COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

DECEMBER 4TH, 2012 ♦ TUESDAY

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

LEPC

Nine members attended the monthly LEPC meeting. Highlights:

1. A phase 3.5 exercise is being planned in Chouteau with a pilot team of Public Health nurses and a civilian support team to help with communications.
2. Commissioner Hendrickson signed Darryl Stafford's quarterly report and quarterly reimbursement form.
3. The Agri-Security meeting has been rescheduled for January 8th & 9th in Great Falls. Ed Gherke feels that the local Extension Agent and one other county representative should be there. We informed Jesse Fulbright of the same.
4. Ed Gherke reports that there is a new free website for hazmat information called WISER.
5. Jim Ghekiere is finalizing the narrow-band change-overs. Liberty Medical Center is the last place to complete this.
6. At the Fire Department meeting last night, Dallas Denter retired after 42 years of service (started in 1970). The Fire Department presently has a full-force membership of 22.

TAC

Commissioner Rockman attended the quarterly Transportation Advisory Committee meeting. Highlights:

1. Our new bus is due for delivery in mid-January.
2. Liberty County's transportation service is presently logging 11,000 miles per quarter (up from 8,000 miles). Fortunately, our transportation subsidy was recently increased, too.
3. One of our bus drivers (Rhonda Rocks) recently suffered a shoulder injury due to moving/positioning a wheelchair patient. She is "back-to-work", but physical therapy is scheduled.
4. Two new board members on the TAC are John Fauerback (pastoral association) and Nancy Kleinsasser (medical community).

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Rockman attended the monthly Council on Aging meeting. Highlights:

1. The annual Council on Aging meeting will be January 8th, 2013 at 1:00 pm at the senior center.
2. Next supper club will be Monday, December 10th, at 6:00 pm.
3. Christmas stroll is tomorrow. The Council on Aging will be selling pie at the senior center.
4. Current treasurer's report reveals a balance of about $17,600.

AIRPORT

Commissioner Hendrickson sent the updated airport paperwork to Robert Peccia and Associates.

DISTRICT COURT

Clerk of Court Anne Seidlitz-Melton reported that the trial of the State of Montana vs. Donald W. Pulst has been transferred to Hill County (dates January 7-11th). Anne and a local bailiff are obligated to attend.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues.

1. He heard from T-&-E regarding the repairs to our caterpillar ("Golden Goose"); which will run $12,200 maximum. With CAT's warranty credits and the recommended installation of a new muffler system, our share of the repairs will be about $7,400.
2. Shawn is also hoping to update our county trailer, whose value is about $15,000. The new trailer will cost about $30,000, so we will need about $15,000 cash from the equipment budget.
3. Lastly, we received a bidder's package from T-&-E for a new 2011 CAT 160M Series 2 (holdover). We can buy this motor grader at an exceptional good price with no trade and $25,000 down and excellent terms. Retail price = $240,000.

   Conclusion: The 3 items in the above "wish list" total approximately $47,500. Shawn has $60,000 in his equipment budget, so there is enough funds to fulfill his current needs.

CEMETERY DAMAGE

Dennis Jupka, Senior Claims specialist from MACo, called to report that the value of our vandalized cemetery pick-up was set at $2,000 and the salvage value is $200. Therefore, we can buy-back the pick-up for $200 and offer it for sale locally. Commissioner Rockman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to buy the pick-up for $200. The motion carried. MACo will send us a check for $1,300 ($2,000 less $500 deducible less $200 salvage charge). In addition, MACo will pay our actual expenses (paint, supplies, labor) on the shop repairs when complete. There will be no additional deductible allowance (one deductible charge for the total damages).

ROY WICKUM GRAVEL PIT

Maxine Wickum came in to discuss their gravel pit, which we have the permit on. When Hill County used it several years ago, they left it in bad shape and the weeds grew several feet tall (Warren Wickum had to pay to have it sprayed). The recent use of the pit for gravel to the Gavilon project was handled well. However, Randy Thompson left a pile of crushed gravel for Warren's personal use at the pit, and apparently, our crew took a large scoop out of Wickum's pile for our use. We informed Maxine that we also had a large gravel pile saved for our use, but most of it also mysteriously disappeared. Regardless, Maxine would like a letter from us that states we want to keep this pit open and that we are willing to pay an annual rental fee.

PERMISSION TO BE OUT-OF-STATE

Holly Fredrickson asked permission to be out-of-state from January 9-15th, 2013 (trip to Mississippi). A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman, to approve her time away. The motion carried.

MACO MEETINGS

Commissioner Tempel attended the MACo Board meeting on Monday, December 3rd, 2012. He returned to Chester to the Liberty County Commissioner meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

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

ATTEST:_____ _____

Clerk Chairman

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

DECEMBER 5TH, 2012 ♦ WEDNESDAY

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

CICON SURVEYORS

Rudy Cicon stopped in to discuss our request to confirm the elevations of each recreation shelter at Lake Elwell. FEMA is requiring us to document these elevations for insurance purposes and guarantee of the FEMA funds. Cicons will get this information to us within the next few weeks.

LIBERTY COUNTY TRANSIT

Glenda Hanson stopped in to discuss the Coordination Plan for Liberty County Transit for Fiscal Year 2014. The application is for about $86,000 in transit funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to authorize the application. The motion carried.

CLAIMS

The current county claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Tempel, and seconded by Commissioner Rockman to approve these claims for payment. The motion carried.

CITIZEN VISIT

Jim Grammar was in to discuss a few road issues. The main road near his place needs gravel and is “wash-boardy”. Also, the road across the dike near the colony needs a few loads of gravel in a low area (before a truck overturns in the ditch and/or reservoir). Lastly, Jim just paid a vehicle registration tax on a newer auto; the regular taxes were $217 and the county option taxes were $234, which makes the total at $451 (double the fees in a county without option taxes). Jim was hoping we might eventually eliminate these optional taxes with the advent of new tax bases due to the two elevators, etc.

JPT

Gary Hablutzel of JPT Insurance stopped in to visit and distribute 2013 calendars to county offices.

PUBLIC HEARING

As advertised, we held a public hearing at 1:00 pm in the Commissioner’s chambers to take comments / opinions from Liberty County citizens about the possibility of closing the courthouse / county offices on Monday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Day. One citizen appeared to express that our employees work hard and deserve this additional time off. After some discussion, we decided the following:

1. We will not / cannot give this particular day off to employees as a special paid day off (i.e., like one of our earned / declared “holidays”).
2. We will / can allow employees to take this day off with pay as a vacation day or comp-time day (but not as a “sick” day deduction). However, we cannot force employees to take this day off if it’s a regular scheduled working day and they chose not to lose or use their vacation or comp time.
3. We can / will allow employees to take this day off without pay, if they chose. However, a day without pay may have adverse effect on their other benefits (i.e., medical insurance, Sick Leave & Vacation Leave accruals, etc.).
4. We will not be officially “closed” on this day! However, if employees all want the day off in accordance with the above mentioned terms, then signage on the front door will list phone numbers of department heads who can be called to respond to a citizen request. If there are any employees who prefer to work this day, then they will call appropriate department heads from unoccupied offices to respond to a citizen request.

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

ATTEST:_____ _____

Clerk Chairman