

August 2nd, 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: Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman. Commissioner Hendrickson is harvesting.

LEPC

Ten members attended the monthly LEPC meeting. Ed Gierke reports that the NIMS cast books for courses 100-400 now runs \$60 each; FEMA can only give us approximately 50% of our normal EMPG monies this next fiscal year; and the estimated disaster and flooding repairs in Montana are already up to \$8.5 million. Nothing else of significance was reported.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Council on Aging meeting. Treasurer’s report reveals year-to-date expenditures for building equipment at \$19,111 and landscaping costs of \$1,545. Our current balance on hand is \$88,669, including new slate donations of \$2,500. We are presently exploring bids from four separate sprinkler companies for an underground system, sod, rocks, and weed matte. The “Grand Opening” was a success and the board members were acknowledged for their efforts. Julie Gagnon has sent “thank you’s” to all participants (musicians, door prize donators, etc). Rlynn and crew installed the new center sign on Wednesday and Thursday, July 27th and 28th, at zero cost to the center. Since moving into the new building, the Monday through Friday lunches served is 64 ½ a day, which is up eight people a day from the old center.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. He is presently short-staffed due to scheduled vacations and recent illnesses of employees. They recently repaired Cramer’s Hill with 200 yards of sand and clay, and 2 barrels of base-1 treatment. They are presently working on Blackjack Road, repairing a big hole near Laeuner’s. Scheduled next is the road repairs near Dean Hodges. Jerry Fenger has been hauling a lot of gravel to Violet’s from our screening plant at \$4.25/yard. He also took a load of sand (about 15 yards); Shawn quoted him at \$2.00/yd for the sand. Since repairs on the screener, he can screen up to approximately 70 yards an hour.

DES

Yvonne Hunnewell was in to discuss DES issues. The new ambulance sales division agreed to pay the towing company, but will not pay our expense to pick up the repaired ambulance.

CICON & ASSOCIATES

Rudy and John Cicon are willing to negotiate the price and details on the old center building. They will meet with us on August 3rd, 2011.

FEMA

The FEMA Representative, Bob Fredrickson, was here on July 27th, 2011 to evaluate our flooding damages with Shawn. He will be coming back on August 3rd, 2011 and would like copies of cancelled checks to document the costs of the shelters at Lake Elwell.

Bob called on the afternoon of August 2nd, 2011 to request a copy of the contractor’s invoice and claim, and also a cancelled check and proof of payment. He is trying to help us with this reimbursement without involving the Department of Interior or the Bureau of Reclamation.

MOUNT ROYAL TV DISTRICT

Gary Cady and Russ Tempel stopped in to report on the local TV district. They need a new board member on their Mount Royal TV District, which encompasses Liberty and Hill County. The East Butte board, which encompasses Toole County, consists of Ryan Niemyjski, Terry Kimmet, and Greg Woods, who is resigning. Their secretary is Joyce Grinde. The Mount Royal group pays 62% of the operation costs and East Butte pays the remaining 32%. Their engineer is Larry McCormick of Ethridge, who is also considering retirement.

2011 CERTIFIED TAXABLE VALUATIONS

The valuations from the Department of Revenue have arrived! County wide total market value is \$238,517,176. The total taxable value is \$7,247,771. The taxable value of newly taxable property is \$355,467.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 3rd, 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: Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

OLD SENIOR CENTER

John and Rudy Cicon met with the Commissioners to discuss the old center building. We examined the NorthWest Energy utility bills for the previous year, which revealed a monthly average of \$463. Considering the many freezers, coolers, appliances, oven and range, and daily in and out traffic (our long cold winter), this isn't bad. After we did a walk through with the Cicon brothers, they made an offer of \$19,000 ("as is"), the county will pay closing costs and the buyers will obtain title insurance at their discretion. We will consider this proposal! Brenda Streit met the Commissioners at the center for a quick evaluation. She would probably list it for \$40,000. Please note they have had a listing on the Drug Store for several months with no serious interest.

EXTENSION AGENT

Jesse Fulbright will be on annual leave from August 4th to the 14th.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere came in to report the transmission had gone out on one of the weed pickups. (Con May's old pickup) He is taking it to Vern's in Fort Benton at a repair cost of \$3,000.

COMPLAINT

A Joplin Citizen called to complain about excessive vehicles and equipment on the streets near the Cliff Nelson property. Dick Burrows will investigate on August 4th, 2011.

OLD SENIOR CENTER

We called Ray Standiford, who looked at the center but did not offer a sealed bid. He said he thought the building was realistically worth \$18,000 (depending on the need). Bruce Jeppesen stopped in per our request, as he expressed interest in the building several months ago. His plans have changed, so he is no longer interested. After additional discussion, we decided to make a counter offer of \$25,000 with special terms to the Cicon's. John will confer with Rudy and get back to the Commissioners. John Cicon called later to make the following counter offer:

1. \$22,500 for R.E. (as is)
2. \$5,000 down at time of approval (earnest money)
3. \$10,000 down at closing, preferably in late September due to harvest and additional projects
4. The remaining balance (\$7,500) will be paid after January 1, 2012 (interest free)
5. A warranty deed is probably ok, and title insurance is a buyer's option. Hugh Brown will complete necessary paperwork.

The Commissioners accepted this offer.

AVAILABLE GRAVEL

Randy Thompson, who is crushing gravel for Gavilon at the Warren Wickum pit, is staying ahead of the project and is willing to provide and sell gravel to local farmers. The Commissioners called several local producers who have inquired about gravel: Belcher's, Hawks', Skari's, Mattson's (Carl, Dave, Mike, and Bob), Frederickson's, and Laird's.

COUNTY WIND TOWERS

The Commissioners obtained a cost sheet on our county owned wind towers purchased in 2004. The 50 meter tower cost \$7,530 plus brackets. The two 30 meter towers were \$3,700 each plus brackets. Just for the record, the total cost of the wind turbine (located at the county shop) was \$45,340 plus \$4,457 for the Data Acquisition System.

ROAD DEPARTMENT BUDGET

The Commissioners met with Shawn and Rhonda to adjust the Road Department budget for the fiscal year of 2011-2012. There were several issues concerning the increased cost of a new employee, increasing fuel prices, and anticipated equipment and gravel purchases that had to be resolved.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Commissioners emailed Jeff Minkler to confirm our meeting on August 22, 2011 to negotiate fiscal year salaries and benefits.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 9th, 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, and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

PAYROLL

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

CLAIMS

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

BOR / RECREATION SHELTERS

Mike LaFrentz stopped by for a copy of the shelter plans. The group discussed the plans for rebuilding the shelters.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Present for the monthly department head meeting were Anne Seidlitz-Melton, Holly Frederickson, Rhonda Pimley, Rachel Ghekiere, Jim Ghekiere, Shawn Norick, Rod Keith, Teresa Fenger, and Commissioner Hendrickson.

The preliminary budget sheets were handed out to each department head and the budget was briefly reviewed and discussed.

Other topics the group discussed included the requested Tax Abatements by the new businesses, the school budgets, roads and bus routes. The Justice of the Peace office continues to be busy but the files are continually in better order.

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

The Commissioners telephoned NorthWestern Energy to discuss power to the unit train loaders.

BEN TAYLORS

Don Koon telephoned the Commissioners inquiring about the lease on the tank pad. A copy was mailed to him.

WIND TOWERS

The Commissioners telephoned Bret Kenfield and discussed the wind towers with him. He is hoping that Liberty County would keep the 50 meter tower at Wilmas' corner and the 30 meter tower at Kenfield's for at least one more year.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick visited with Randy Thompson and he crushed 1,000 yards of gravel for Liberty County. Shawn also talked with Ray O'Brien about getting more crushed. There is still 1,000 loads to come to town. Shawn also reported that the Whitlash Road is getting some heavy use and is starting to show signs of it.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 10th, 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, and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

ADDITIONAL CLAIMS

Some late claims totaling approximately \$215 were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried to approve payment of these claims.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Toole County sent the Commissioners \$6,000 for the agreed payment of the "walk-&-roll" packer that the county sold them last spring.

MACO

Correspondence from MACo reported on our JPIA Property and Liability Trust Loss Control Credits for the 2010-2011 policy year. Based on their criteria, Liberty County scored 6 out of 25 total points.

NEW SENIOR CENTER

The Commissioners were required to obtain Title Insurance on the new senior center building to qualify for the RDLG loan. The First American Title Company policy was \$970; and we have a copy of the policy on file.

RDLG LOAN

Hugh Brown e-mailed a 3-page "loan agreement" and "promissory note" containing a simple change(s) from the original paperwork. This no interest loan of \$266,472 will be paid in monthly installments of \$2,338 beginning January 15th, 2012 to Triangle Telephone Cooperation Association. Hugh was notified the contracts were okay.

ROD KEITH, CENTER DIRECTOR

The following items were discussed with Rod Keith:

1. Rod's fiscal year budget for 2011-2012 has \$26,000 (estimate) for repayment of the RDLG loan. The actual yearly indebtedness is \$28,000; however, there are only 6 monthly installments this fiscal year totaling \$14,000 (so the budget will work).
2. Shortly after moving to the new center, Rod's NorthWestern Energy bill was \$1,200; which was a shocker! Fortunately, this was an estimate by NorthWestern, not an actual meter reading. A recent statement from NorthWestern Energy was approximately \$600, which is about \$150 more than the old center bill for a similar time period. Consequently, the good news is our additional monthly estimated expenses of \$2,000 are probably high.
3. Rod was informed of our sale of the old center building; and informed he would probably not see any of the proceeds from this sale. We have some debt to other departments for their work at the new facility.
4. Rod just got word he was awarded a grant for a new transit bus. Expected delivery date is February 2012. Cost will be approximately \$60,000 with a county match of 15% (which will be about \$9,000). Our 2 current buses are 1995 and 2005 models.

COMMISSIONER TEMPEL

Commissioner Tempel called in to get updates on recent Commissioner proceedings.

CICON BROTHERS

The Commissioners spoke with John Cicon about the old center. Hugh Brown is getting the sales agreement with terms organized. We will review papers next week.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 16th, 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.

BRET KENFIELD

Bret made an appointment to discuss several issues.

1. Bret's wind generation project is hoping for a construction date of December 2012. They are putting in a sub-station at Suzie Yurman's on 1600 Road. The turbine blades measure 100 meters, so they will need some road relief when moving in the turbines. Our recommendation is to use 1700 Road to Powerline Road in transporting the 5 potential turbines (20 mega watts). The Hyundai Corporation is coming to inspect the site on Thursday, August 25th. Bret hopes to have a contract within the next 60 days.
2. Bret gave the Commissioners a brochure from Pacific Machine and Development, which is a fabricating company specializing in large and specialized projects. They are located in Vancouver, Washington, but are considering expanding into Montana. The owner, Pat Dolan (360-694-5282), is a friend of Bret's.

SENIOR CENTER

Rod Keith was in to visit about the recent resolution on the kitchen hood and temperature issues. A letter was submitted by Rod re: the transit assistant position; and there was a discussion about applicants for Rod's position.

MUSEUM MEETING

Betty Marshall, Margaret Meissner, Rose Campbell., Bill Gunderson, and Judy Tempel met on August 16th, 2011. Commissioner Tempel and Commissioner Rockman also attended the meeting. Board Members reviewed and approved minutes of the May 4th meeting. The Commissioners will call Jesse Anderson about serving on the Museum Board. The Commissioners will also call Cory Decker about a few unresolved construction issues. Two houses near the museum will be for sale: Maureen Cicon's and Bonnie Johnson's. Is the museum interested in the properties for future expansion? The balance at the end of the fiscal year is \$4,748; this is the amount left from the budget of \$24,500. The new budget for the fiscal year 2011-2012 will remain at \$24,500 (with two adjustments to line items "utilities and building" funds).

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. There are new "blowouts" at the intersection of the Whitlash and Lothair Roads. The group visited about the Kenfield wind project and future flat blading of several access roads. Shawn gave the Commissioners 5 worksheets for reimbursements from FEMA as follows:

1. Windy Ridge Road and County Road 409 is \$25,530
2. Black Jack Road is \$2608
3. The Bison, Laird, and 2000 Road is \$7,088
4. Haul Road is \$3,808
5. Joplin Road is \$8,003

The total reimbursements are approximately \$47,000!

INDUSTRIAL PARK GROUND LEASE

The Commissioners received the official lease from Ben Taylor, Inc. for the "ground lease" for his petrolane propane plant at the Liberty County Industrial Park. It is a 5 year lease beginning August 2011 totaling \$7,246.20. The first year's lease check for \$1,449.24 was enclosed. Commissioner Rockman made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to approve the lease as written.

CEMETERY BOARD MEETING

The monthly cemetery board meeting was held on August 11th, 2011. The only new item to report was the purchase of a utility trailer for transport of cemetery equipment (cost was \$750).

SENIOR CENTER

The three Commissioners met with Bud Enerson, Dan Holt, and two employees from Holt Plumbing and Heating on Friday, August 12th, 2011. The conference was held to solve the problems with the kitchen temperatures, air-flows, and hood problems. Following lengthy discussions, checking all vents, thermostats, fans, water supplies, and an inspection of internal switches and settings, we finally figured it out. The blower unit had been jacked-up to 90° when the sheet rocking and perfataping were being done, so it was operating as a heater. The internal thermostat was never shut down to the recommended 45°. Therefore, the blower unit was currently heating and cooling at the same time. No one present would accept responsibility, saying Clausen's turned up the system; and Captive Aire probably did not inspect the final project.

ROAD TRIP

The Commissioners took a road trip to the gravel pits at Laas', Warren Wickum's, and Mark Wickum's. They also travelled the Whitlash, Lothair, and several other county roads to check current conditions due to heavy truck traffic. In addition, they travelled to the Kenfield project to access roadways there.

BUY-SELL AGREEMENT

Hugh Brown composed a "Buy-Sell" agreement for the sale of the old senior center building. It looked good, so we delivered it to Cicon's for their scrutiny. Hopefully, we will sign the agreement on August 23rd, 2011.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 22nd, 2011 ♦ Monday

TEAMSTERS UNION NEGOTIATIONS

Commissioner Hendrickson, Commissioner Tempel, and Commissioner Rockman were all present for the Union Negotiations held on the above stated date. Other people present for the collective bargaining included Jeff Minckler representing Liberty County and on behalf of Teamster's Local #2 Max Hallfrisch, Shawn Norick, Jerry Ghekiere, and Justin Maki.

Jeff Minckler proposed the following changes in the contract:

1. Article 2, Section A: Eliminate "probationary employees" from the section because they have their own rules related to employment requirements;
2. Article 5, Section A: Regarding "dispute procedures" eliminate the section relating to arbitrators because of the expense of private arbitration;
3. Article 5, Section B: Regarding "arbitration", eliminate the arbitration prior to a hearing because most grievances can be resolved by and between the union and the county;
4. Article 10, Section D: Regarding "Family and Medical Leave Act", the benefits apply to entities with 50 or more employees, which we don't have; and
5. Article 16: Effective dates of contract should be changed to July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

Max Hallfrisch discussed the union's proposal of continued health benefits at no additional employee premium payments and a 50¢/hour raise in salaries.

Liberty County offered 35¢/hour, the same increase given to other county employees.

Max and the road crew reps went into private deliberations, then returned. After continued discussion, Liberty County agreed to the following terms for fiscal year 2011-2012:

1. A 35¢/hour raise, retroactive to July 1, 2011;
2. A 3-year contract effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014;
3. A verbage change in Addendum 1, Section A, Sub-section b = "The County will increase the above wage schedule by the same amount it increases wages for the courthouse employees, the sheriff's office employees, and the senior center / transit employees (effective 7/1/2011 through 6/30/2014); and
4. No changes were made in the contract regarding Jeff Minckler's proposals 1,2,3,4 aforementioned above.

The Commissioners and the union representatives agreed to these terms. Jeff Minckler will make the necessary adjustments in the contract.

OTHER BUSINESS

Correspondence was received from MACo which included two refund checks: \$628 from Joint Powers Insurance and \$1,765 from Worker's Compensation – both based on the county's fiscal year 2010-2011 performance history in these two trusts.

County Attorney Hugh Brown stopped in to ask for permission to be "out-of-state" from 8-23-2011 through 8-29-2011. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to grant permission to the County Attorney to be absent from the state. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

August 23rd, 2011 ♦ Tuesday

Commissioner Rlynn Rockman was in on the above stated date. Chairman Larry Hendrickson and Commissioner Russ Tempel were available by phone due to harvest.

JERRY FENGER

Jerry stopped in with tabulations and payment for the screened gravel and sand he purchased from the county. The totals were 389 yards of gravel at \$4.25 a yard and 12 yards of sand at \$2.00 a yard. \$1,677.25 was the total payment received. The check was given to the Clerk and Recorder.

CICON BROTHERS

John Cicon stopped in to sign the "Agreement to Sell and Purchase" on the old senior center building and provided the \$5,000 earnest money. The closing date is to be on or before September 30th, 2011 with an additional \$10,000 payment. The final payment of \$7,500 (interest free) will be made on February 15th, 2012. The Commissioners are to remove the old double-cooler prior to closing; everything else stays! Commissioner Rockman gave John the keys, so they could do some measuring. Wood Enterprises was contacted to report this transaction and closing date. A copy of the "Buy-Sell" was delivered to Hugh Brown and a copy is also being kept on file at the Court House. The \$5,000 check was given to the Clerk and Recorder.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Nine members of the Council on Aging met with Rlynn to plan a retirement party for Rod Keith. Betty Marshall had spoken with Rod, who agreed to a simple function at a "normal" center luncheon. The plans follow:

1. Noon, Wednesday, August 31st, 2011 at the center.
2. Following lunch, cake and ice cream will be served. Julane Jensen is making the cake.
3. A dedication plaque was ordered by Betty Marshall and Pat Ludwig. The plaque is to be presented by the Commissioners.
4. Ted Zorn will share some fun stories.
5. Julie Gagnon will contact Mary Ann Zorn about a potential musical tribute.
6. Rlynn will contact Karin Roehm of the NCAAA in Conrad, who will e-mail invitations to all the centers in District 4.
7. Rlynn will contact Larry Anderson, the only remaining Commissioner who hired Rod.
8. Rlynn will contact Ann Marie Robinson of Bear Paw, who worked closely with Rod in the new center.
9. Julane will contact Rod's brothers about the ceremony.
10. Julie Gagnon will put notices and posters around town to advertise the event.
11. The center staff will organize a few photos, personal reflections, and "good wishes" from the center regulars and staff for a keepsake booklet.
12. The group will organize a "history" of Rod's employment with the county and share it at the celebration.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to update the Commissioners on road issues. The fabric patch and repair at the Lothair and Whitlash Roads are complete. Shawn discontinued mowing ditches due to dryness and high winds, thus, fire potential. They are working on the soft spot near the Rob Laas farm. Several guys are off on annual leave or sick this week.

SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

After an open discussion with Rod, he agreed to notify PERS to extend his retirement date to the end of September. Rod will work part time and utilize his vacation hours in September.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 24th, 2011 ♦ Wednesday

Commissioner Rlynn Rockman was in on the above stated date in the afternoon to sign the payroll checks.

PAYROLL

County payroll was submitted for approval. Commissioner Rockman discussed the time-sheets and payroll summary with Commissioner Hendrickson via phone. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried to pay county salaries for the pay period ending August 20th, 2011.

August 30th, 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.

SHERIFF BURROWS

Dick Burrows was in to discuss the poor condition of the Whitlash and Laird Roads. The Commissioners also visited with Dick about a complaint of a Joplin resident who is parking cars and equipment on the streets.

TAX ABATEMENT PROCEDURES

Attorney Hugh Brown has completed his research on the tax abatements requested by EGT, Gavilon, and Columbia Grain. Ads will be in the "Liberty County Times" on 9-7-11 and 9-21-11. The hearing will be October 4, 2011.

MARTY LYDERS

NorthWestern Energy is putting a new 3-phase power line in to the Gavilon facility. Marty stopped in to get initial approval for them to install this on Liberty County property near the rail road right-of-way, instead of going through the fields. The Commissioners agreed. The NorthWestern Energy engineer will call the Commissioners today.

TRIANGLE TELEPHONE

Ann Marie Robinson and Anne Boothe sent a letter regarding the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan (REDLG) for \$266,472 for the Commissioner's signatures. They also requested certification of the expenses at the new center.

EMPLOYEE FITNESS

Undersheriff Riggin stopped in to discuss a "corporate" fitness plan being offered to employees by Fitness Xpress. The plan offers a monthly reduction from \$50 to \$35, which computes to \$315 per employee for the 9 month program. There are presently 5 sheriff's office personnel interested; therefore, a \$1,575 cost. The Commissioners will call their insurance carrier regarding possible reimbursement through "wellness". The Commissioners did visit with Vern Anderson and Gary Hablutzel to learn EBMS has tried exercise and weight loss programs before without success. It becomes a taxable benefit without much control verses a medical benefit. The Commissioners called Doug Riggin to report the new information.

COLUMBIA GRAIN

Dan Treimen, of Columbia Grain called to say their current taxable value in Tiber is \$308,000, which computes to around \$6000 taxes per year. They want to add a \$4 million improvement project, which will raise their taxes dramatically. The abatement is very important to them.

CLAIMS

The end of the month payroll withholdings were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to approve the claims for payment.

LIBRARY BUDGET

The Commissioners called Mike Schestedt (Legal Council at MACo) about budget questions at the library. The Commissioners approve their funds, but the Library Board controls their spending. If their monies get low late in the fiscal year, the Commissioners can deny approving their claims.

NCAAA

Commissioner Rockman received an e-mail on 8-25-11 from Karin Roehm at NCAAA regarding contract issues on our new DPHHS funding. John Parker (Cascade County Attorney's Office) is doing research on the matter, which was forwarded to Mike Schestedt at MACo.

LIBERTY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly chamber meeting on 8-25-11. The current assets are \$25,550. Anne Boothe examined the bylaws to become a 501c3 organization, which also requires a one-time fee of \$750 to the IRS. They also discussed the upcoming Harvest Festival on September 24th.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike LaFrentz stopped in to discuss updates on the damaged recreation shelters being negotiated with FEMA. The Commissioners had received a confirmed bid on the new shelters from Greg May Construction. The total cost per shelter would be \$14,448.

RESOLUTION 11-21

Deputy County Attorney Elizabeth Woods offered a resolution for "payback" legal services to Chouteau County. The motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Rockman. The motion carried to approve the resolution.

RESOLUTION #11-21

Whereas, the Chouteau County Attorney has requested prosecutorial assistance in the case of State of Montana v. Tammey Ludeman, and

Whereas, it is desired and deemed appropriate that a Special Deputy County Attorney be appointed to assist in the prosecution of the aforementioned cases, and

Whereas, Elizabeth Woods, Deputy Liberty County Attorney, has agreed to act as special counsel on request of the County Attorney and upon the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, and

Whereas, pursuant to §7-4-2705, MCA, the Board of County Commissioners may authorize the Deputy Liberty County Attorney to provide assistance to the Chouteau County Attorney's Office to assist in the prosecution of the aforementioned criminal case pending in Chouteau County.

It Is Hereby Resolved:

That Elizabeth Woods, Deputy Liberty County Attorney, is hereby appointed as Special Deputy County Attorney for Chouteau County for the purpose of the prosecution of the aforementioned case.

It Is Further Resolved:

That under the terms of this agreement, no fee will be charged for attorney time provided by the Liberty County Attorney. Witness fees and expenses, jury costs, and other normal costs associated with trial will be the Chouteau County's responsibility as with all other prosecutions.

Dated this 30 day of August, 2011.

ATTEST

Barbara S. Pimley
Clerk and Recorder

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Member

LIBERTY COUNTY BUDGET HEARING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2011-2012

The public hearing to examine the budget for the fiscal year of 2011-2012 was called to order at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, August 30th, 2011. The three Commissioners, Clerk and Recorder, Rachel Ghekiere, and Ann Wickum attended. There was some general discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Rockman. The motion carried to approve the budget(s) as submitted and summarized on Resolution 11-22.

RESOLUTION 11-22

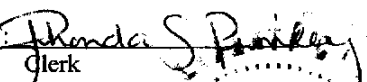
WHEREAS, Pursuant to Sections 7-6-4024 MCA, the Board of County Commissioners, Liberty County, held a public hearing August 30, 2011 at 1:00 PM and,

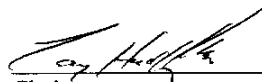
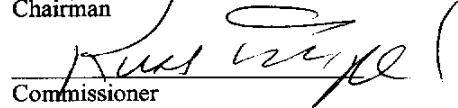
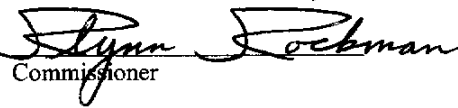
WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 7-6-4020 through 7-6-4036, MCA, the Board of County Commissioners of said Cou has held a hearing and passed a resolution applicable under the above sections,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the 30th day of August, 2011, the following budgets and levies ha been adopted for the operation of Liberty County for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

	TAX REVENUES	VALUATION	MILLS
General Fund	358,080	7,247,771	49.40
Bridge Fund	194,787		26.87
Weed Control Fund	29,988		4.14
Marias Fair Fund	884		.12
District Court Fund	34,985		4.83
Library Fund	59,430		8.20
Ambulance Fund	-0-		.00
Mental Health	4,140		.57
Senior Citizens Fund	22,759		3.14
SC Transportation Fund	10,220		1.41
Extension Fund	54,486		7.52
Public Safety Fund	180,591		24.92
Road Fund	201,987	6,539,427	30.89
Conservation District	20,000	4,782,670	4.18
Joplin Fire District	19,038	1,561,934	12.19
West L.C. Fire District	46,270	4,977,493	9.30
Senior Citizens – voted	45,000	7,247,771	6.21
Sr Citizens Transport – voted	55,000		7.59
Health Care Facility	300,000		41.39
Permissive Health Insurance	174,908		24.13
Airport Commission	17,505		2.42
Cemetery District	19,798		2.73
Museum	17,300		2.39

DATED THIS 30TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011.

ATTEST: 
 Clerk 


 Chairman

 Commissioner

 Commissioner

LIBERTY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MILL LEVIES

Rachel Ghekiere met with the Commissioners and Rhonda Pimley, to approve the School Mill Levies. The total taxable values of the three school districts are \$7,247,771 and the added Hill County value is \$1,448,405. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Rockman. The motion carried to approve a 70% calculation on the county wide mill levies related to Elementary and High School Retirement and Transportation funds.

NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA PIPE LINE

Tom Montgomery stopped in to ask permission to bury the 8" temporary line in the county ditches. Permission was granted by the Commissioners. He also gave the Commissioners a letter from Chippewa Cree Construction Corporation, which confirms their liability in this project.

LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

Jesse Fulbright was in with his contractual paperwork for approval. Liberty County's share of his salary is \$21,577.52. The total budget is \$79,559.26. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried to sign the contract. Jesse will forward the papers to MSU.

RIVERVIEW COLONY

Steve Wipf of Riverview Colony called to get permission to dig through Moffat Road. They want to install a permanent sewer line for spreading liquid manure onto nearby fields. The call came in for a crossing permit, also to apply for GPS readings and "U-Dig" authority. The location on Moffat Road is 2 miles North of Dugout Road.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere stopped in to report the following:

1. Purple loose-strife is present in Cottonwood Creek
2. The Land-Tamer is presently being repaired under warranty (orbit motor valve is bad)
3. The DNRC Grant came through at \$8,200
4. A Federal Grant is available, so Jim may try to apply for a boat (fire and rescue use)
5. The Bureau of Reclamation was reminded to get the County a map of Lake Elwell "flooded areas",
6. The Bureau of Land Management gave us \$45,000 and a "pass through grant of \$10,000 from Fremont County California for russian olive control; Doug Riggan will apply for the tree removal work
7. The monthly phone fee has been reduced from \$326 to \$302 via Century Link for our 911 landlines
8. New hard drives are priced at \$31,000 with a 5 year maintenance agreement at \$52,000 on our soon to be "antiquated computer equipment" (which we purchased 5 years ago for \$90,000 including the maintenance agreement.)

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

August 30th, 2011 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met for a special meeting on the above stated date at 7:00 PM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

TOOLE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Commissioners had a special meeting at 7 P.M. (8-31-11) in their office with the three Toole County Commissioners (Alan Underdahl, Ben Ober, and Dave Miller). The purpose was to discuss the possibility of co-oping with Toole County on Road and Weed Supervisors. Pros, cons, and costs were discussed, but no action was taken.