INTERVIEWS

The three commissioners interviewed two applicants for the county janitor / maintenance position to replace Ruthann Norick. We decided to hire both individuals, John Melton and Vern Holmes, at ¾ time each. We will decide on their roles, job descriptions, etc. Starting salaries = \$12.66 / hour plus 1-year probationary periods. We need some long overdue maintenance work done to our buildings.

WEATHER STATION

The weather camera on the roof of the courthouse is not working. Commissioner Hendrickson examined it; the wiring is bad and there’s probably moisture damage. The question is to replace it, or not replace it??