

September 3rd, 2013 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

LEPC

The monthly meeting was attended by three Commissioners and six other committee members.

Highlights

- 1) New protocols training for response to a hazmat incident will be next Tuesday (9-10-13) at Liberty County firehall. Responders are asked to attend; LEPC members optional.
- 2) September 26th is Ed Gerke's last day on the job.
- 3) Liberty Medical Center's strategic planning meeting will be Friday, October 25th, at OSLC (9am to 4pm).
- 4) EMS crew are being immunized (pertussis?).
- 5) Recent wind storm at Liberty County Airport measured 71 mph gusts (Thursday, 8-29-13). Damage to private hangar and to Firehall roof. Commissioners doing follow-up on repairs.
- 6) GIS / GPS grant was discussed.

TAC

Commissioner Rockman attended the quarterly Trans Advisory Committee meeting. The 3-year compliance review will be done by Glenda soon. We also discussed the weekend bus policy that was recently established so that all present understand it. Upcoming training was discussed.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Council on Aging meeting. Current balance in Wells Fargo and Bear Paw Credit Union accounts is \$22,581.51. The canopy was discussed; estimated engineering costs = around \$1,200 and established building costs = around \$15,000 (per Gary Jensen and Rod Keith). Current cost of renting the hall (without kitchen) is \$65. The center is still looking for a TV cart. We're still waiting for a bid from Pimley Electric for updating "convenience plugs" and surge protection.

EMPG

The Commissioners met with Ed Gerke and Darrell Stafford regarding current paperwork requirement for EMPG.

SALARIES

County salaries were submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to pay the current wages.

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

A mutual aid agreement between Chouteau and Liberty Counties (in the event of a natural or technological disaster) to coop equipment and personnel was submitted by Darrell Stafford for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to sign and approve.

GIS / GPS

Gail Shatkus and Jim Ghekiere met with Bryce of Selby's on 8-28-13 to establish a site for base station. Bryce prefers the Sagebrush Tower and will work with "Chris" at Triangle Telephone to get this done.

MUSEUM

Betty Marshall reported that Bob Wigen of Great Falls is offering an antique "Nichols & Shepherd" combine to the museum. We drove out to examine the machine. It has potential regarding antiqueness, but will be difficult to move / transport. We will visit with Mr. Wigen.

CITIZEN REQUEST

Please blade the washboards on the road to the dump grounds (per Donnie Heimbigner).

WOOD ENTERPRISES

We called our insurance agent, Tina Wood, about the wind damage to the Liberty County Firehall on 8-29-2013. She would like an estimate of the already repaired roof plus an estimate of further recommended repairs (done by Cory Decker).

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

September 4th, 2013 ♦ 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 Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

PERMISSION TO BE OUT OF STATE

Commissioner Tempel asked permission to be out-of-state in parts of September. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Rockman. The motion carried.

COUNTY CLAIMS

The claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Tempel to pay all current claims. The motion carried.

COUNTY JANITORIAL

We re-visited a proposal to Ruth Ann Norick regarding janitorial services for the courthouse and/or library. She is interested in the job through the spring of 2014.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike LaFrenz stopped in to see if we are still interested in a few portable commodes (to be removed from the Marina area at Lake Elwell).

HRD

Commissioner Tempel attended an HRD Executive meeting in Havre on 9-3-13.

LIBERTY COUNTY AMBULANCE

Tara Hendrickson, EMS co-director, stopped in to make a proposal regarding ambulance transfers to Great Falls. Presently, the stipend given to ambulance personnel is \$75 for first 5 hours + \$12 / hour for any additional time over the initial 5 hours (this stipend has been unchanged since July of 2009). The number of transfers this immediate past year was 39 (via ground ambulance). The proposal requests a flat rate of \$100 / transfer (the "normal" trip is a 5 hour detail, which would equate to \$20 / hour). A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Rockman; Commissioner Hendrickson abstained from voting. The motion carried to accept this proposal effective October 1st, 2013.

BUDGETS

We did some "brain-storming" with Clerk & Recorder Rhonda Pimley regarding budgeting, including agency funds, road department (specifically fuel and new equipment leases), senior center, and any new or "last minute" items that need to be added. Our public Budget Hearing will be September 17th at 3:00 pm.

GPS / GIS GRANT

Gail Shatkus was in to update us on the program. Site selection for base station is the Sagebrush Triangle Telephone tower. Initial training will be September 23 & 24 and September 30 – October 1.

STEWART CEMETERY

Commissioner Rockman and Ted Zorn visited the Stewart Cemetery (AKA Wolf Cemetery and/or St. Francis Cemetery) to document any / all graves there. A map was drawn for cemetery records.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

September 10th, 2013 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. Approximately \$1,100 in signs were recently ordered; some of these will be reimbursed by landowners. He also received a check from Toole County for tire sale. DEQ called Marc regarding the Maxine Wickum pit.

CEMETERY DISTRICT

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly cemetery board meeting on 9-5-2013. Ted will pull the Joplin Cemetery pump to have it "rebuilt" this winter. He will be winterizing the three underground sprinkler systems soon.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson was in to discuss Senior Center issues. Transit had another "fender-bender" with a transit van versus an unoccupied parked car on 9-6-2013; the transit van was driven by volunteer, Maggie Holmes. Damage to our van will be repaired by us at the county shop. The other vehicle is owned by Paula Childers; she will get a quotation from our insurance agent. We discussed the Senior Center / Transit budgets with Glenda.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike LaFrenz stopped in to report that he has us slated for two toilets from Lake Elwell.

JOB SERVICE

Lyndy Brekke from the Havre Job Service stopped in to report that they no longer offer "outreach" services.

EXTENSION AGENT

Jesse Fulbright stopped in to give us a copy of the "Code of Conduct" for 4-H'ers. We also visited about the bridge at the 4-H campground.

GRADER LEASES

Our new leases with RDO and T-&-E are "capital" leases (not "operational" leases) per confirmation with the two leasers.

"MARIAH'S CHALLENGE"

Justice of the Peace Frederickson stopped in to remind us of a special program called "Mariah's Challenge" – dealing with youth, alcohol / substance abuse, and driving under the influence. The presentation is tentatively set for 9-30-13 at CJI Schools at a cost of \$1,500+. Several local organizations are contributing funds, but more are needed if we have a source.

4-H COUNCIL

The three Commissioners attended the post fair 4-H Council meeting on the evening of 9-10-13. It was a good update on what's happening in the Liberty County 4-H program.

Note: The Council agreed to offer \$100 towards the "Mariah's Challenge" project.

RESOLUTION 13-07

The Commissioner's adopted a resolution for a budget expansion of \$974,862 to reconcile two capital leases for four new motor graders for fiscal year 2012-2013. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried to approve this resolution (which was an oversight prior to fiscal year end).

RESOLUTION 13-07

WHEREAS, the Commissioners entered into two capital lease agreements, for the purpose of leasing 4 new graders for the Road department; and

WHEREAS, the Road Fund (2110) received \$974,862 in proceeds from the Capital Lease, and whereas this lease was not anticipated at the time of setting budgets; the Commissioners have approved a budget expansion of \$974,862 in the Road Fund;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Liberty County Commissioners that the expansion of the above stated fund has been duly approved for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

DATED THIS 10th day of September, 2013

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Stacy Lockman
Chairman

Ray Hendrickson
Commissioner

Robert Tempel
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda S. Pimley
Rhonda S. Pimley
Liberty County 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

September 11th, 2013 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

HAZMAT TRAINING / FIRE & AMBULANCE

Commissioner Hendrickson attended HAZMAT training on 9-10-2013. Points of information:

- 1) If called to a potential HAZMAT, responders are to stop approximately ½ mile away to determine the seriousness of the hazmat before actively engaging.
- 2) If it's a fire hazmat, do not put any water on it.

Commissioner Hendrickson distributed literature from the meeting to Sheriff Burrows.

CITIZEN REQUEST

Buck and Suzanne Dahlin stopped in to request some road work on 3200 South straight east of the Laird Road (the road to the old Roy Heimbigner place). We went out to look at the road. Buck agreed to disc the shoulders before we put a crown on it.

LIBRARY BUDGET

We met with Teresa Fenger regarding the library budget. Revenue item #341010 (for copies/faxes/miscellaneous) under "charge for services" can probably be eliminated from the budget as those funds are being "accounted for" under the espresso cash register receipts. Revenue item #361010 (for espresso revenues) is deposited in the 4030 CIP Library Fund; this is strictly net revenues, as all expenses are receipted / recorded with the daily cash register tickets. Therefore, expenditure item #222 (espresso supplies) can probably be eliminated from the expenditure budget.

IT SERVICES

We have yet to receive a bid from DIS for computer services, so we authorized Clerk & Recorder Pimley to pay Morrison-Maierle for the past two months. Note: We have not signed a contract for fiscal year 2013-2014 with Morrison & Maierle.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

The mental health board has not met since 9-15-2009 due to loss of numerous board members and our LCPC (R.Beley). We plan to re-organize the board now that we have a new LCPC (Lea Anne Lewis). The Commissioners discussed the "Mariah's Challenge" and decided to offer \$200 to the program from Mental Health "special funds"; payment given to Holly Frederickson.

CLAIMS

Numerous claims were submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to pay these claims.

WEED DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere met with the Commissioner's to clarify a few items on the Weed Department budget for fiscal year 2013-14. Revenue item #343360 has a huge differential in expected revenues (up around \$50,000 from last year), which is due to a \$71,500 BOR contract. Expenditure item #321 (grant monies) is projected to be down around \$25,000, which is due to the elimination of an annual grant. Salaries expenses are up 142% due to movement of an employee into the 2140 weed fund from the 2840 grant fund. Jim justified recently low chemical supply costs due to an apparent unresolvable \$5,000 credit!

MARIAS FAIR BOARD

The Commissioners sent a letter to Dennis Barker, thanking him for his past service on the Marias Fair Board. We are pursuing Justin Wickum as his replacement.

BUDGETS

The Commissioner's examined all department budgets with preliminary approval.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

September 17th, 2013 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 10:00 AM in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were: Chairman Rlynn Rockman, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Russ Tempel.

ROAD CROSSINGS

Marc Holmes submitted two road crossing permits for approval:

- 1) Flat Coulee Road, Twn 37N, Range 4E, Section 11.
- 2) Whitlash Road, Twn 37N, Range 4E, Section 7.

Both requests are by MCR,LLC of Shelby (Greg Larson). A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Tempel. The motion carried to approve both crossings.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marc Holmes was in to discuss road issues. On October 10th, two road crew staff will go to Helena for CDL training by LTAP; Rob Pulst and Justin Wickum. Road conditions were very good last week, so a lot of grading was done on three graders.

MARIAS FAIR BOARD

Commissioner Tempel made a motion that we appoint Justin Wickum to the Marias Fair Board pending approval of the present acting board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried. A letter was sent to Ben Ober (% the Fair Board).

PAYROLL

The current county payroll was submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson was in to update us on senior center issues.

DNRC

Eric Eneboe stopped in to explain the paperwork process for buying road easements.

CTEP FUNDS

We received a letter from Krystal Steinmetz (CTEP Administrator) who reports we have \$1,500 of CTEP funds that we will lose if not used by October 1st, 2013. We can re-allocate these monies to another county for their immediate use, and Blaine County has a need. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion carried to reallocate \$1500 from our CTEP Fund to Blaine County. Authorization letters sent to Krystal and Mike Wherley (CTEP Section Supervisor).

CLAIMS

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

CONCERNED CITIZEN

Tom Graff stopped in to discuss a few items:

- 1) Instead of using an expensive motorgrader to grade weeds on the road shoulders, we should spray the vegetation as needed.
- 2) By not killing this vegetation, it gets graded into the road and makes a mess of things.
- 3) Are there some rules that can force landowners to spray their own road shoulders (to take the pressure off the road/weed crews)?
- 4) Would the county consider hiring local farmers to spray the roadways to keep up on the vegetation growth?
- 5) Tom also asked questions about right-of-way rules and regulations.

BUDGET HEARING

Commissioner Rockman opened the public meeting at 3:00 pm; and the budgets were discussed. At 3:15pm, Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to accept the fiscal year 2013-2014 budgets. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

EMPLOYEE CORRESPONDENCE

The Commissioners wrote acknowledgement letters to two county employees.

SENIOR CENTER STATISTICS

Statistics for the period dated 7-1-2012 through 8-31-2012 (last year) as compared to 7-1-2013 through 8-31-2013 (this year) reveal the following:

Home Delivered Meals = down 50
 Congregate Meals = down 75
 Transportation = down 400
 Senior Center Activities = down 140

Why the drop in numbers?

WICKUM GRAVEL PIT

After continued discussion with Ed Coleman of the DEQ, we learned that our permit is still valid; however, the reclamation date expired in 2010. We can get a new reclamation date by filing a "permit amendment" application, but this isn't necessary unless the landowner wants us off their land (see notes in file).

We called Mrs. Wickum to promote further discussion. She is presently finalizing her deceased husband's estate, so will get back to us when she has more time. It seems that his name (Roy Wickum) is on all legal paperwork, so this is part of her concern about the pit.

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

ATTEST: _____
 Clerk

 Chairman

September 24th, 2013 ♦ Tuesday

MACO CONVENTION

The Commissioners are in attendance of the Montana Association of Counties convention in Helena this week.