

February 3rd, 2009 ♦ Tuesday

LEPC

Commissioner Tempel, Commissioner Hendrickson, Commissioner Rockman and Clerk & Recorder Pimley, as well as many other community members, were in attendance at the regular monthly LEPC meeting held at the Liberty County Emergency Services Building at 8:30 AM. Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Rockman remained after the close of the LEPC meeting to meet with Jenni Chelmo and Yvonne Hunnewell and others to work on DES planning and workshop issues.

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

ROADS

Shawn Norick was in to update the Commissioners on current road issues. Shawn is still working on purchasing a Walk-n-Roll Packer. In addition, the group discussed the cattle guards in the county. Shawn told the Commissioners that he estimates that there are probably 25 to 30 cattle guards total in the county. He would like the Commissioners to adopt a formal policy regarding cattle guards and the signage near cattle guards. He informed the Commissioners that he currently has the crew back to graveling again. He also said that the tailgate to the International truck has broken. He estimates it will be about \$1,500 to replace the tailgate –or- about \$450-\$460 to purchase steel and rebuild the tailgate. He also told the Commissioners that the new wing for the new grader is scheduled to arrive tomorrow.

BOR / TIBER DAM SHELTER PROJECT

The Commissioners are in the process of beginning another shelter project at Tiber Dam. These shelters will be constructed at Willow Creek Arm south of Lothair. They discussed the need to extend Gregg May's current shelter contract to include the two additional shelters. Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to extend the contract. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The current contract amount is for \$12,040 / shelter. This amount will not be changed by the extension. The Commissioners telephoned Gregg May and visited with him. He is currently not in the area, but his mail is being forwarded to him. He agreed to sign the extension, and mail the contract back to the Commissioners.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE STATE

Commissioner Russ Tempel requested to be granted a leave of absence from the state for two weeks. Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to grant the leave. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

NEW SECURITY EQUIPMENT

The Commissioners went to the Sheriff's Office to look at the surveillance views. The angle of the two front door cameras needs to be adjusted slightly.

MY TWO MED

LaDonna with My Two Med is in the County conducting workshops for the employees. She stopped in to update the Commissioners on her visit. She shared her "Shape-Up Montana" informational brochure with the Commissioners. There is an online health survey that she would like the employees to complete. She told the Commissioners that she has set a goal of 50% of the employees to complete this survey. April 30th is the deadline to participate. Vern Peterson from Joint Powers Trust has also accompanied her to Liberty County. He is in support of the preventative type measures that LaDonna and the My Two Med program provides in conjunction with the health insurance. He believes these measures will help prevent more serious health conditions before they start, and it also gives their administration a little better idea of what the risks are for the group (predictive modeling).

MINUTES

Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to approve as amended the minutes for the month of January. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

MY TWO MED PRESENTATION

At the request of LaDonna, the Commissioners attended her presentation to the Liberty County employees held on the afternoon of this day; upstairs in the County Courtroom.

OIL & GAS PRODUCTION TAX

The Commissioners briefly discussed the receipt of the 3rd quarter payment of the oil & gas production tax money. It seems to be coming in a little higher than originally anticipated this year.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

February 4th, 2009 ♦ Wednesday

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

Sheriff Burrows was in to visit with the Commissioners. He has discovered a gas leak at the Sheriff's Office. NorthWestern Energy will be in sometime today to make the repairs. The group visited about the views of the surveillance cameras. They also visited about the emergency / disaster resource list, the interlocal agreements, and the required NIMS courses. Commissioner Hendrickson requested that the Sheriff share his files regarding these matters, with Yvonne Hunnewell so that she can keep her records up to date, and so she knows who has taken which courses.

CLAIMS

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

BOR

Mike LaFrantz, the new BOR representative stopped by to introduce himself to the Commissioners.

SENIOR GOVERNMENT CLASS

Maureen Wicks, the senior class government teacher had previously made arrangements to have her class come to the Courthouse for a tour and a brief explanation of what each office is responsible to do. A group of about 18 students were present.

CDBG GRANT

Craig Erickson was in to visit with the Commissioners regarding further about the CDBG grant application process. The first step is to take a good look at the needs of the community, and then he will need a formal commitment from the Commissioners about proceeding with the grant application. Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to submit a public facilities application to the Department of Commerce for a CDBG grant, based on the needs assessment of the first public hearing. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Craig told the Commissioners that the income survey will be the next step, and will probably be conducted towards the end of this month. He said the process after that will need to stay close to the scope of work that is defined in the CDBG grant and the PAR after they are drawn up.

There is a public meeting scheduled for March 12th at the Senior Center at 1:00 pm., and another scheduled for Wednesday, April 8th at 3:00 PM. The public meeting scheduled for the 8th will follow a committee meeting that is scheduled for 2:00. The committee will be looking at a draft PAR.

The application is due by Friday, May 22nd. Craig will have the completed application ready for the Commissioner's signatures on Tuesday, May 19th.

County Attorney Hugh Brown stopped by to briefly discuss with the Commissioners, the RDO paperwork that he has been requested to certify for the financing of the new grader.

Commissioner Hendrickson telephoned Mike Waite from Representative Rehberg's Office. He wanted to visit about the availability of money from the FY 08-09 appropriations for the Senior Citizens building project.

REGULAR MEETING CANCELED / PAYROLL

Next week the Commissioner's are scheduled to attend the MACo Mid-Winter Conference in Helena. Their regularly scheduled Tuesday meeting will be canceled in their absence. In addition, the regularly scheduled department head meeting will be rescheduled. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to pre-approve the payment of the payroll next week, as submitted by the payroll clerk. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

February 24th, 2009 ♦ Tuesday

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above date in their room at the Courthouse. Those present were Commissioner Larry Hendrickson and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

Sheriff Burrows was in to visit with the Commissioners. A gas leak at the meter was discovered at the Sheriff's Office. NorthWestern Energy has repaired the leak but, they are requesting that the meter be relocated to a safer spot. Some of the options were discussed.

Shawn Norick was in to update the Commissioner's on current road issues.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Owen Voigt with MACo Health Care Trust was in to visit with the Commissioners about his health insurance program. Owen explained that he may not need a health survey from each employee to do a bid for the County. He believes that the information that he will require, should be available to him from Joint Powers Trust. Owen will prepare a comparison for the Commissioners to review. He also discussed with the Commissioners current legislation that will effect the County's and their health insurance.

DON MARBLE

The Commissioners telephoned Don Marble in Arizona. Commissioner Rockman asked Don some questions regarding the history of the Sweet Grass Lodge, and the original funding sources. Don Marble shared that he believed that the building of the Lodge was mostly funded with money from Farmer's Home and HUD. However, these sources would not pay for the construction of a dining hall / kitchen so money for the construction of the dining hall and kitchen came from private donations.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Rod Keith was in to visit with the Commissioners. The PAR meeting that had been scheduled for Wednesday, February 25th, has been moved to Thursday, March 5th at 1:00 PM. The group visited briefly about what they anticipate the architect will recommend at that meeting. The transit bus radios were also discussed. Rod believed that he had the radios switched so they would not be coming off the repeater and interfering with the road crew radios, but Shawn Norick has informed them that the situation has not yet been remedied.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve for payment the payroll as it has been presented. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

CEMETERY BOARD

Commissioner Rockman had attended the Cemetery Board meeting that was held on February 5th. The board has an old Ford tractor that the fuel pump went out of. The cost to repair the tractor is too much, so the board has requested in writing that the Commissioners declare it obsolete. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to honor the request and declare the tractor obsolete. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PROPERTY / LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Commissioner's reviewed the file that had been supplied to them by Tina Wood regarding the County's current covered assets and their valuations. Tina had requested that the Commissioners pay particularly close attention to the valuations on the buildings.

BLUE CROSS / BLUE SHIELD

Roger Olson and Courtney Babcock with Blue Cross Blue Shield were in to visit with the Commissioners about putting in a bid on the county health insurance. They told the Commissioners that they will require health statements for all of the county employees, but that they are willing to help in any way with that process.

WOOD INSURANCE

Tina Wood was in to visit with the Commissioners about several issues. She told the Commissioners that she has completed most of, but not all of safety walk through inspections for the Safety Program. She discovered a few very small issues that require attention, but not many.

Tina also went through the folder of property values briefly with the Commissioners. They all felt that everything was accurate. Tina had the Insurance Renewal Application ready for their signature, so Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to sign the application. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Tina also wanted the Commissioners to be aware that the possibility of forming a water/sewer district in Joplin is being looked at. She said that then it would allow us to remove these entities from the county liability insurance.

The Joplin Centennial Celebration is scheduled for June 19th – 21st. Tina told the Commissioners that she has visited with Sheriff Burrows about blocking off some of the streets around the park in Joplin that weekend. She feels that for safety reasons this is necessary. Sheriff Burrows has agreed to come down and provide assistance and advice. She visited with Shawn Norick about borrowing some barricades. Also, they are planning on fireworks at the celebration. The Sheriff has agreed to do a permit for the event but, he wants the Joplin Fire Department and one Chester fire truck involved in the project. Tina assured the Commissioners that the company doing the fireworks is licensed and insured, and that they take responsibility for their whole fireworks show.

Tina also informed the Commissioners that there are some junk vehicle issues in Joplin that need to be addressed. She is hoping that it can be cleaned up before the celebration this summer. The Commissioners recommended that she visit with Sanitarian Karen Salo for assistance with this issue.

The group briefly discussed scheduling the next safety meeting. They agreed that April would be a good time to do it. Tina thought that the next step could be to do comprehensive job descriptions which lay out specifically the physical demands of each position.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

The County Attorney was asked by the Commissioners to come and visit with them. They are seeking his opinion on a couple of issues. The first issue that they are requesting an opinion on is regarding MCA 7-4-2519. The Cemetery board and the TV district board would like to hire one of the county's part-time elected officials to do their secretarial work. This law may prohibit that.

The second issue that the Commissioners would like the County Attorney's opinion on is regarding the County's relationship to the Assisted Living Building (who owns the facility?).

The current status of the Kenfield's request for an easement was also briefly discussed.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman