May 3rd, 2011 ♦ 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.

LEPC

The three Commissioners attended the monthly LEPC meeting with 8 other committee members, including Ben Ober and Dave Miller (Toole County Commissioners).
Highlights of the meeting:

Yvonne Hunnewell
1. The Liberty County Ambulance has made 54 runs since January 1st, 2011;
2. The Liberty County Ambulance personnel have visited the EGT elevator project for pre-planning / emergency issues;

Jim Ghekiere
3. Wideband contracts are probably going to be eliminated on their renewal dates; narrowband will be required;
4. The Senior Center Transit can apply for their own frequency at a reduced (government) license fee of $400;

Ron Gleason
5. Liberty Medical Center had 64 ER visits in the month of March (the busiest month ever in the hospital's history);
6. The FCHIP ("Frontier" hospital program) may come to fruition on 1-1-2012, which will be a great benefit to Liberty Medical Center.

LIBERTY COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

The Commissioner's made a walk-thru of the new center with the two Commissioners from Toole County. The State Building Inspector was there at that time.

TRIBUNE ARTICLE

On 5-1-2011 the Great Falls Tribune published an informative news article about the two new grain-loading elevators (based on information provided by the Commissioners).

PAYROLL

The current payroll was submitted. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, and seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to approve the payroll for payment. The motion carried.

CITIZEN VISIT

Tyler Streit stopped in to discuss potential road repairs / crowning / pit run delivery to one of his area roads.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

The Commissioners received only one application for the full-time / temporary job at the road department. Shawn interviewed the applicant, Scott Kyper, and made the hire effective as of May 2nd, 2011.

CEMETERY DISTRICT

The Commissioners received numerous applications for the Cemetery Sexton job at the Cemetery District. Following selected interviews, the Cemetery Board hired Ted Zorn to handle cemetery maintenance (effective May 3rd, 2011).

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly meeting on the Council on Aging. Substantial donations have been made to the new center for completion of alternate projects. Recent purchases by the Council on Aging include $8,753 for new tables and chairs and $2,580 for a new refrigerator.

FAA

The Commissioners examined a document from Bill Burkland (Peccia and Associates) from the FAA that specifies our airport has Existing Access from Residential Property (as defined in the FAA's policy). He requests that the Commissioners sign this form for their records. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to sign the document. The motion carried.

FRITZ AUCTIONS

The Commissioners received an agreement from Fritz Auction regarding their up-coming consignment auction at the county stockyards. They plan to use the grounds from May 24th to 28th; the agreement is a "hold harmless" contract for Liberty County. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, and Commissioner Rockman seconded it, to sign the contract. The motion carried.

AGRICULTURAL COVENANT

Hugh Brown brought in an Ag Covenant for the Commissioner's approval. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to approve this covenant. The motion carried. Hugh will bring the Commissioners a finalized copy.

SENIOR CENTER

Rod Keith came in to update the Commissioners on the permitting process at the new center. The State Fire Marshall plans to be there Thursday; if the fire system passes, then the State Building Inspector (who was there today) will sign-off on the building. The electrical inspector has already been there and will probably sign-off after the building is approved. The plumbing inspector found one simple defect and will contact the plumber. Rod Keith will visit with Bill at J&V regarding the continuing saga on the kitchen fan, hood, and thermostat.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere came in with the Sweetgrass Hills Weed Management Grant for approval. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to sign / approve this grant. The motion carried. The total compensation will be $22,938 from the MT Department of Agriculture. Jim Ghekiere also brought the Commissioners a map of the gas-tax roads as requested.

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Jim Ghekiere asked to retire a 1997 Artic Cat Bearcat 454, 4 WD ATV with a 41-gallon C-Dax sprayer. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to declare this ATV obsolete. The motion carried. Jim will call Fritz's for their consignment sale.

LIBERTY MEDICAL CENTER NURSES

Mary Jo Harmon and Kayla Johnson came in to discuss the County's EMT / Ambulance personnel situation. They appreciate the loyalty and hard work of these volunteers, but are worried about the shortage of ambulance staff (regarding a recent emergency). They also think there should be some compensation to those few who are always there!

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The County's loader tractor is presently in the shop for repairs. The screener will be ready to go very soon (hopefully next week). The Commissioners requested several specific road repairs due to the recent moisture.

SCHOOL ELECTION

Election Administrator Rhonda Pimley, her staff (Cyndee Fraser and Taylor Marshall), election judges (Carol Mattson and Deanna Hull), and three Commissioners tabulated the mail-in ballots for the C-J-I School election. The *unofficial* results are as follows:

ELEMENTARY LEVY	HIGH SCHOOL LEVY
For : 423	For : 454
Against: 304	Against: 311
Total Votes: 727	Total Votes: 765

Also present (representing the school) were Cal Moore, Steve Hamel, and Loren Hawks.

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 4th, 2011 ♦ 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.

FAA

Cal Moore asked if there was a decision on the FAA ruling at the Gavilon project. He had written a letter in support of mitigation.

BIDS ON OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

The Commissioners received one sealed bid on the obsolete generators at the county shop; the bid was for $50 each (bidder = Jerry Ghekiere). After discussion, we decided to keep the two best generators (one for the library and one for the senior center).

VALTRA TRACTOR

The Commissioners decided to put the newer Valtra tractor on "Craig's List" for sale at an asking price of $36,500.

MT TOBACCO PROGRAM

Lynda VandeSandt reported that the budget on the state level for tobacco prevention was essentially cut in half by the legislature. She will continue to run the program in Liberty County as best as she can.

CTEP

The Commissioners met with the CTEP committee including Krystal Steinmetz, Jeremy Seimens, Lynda VandeSandt, Bob Mattson, Noel Walston and Eric Munson to discuss the project's future. The recent and only bid was $177,100 by a Kalispell firm. After scrutinizing the specs, it was decided to revise the plans to propose an "open garage type" structure with trusses, metal siding / interior, adding to existing cement, minimal bonding, an approximately 30' X 30' building. Seimens will develop new plans / specs for $2,000 fee.

JPT / EBMS

The Commissioners met with the county medical insurance agents (Gary Hablutzel and Cindy Maxwell) to discuss upcoming rates and coverage. The following points were made:

1. Most other trusts are requesting double-digit percentage increases for the next fiscal year (i.e., MACo is at about 16% and Blue Cross about 20%);
2. Our trust had a great year and managed to put $2 million in reserves;
3. Good news: Our premiums will be going up only 2% for next fiscal year;
4. There will be a few positive changes to our "wellness" program and minimal fees for the use of generic drugs;
5. Two motivational items for potential savings:
    A. If we will guarantee a 3 year commitment to JPT, there will be 0% increase in this next fiscal year's premiums. If we agree to the 3 year deal, then break our commitment a year from now, we will be liable for any and all paid claims that are in excess of paid premiums; - and –
    B. If we can get 50% of our insured employees to attend our local Two Medicine training session, then we will get an additional 2% decrease in next Fiscal Year's premiums.

Items A and B above will total approximately $12,000 in premium reductions for next Fiscal Year (4% less).

6. The Commissioners have until May 31st to make these decisions;
7. They also explained our relationship with Benefis in Great Falls. Medical care there will not mean higher premiums or higher bill to us.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere will need a resolution (for grant use) that confirms the actual organizational date of the Weed Board. The Commissioners looked through old records that date it back to December of 1971, but no resolution could be found. The Commissioners will formulate one in the near future.

CLAIMS

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

EGT

Carl Mattson, Rob Cresswell and Brian Ko visited with the Commissioners. They had just toured Liberty and surrounding counties today. Road 2000, which runs from the Laird Road east to Kremlin, looks like a good source to EGT from the north Hill County producers, but will need some work. We also discussed some issues about employee medical insurance and a working relationship with our hospital and EMT personnel.

RESOLUTION 11-06

A resolution from Bear Paw Development requesting support of their first time homebuyer assistance program was offered for consideration. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-06

A RESOLUTION OF LIBERTY COUNTY, MONTANA, AGREEING TO PREPARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD FOR NEIGHBORWORKS MONTANA'S HOME GRANT APPLICATION FOR FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the NeighborWorks Montana has received Federal funds through the Montana Department of Commerce's HOME Investment Partnerships Program for First Time Homebuyer Assistance Program, which a portion will be used throughout Liberty County, Montana.

WHEREAS, subject to all necessary funding being received to permit the projects to go forward; and

WHEREAS, The HOME requires that the County designate an Environmental Certifying Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that **Liberty County** agrees by formal resolution to perform all activities associated with preparing the Environmental Review Record on behalf of NeighborWorks Montana and hereby appoints the Chair of the Commission as the Environmental Certifying Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above designation shall become effective on 5-5-11.

By Order of the Board of Liberty County commissioners meeting in Regular Session this 5 day of May, 2011 at Chester, Montana.

BOARD OF LIBERTY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CHESTER, MONTANA

Larry Hendrickson, Chair

Russ Tempel, Commissioner

Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner

ATTEST

Rhonda Pimbert
County Clerk and Recorder

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 10th, 2011 ♦ 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

Several department heads attended the monthly meeting with the Commissioners. Everyone reported "business as usual". We're still waiting for permits on the new Senior Center, so the official opening will be June 6th per Rodney. The Commissioners updated everyone on the medical insurance proposals and the two elevator projects.

ROAD APPROACH

The Commissioners received a "permission to construct a road approach" for Glen Stewart (for Norman Buffington) at the following location: west side of Broadhurst Road at the south-east corner of Section 12, T28N, and R4E. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to approve and sign the permission form. The motion carried.

GRAVEL PIT ZONING

Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to authorize a gravel pit zoning compliance for RMR Aggregate Inc at the Wickum Pit located at Section 8, T35N, R4E. Jim Ghekiere has completed a weed plan for this pit. The motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to update the Commissioners on spring work and road issues. The loader is being repaired (head gasket?) and won't be in service until next week. Roads to be addressed by the crew are Road 600 north of Vern Pimley's, Road 2100 near Carl Mattson's, and Tiber Road north near Laas'. In addition, the group discussed purchasing a new packer for the John Deere grader. A quote from LyCox Enterprises of Billings was $19,545 (less trade-in for our WR75 Walk'n'Roll = $5,000), for an adjusted purchase of $14,545. The Commissioners called Jerry Hettinger, at LyCox, who offered us a $500 discount with no trade.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to make the following appointments: Mark Evans to the Joplin Fire Rural District, and Dallas Denter to the West Chester Rural Fire District. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. MDR sent the Commissioners an application for transfer of ownership of the Joplin Bar & grill. The Commissioners called Karen Salo, who will follow-up on this paperwork.
2. The Commissioners received a bill from B & S Tree Trimming for services rendered at request of the Airport Commission to remove the trees at the Marvin Krook residence and at the east end of the runway. Total bill = $1,900.

MDOT

Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Rockman met with the MDOT (Wayne Noem and James Combs) on 5-5-11 to discuss future improvements to the Whitlash Road. The group drove to the Freight Road (approximately 8.8 miles north of Highway 2). Wayne was impressed with the good base and width of the Whitlash Road (with the exception of 1,000 feet of soft spots that may require special work). He will document a few proposals on a potential $6 million project, and then get back to the Commissioners. James discussed the turning lane issue on Highway 2 to the Gavilon loading facility. On 5-9-2011, Wayne Noem e-mailed a cost estimate based on limited information from the 5-5-2011 meeting.

1. Reconstruction and 26' wide paved surface with a 12' parking lane to 0.6 mile north of Highway 2 = $608,000.

2. Option 1a: Rehab 0.6 to 6.0 to gravel = $2,052,000
   Option 1b: Rehab 6.0 to 8.8 to gravel = $1,765,000.

3. Option 2a: Rehab 0.6 to 6.0 to pavement = $3,925,000
   Option 2b: Rehab 6.0 to 8.8 to pavement = $2,761,000

4. Option 3a: Rehab 0.6 to 6.0 to pavement = $3,925,000
   Option 3b: Rehab 6.0 to 8.8 to gravel = $1,765,000.

Item #1 will be done with all of the options and will be added ($608,000) to whichever option is chosen. In addition, 0.6 = approximate location of the elevator entrance, 6.0 = the location of 2800 Road, and 8.8 = the location of Freight Road.

CEMETERY BOARD

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly cemetery board meeting on May 5th. Ted Zorn has already serviced most of the cemetery equipment. Commissioner Rockman arranged for some community service hours (via Justice Court) to assist Ted on May 7th. The Cemetery Board accepted the Stewart Cemetery (via the official deed) as part of our district. Rlynn and Ted will inspect the Stewart Cemetery at their earliest convenience.

CLAIMS

Some late claims were submitted for approval. Commissioner Hendrickson mad the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to pay these claims. The motion carried.

WHEAT COUNTRY ESTATES

Ron Gleason (CEO) and Shari Meissner (CFO) of the Liberty Medical Center met with the Commissioners, Hugh Brown, and Rhonda Pimley regarding their proposal to transfer the operations of the Wheat Country Estates to Liberty County. The Commissioners declined their proposal. There was continued discussion about other options (i.e, the possibility of selling the Wheat Country Estates).

SENIOR CENTER

The Commissioners took photos at the new center that documents the "settling" under the cement work on the north side, the "bad" location of downspouts, some "weakness" to an area on the south pavement, and the storage bay door replacement.

LIBRARY

There is some serious settling in the rear parking lot (due to the plumbing excavation by Neal Eveland approximately one year ago). We will repair this area with some of our millings at the airport. Shawn was notified.

MENTAL HEALTH

The Liberty County Combined Fund committee distributed their annual fund drive monies. Commissioner Rockman received the Mental Health funds of $515 and deposited the payment to the account.

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 11th, 2011 ♦ 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.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike Hilliard of the BOR came in to clarify where the Liberty County road ends while going into Looney Point in southern Liberty County. The maps were examined for clarification.

ROAD EQUIPMENT

The Commissioners telephoned Jerry Hettinger at LyCox Enterprises, Inc in Billings regarding the purchase of a Series 3 WR75 Walk'n'Roll Packer ($17,950), quick attach "Easy on/Easyoff" ($1,000), and John Deere spacer for 872G ($595) = Total of $19,545. A deal was negotiated : minus $1,000 for "cash-no-trade" and minus $295 for delivery charge (we will pick up in Havre). Total purchase = $18,250. The equipment will be ready on 5-12-2011 in Havre.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Marlene Moon stopped in with an application by the Liberty County Conservation District for a grant of $15,000 to be used on the upcoming Pugsley Bridge Bank Stabilization / Fish Habitat Project [total project cost = $119,000]. The application required verification of our $20,000 Mill Levy to the Liberty County Conservation District. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to sign and approve the application. The motion carried.

COUNTY AUDIT

Amy Dexter with the firm of Denning, Downey and Associates, was here to conduct the annual audit. She met with the three Commissioners and Rhonda Pimley to discuss her recent findings. She conducted a complete audit: topics of discussion included the Treasurer's office, Justice of the Peace, District Court, County Library, and the Council on Aging. A few notations related to the segregation of duties in the JP Court system, and with the Ambulance accounting. Possible solutions were also discussed. The separate checking accounts at the Library (Friends of the Library) and the Council on Aging, were discussed. In the future, these accounts may very possibly be considered component accounts. New and old GASB regulations were discussed, as well as the Permissive Medical Levy. All-in-all, the audit was very good!

ROAD TRIP

The Commissioners took a road trip to south Liberty County to check on road repairs; inspect a potentially dangerous hill located at about ½ mile south of the river on Moffit Bridge; and to observe the screening / wash plant at the gravel pit at Pugsley's.

CLAUSEN'S

The Commissioners telephoned Dave Clausen to discuss the settling issues at the center. They e-mailed him the photos and WAG's e-mail related to these problems. Dave is concerned about the settling; they will have to inspect the site to determine if they can blow-in some cement or cut-out and replace. He also agrees that the downspout is not in a good location. Dave asked that we get 10 yards of ¾" to 1½" crushed rock. Shawn was notified.

JON TESTER'S OFFICE

Cheryl Ulmer and Robyn Madison of Jon Tester's office made a visit to Liberty County and to the Commissioner's office. The group toured the new Senior Center, the two new elevator projects, and the airport rejuvenation. They addressed the FAA mitigation issue, the Frontier hospital program, and other pertinent issues.

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 17th, 2011 ♦ 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.

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

1. The 3 old generators at the county shop will be sold for $50 each to the only bidder, Jerry Ghekiere.
2. A bid for the Library lights was submitted by Cory Decker for $75. Cory will haul all of them away – good or bad.
3. An offer of $300 was made by Scott Hauser (via Sheila Duncan) for the used cooler at the Senior Center.

Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to accept the 3 bids above and dispose of this property. The motion carried.

IT DISCUSSION

Several courthouse offices have been unable to contact "George the IT man" (from Great Falls) for computer services, so there is continued discussion about our course of action. The Commissioners telephoned Marilyn Snyder to see if she might be interested, but she's too busy with other commitments. She recommended Paul Raney, who runs a computer store in Havre and does Hill County's IT work. The Commissioners telephoned Hill County Commissioner LaVoi, who reports that Raney is good and keeps things working. Rhonda Pimley also offered the name of Mike Felton, an IT man from Morrison-Maerle. Rhonda is organizing a list of our computers for Mike's consideration.

CROSSING PERMIT

The Commissioners received a crossing permit from Mark Engstrom (described as follows: Schaefer Road, T37N, R4E, Section 14, SE4). Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to grant permission to cross this Liberty County roadway. The motion carried.

TEMPORARY OCCUPANCY LETTER

The new Liberty County Senior Center received permit #10-0152 from Yancey Beston (State Building inspector), which allows a 180-day temporary occupancy permit.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The road work between Mattson's / Graff's is complete. They're working on the Sundgren road at present. The turbo went out (again!) on the "D". The loader required a new head gasket, but additional work might be needed. Patrick's called about the street repair at the Senior Center; they aren't happy with ¾" crushed rock because it lacks binder material.

SENIOR CENTER

The electrician (A.T. Klemen's) came to finish a few punch-list items, so the Commissioner's went to visit with him. Our concerns were related to the mysterious "bang" and "flash of light" that appeared in the kitchen during employee training on 5-12-2011. While there, it was discovered that the walk-in freezer fans were not functioning, and the freezer temp was above 40° ! Upon further investigation, the Commissioners found a "scorched" area on the electrical cover plate to the fan mechanism. The food was thawing, so it was moved to colder storage. The freezer power was shut down and J-&-V was notified.

TRIANGLE TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS

Anne Boothe from Triangle Communications stopped in briefly to discuss our interest-free loan and today's newspaper article in the Great Falls Tribune regarding our new Senior Center.

LYCOX ENTERPRISES, INC

The Commissioners telephoned Jerry Hettinger to update our statements on our purchase of the Series 3 "Walk'n' Roll". After clarification on two separate quotes, the one for $18,250 on 5-11-2011 was the best. Shawn was notified.

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.

HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to change the County contribution toward the county health insurance premium to $577.00. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

JUSTICE COURT

Justice of the Peace Holly Frederickson stopped in to update the Commissioners on what is going on in the Justice Court.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere was in to discuss the possibility of purchasing a "Quik-Reel" for the Land-Tamer. This is a light unit that includes radio control, 150' supa-slip nylon hose, 12-volt 1/5 HP electric motor, and Turbo 400 hand spray gun for approximately $2,525 (freight not included from Oregon). He plans to utilize funds from available grant monies.

After discussion, the Commissioners decided that Jim could make due with the "heavier" sprayer that he's using now!

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 24th, 2011 ♦ 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.

SENIOR CENTER SUPERVISOR

Rod Keith was in to discuss continuing issues at the new center. There is a new sink-hole in the alleyway near the patio; Commissioner Tempel took pictures to document this sinkage.

Rod has recently returned from vacation. While he was gone, the Commissioners encountered several employee interoffice conflicts. The Commissioners suggested that Rod appoint an employee "supervisor" in his future absences.

EXTENSION AGENT

Jesse Fulbright was in to update the Commissioners on several extension issues, i.e. the 4-H campground, the upcoming fair, 4-H club histories, local fungus problems, employee issues, etc.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Hugh Brown stopped in to see if there are any needs from his office. The Commissioners have received a copy of a letter that Hugh had sent to the county auditors at their request. The letter simply states that there are no pending litigations, claims, or assessments existing at the County Attorney's office through 06/30/2010, and there are no unpaid fees or expenses as of 05/11/2011.

PERMISSION TO BE OUT-OF-STATE

Commissioner Larry Hendrickson and Russ Tempel asked for permission to be out-of-state. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Tempel, to grant the permission. The motion carried.

HRDC MEETING

Commissioner Tempel attended a combined Executive meeting between Head Start and HRDC on Monday, May 23rd, 2011. There was nothing significant to report.

COMPUTER / IT SERVICES

Stephen Vaile of Rising Wolf Computer Services came to see the Commissioners at their request about potential IT service. He entered the courthouse computer system and reported the following findings:

1. The C-drive needs additional space (10gb drive) at present time; he recommends replacement;
2. The Z-drive does have data on it dating back to 2007 and is in good shape;
3. There also is a D-drive, which contains school system data separate from county data;
4. The system operates with Window-Server 2003 with a secondary market that has been added. It is current with a service pack-2 and is good in both service and performance;
5. There is also a remote security system installed, which can be disconnected.

He feels no need for an annual service contract. He will be happy to work on our system for $40 / hour plus cost of repair parts plus minimal mileage fees.

WAG

WAG sent the Commissioners updated "Certificate of Substantial Completion" with a revised date of 05/10/2011. After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed to keep these documents for future consideration.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues:

1. 24" culvert with hole in the road near Henke's has to be addressed;
2. Most county roads have been bladed with the exception of a few north of Highway 2, (i.e., some of the Laird and Lothair Roads);
3. Screener is now ready. It will go to the Laas pit for immediate production;
4. Recommend use of Freight Road when hauling to the grain-loading facilities;
5. Shawn will get his crew on the Laird Road.

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

An old sprayer at the cemetery was declared obsolete and will be offered for sale at Fritz's consignment auction this weekend.

MDT CONFERENCE CALL

Jim Combs of MDT offered discussion via a conference call about turning lanes on Highway 2 to the Whitlash Road for safety issues into the new Gavilon facility. Monte Fauque, from Gavilon, was also present for the conference call.

The county offered a grader, man-power, and pit-run to help with the project. The Commissioners feel this is a needed project prior to MDT's chip-sealing / painting job projected for 2013.

Monte will check on the proposed paving they plan at Gavilon to see if they can provide any surface material to this project. MDT cannot provide much more than advice.

CITIZEN CONFERENCE

Two concerned citizens, Joe Wolery and Cliff Wickum, trucking operators who utilize many of the county roads, came in to express their concerns for the general condition of the Laird and Haul roads. Their concerns are 5-fold:

1. There is way too much "crown" material in the middle of the roads;
2. The bigger rocks in the center get kicked into the two driving lanes, which causes damage to their equipment;
3. Many times the washboards are not "cut out", but rather "filled-in",
4. The shoulders are sloped, so the water sits in them and ruins the road, and
5. All of the approaches are too high, which also causes excessive water in the roadways because of impeded drainage.

The Commissioners will take their concerns under advisement.

EMPG

Ed Gierke and Darrell Stafford met with the Commissioners to discuss EMPG (Emergency Management Planning Grant monies). The current fiscal year monies allotted for Montana is $1.7 million to be shared amongst 56 counties and 7 Indian nations. Liberty County's "share" will probably be around $15,000. The group compiled the grant application and the proposed training and expectations for the following fiscal year. The application is due by June 6th, 2011.

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to sign the application as it has been completed. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Ed Gierke will hold the final paperwork until 6-6-2011 (to allow for any unforeseen changes), then send it in.

Yvonne Hunnewell was contacted to submit two separate bills to Darrell for reimbursements from the EMPG.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

School Teacher, Maureen Wicks, along with her C-J-I senior class came to the courthouse on May 18th, 2011, for their annual visit to learn about county government. The three Commissioners served as tour guides as the students spent time in each department. Thanks to all the elected officials for sharing their knowledge and expertise with the students.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Holly Frederickson was in to discuss a file cabinet of old, unorganized citations and filings from the previous Justice of the Peace. She has spent literally hours trying to organize her new office, but now has no extra time. She would like to hire someone for about 20 hours. The Commissioners suggested Bernadette Skierka.

GAVILON

Monte Fauque from Gavilon came in with an easement for a water-line from the county shop through Lyders' land to the elevator facility. Recommendation by Hugh Brown is the company should provide the owner with an "as-built" GPS, appropriate markers, and a 5-year non-use clause that reverts the line back to the owner. Mr. Fauque will re-do the paperwork accordingly.

BEAR PAW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT - RESOLUTION #11-07

A resolution to affirm the County's active participation in the Bear Paw Economic Development District was submitted for approval. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to approve this resolution. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-07

A RESOULUTION AFFIRMING ACTIVE PARTICIATION IN THE BEAR PAW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, The County of Liberty is in need of a professional planning staff to assist in the orderly planning for the development of a new industry to provide job opportunities to the unemployed, and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Administration has in the past provided funds for said staff,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we support the continuation of said staff and will actively participate in the District Program. We pledge $5000.00 as our share of the Local Matching Funds.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of May, 2011.

Chairman

Russ Tempel
Commissioner

Glynn Rockman
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk & Recorder

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 31st, 2011 ♦ 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.

FRITZ CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

The county sold several items at the auction on 5-27-2011:

1. 4 used grader tires = $500 (Road Department)
2. 4-wheeler sprayer = $3,000 (Weed Department)
3. sprayer tank = $25 (Cemetery District)

BID ON OLD FORD TAURUS

After two separate ads, the Commissioners received only one bid on the Ford Taurus station wagon (with the bad transmission). The bid was for $101 from Joel Kuyper. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to accept this bid. The motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. It's a beautiful day, but everything is wet. The crew will work on Joplin, Whitlash, and Laird Roads. The loader needs a new injector pump. Toole County came down today to pick-up our old packer; we will be paid after July 1st (by their new Fiscal Year budget). The beaver dams have been eliminated at the 4-H campground. Two 30" culverts on Dugout Road were damaged by the North Central Regional Water Line installers; a bill for culvert sections, connectors, and labor will be sent to them by Shawn.

PAYROLL

Payroll was submitted for approval. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to pay the current salaries. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MT DEPT OF LABOR / INDUSTRY

Point of information: the publication shows current unemployment rate in Liberty County is 4.4%.

NEW HORIZONS

Alou Horinek, New Horizon's counselor, appeared at her scheduled, advertized public meeting with the Commissioners to update them on her services, goals and progress. She deals in Level-1 out patient services with crisis intervention and assessments in alcohol and chemical addiction. Alou discussed both dependency and abuse. A new program is the "Prime for Life" when dealing with DUI's and MIP's. One public person, Bonnie Robinson, attended the meeting.

LIBERTY COUNTY WEBSITE

Ann Wickum stopped in to report that she's in the process of updating the county website.

CULVERT ISSUE

Todd Wanken stopped in to request an additional culvert on the road to their north Chester farm. The past two years the water has run over the road. The county will put in the culvert at zero labor expense; however, Wanken's will buy the culvert. Shawn Norick was notified.

MINUTES

Current Commissioner's minutes were reviewed and a few minor corrections were made. Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to approve the minutes with proposed changes for pages 721 (April 26th) through 731 (May 17th). The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 11-08

A motion to adopt a resolution to accept $990 in revenue from the Master Gardener Class and enter this revenue into the Liberty County Extension Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 was made. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to approve this resolution.

RESOLUTION 11-08

WHEREAS, in the current Fiscal Year 2010-2011, the Liberty County Extension Fund (#2290) received an additional $990.00 in revenue from the Master Gardener Class;

WHEREAS, this revenue was not anticipated at the time of setting budgets;

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Liberty County Commissioners that the additional revenue received in the amount of $990.00, be entered into the Liberty County Extension Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, to be expended.

DATED THIS 31st day of May, 2011

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk

SENIOR CENTER

The Commissioners telephoned Russ Wolfe at WAG regarding:

1. Plumbing issues = drinking fountain, toilets, and fire system. Russ suggested a pressure test on the system;
2. Settling issues = north driveway near garage and storage bay and patio cement north of dining room.

The Commissioners think Clausen's did an adequate job of filling and packing under the sink hole under the deck. However, the Commissioner's do not think Patrick's did anything but "fluff" under the sunken driveway. Russ Wolfe feels that he addressed the seriousness of this issue, but apparently the contractor is treating this as a potential "warranty issue" should the concrete break; and

3. Landscaping issues = all areas between sidewalks and building was supposed to be filled and compacted to 3" for final landscaping by county; however, there are areas that are 6"-12" deep.

The Commissioners went to the Center, took photos, and sent Russ confirmation on above details. He will send a final e-mail and suggested mitigation(s) to Clausen's.

IT REPORT

The Commissioners completed reference checks on Stephen Vaile of Rising Wolf Computer Services of Shelby; 5 out of 6 references were successfully contacted with positive results.

The Commissioners will meet with Morrison-Maerle's computer representative, Mike Felton, on June 8th, 2011, as a second consideration.

LIBERTY COUNTY COMBINED FUND

The Commissioners received the final report from the 2011 Fund Drive. The total receipt for 32 local charities was $21,714.

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

ATTEST:_____ _____

Clerk Chairman