

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

#### **GIS**

The Commissioners met with Gail Shatkus and Rudy Cicon to discuss the GIS project. The new grant was submitted and ranked highest in the State Library. We are looking for information to present to the School Board. We called Ken Wahl who is a GIS mentor for schools.

#### **LEPC**

The Commissioners went to LEPC. The EMS updated on the hazmat training and new EKG's for the ambulances. Joey Zahra, the State DES Representative, was in attendance. Public Health was represented by Brenda Wickum, who talked about the new temperature alarm in the Public Health fridge. Penny Walston said Ebola was still the topic of discussion at her meeting. The Commissioners talked about the GIS program, Safe Serve, the audit, and budgets. The Hospital was represented by Derek Daly, who said they are going through their Hazard Vulnerability Survey. The Community Health Needs Survey was discussed. The Fire Chief, Jason Wanken, talked about the presentation with the Kindergarteners and Preschoolers. The Fire Department and the EMS showed them the fire trucks and ambulances. The Joplin Fire district has been quiet. The 911 EMS repeater will be moved to the Sheriff's Office; and the public safety siren will be moved to the Courthouse. The Road Department has replaced the culvert on the Black Jack Road. The next meeting will be July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

#### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Gail Cicon was looking for the mill values for the Conservation District. Angel Colbry, the Clerk & Recorder, put together a packet for her.

#### **ROAD APPROACH**

Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the road approach permit for Elk Creek Farms to make a new approach on the Whitlash Road. Commissioner Wicks seconded and the motion passed with all in favor. They will be supplying their own culvert.

#### **WHEAT COUNTY ESTATE**

Derek Daly, CEO of Liberty Medical Center, brought in bids for the Wheat Country roof project. There were three of them. The Board will make the final decision.

#### **NEW HORIZONS RECOVERY**

Alou Horinek, Counselor for New Horizons Recovery, held a public meeting in the office to discuss some issues happening in the community. Liberty County has chosen to have New Horizons supply outpatient counseling for drug and alcohol abuse.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT INTERVIEWS**

Marc Holmes scheduled 4 interviews for the mechanic position. He offered the job to Kevin Sculley; and he accepted.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Judge Frederickson will be attending the Judges training in Missoula for the next two weeks.

**CLAIMS**

The current claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, and seconded by Commissioner Wicks. The motion passed with all in favor.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

**MACO**

The Commissioners attended a MACO District 4 & 5 meeting in Havre. MACO updated us on the last Legislature and the bill that will affect us. Also discussed were Montana Department of Transportation updates on the state secondaries. Commissioner Hendrickson was reelected to serve as the District Chairman.

**HRDC**

Commissioner Tempel gave Commissioner Wicks and Commissioner Hendrickson a tour of the HRDC building and gave them the chance to meet the staff.

**SAFE SERVE**

Commissioner Wicks and Commissioner Hendrickson attended the Safe Serve class sponsored by MSU Extension. Steffani Wanken presented the class. The class was very well attended.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

#### **ROAD DEPARTMENT**

The graders are going now. The Joplin Cemetery has a water leak that the Road Department is helping to fix. Black Jack Road had numerous water washouts.

#### **MACO LAND USE**

Hugh Brown, the County Attorney, attended a MACO meeting dealing with land use updates from the Legislature. Tara DePugh hosted the meeting.

#### **SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson stated the current number of people that have been using the Center. Jessica Petersen is now working full time. Karen Hadford is now working as the dishwasher.

#### **MACO PROPERTY & CASUALTY/ WORKERS COMPENSATION**

The Commissioners met with Greg Jackson, the Trust Administrator, and Marty and Tina Wood, of Wood Insurance. We went over renewal for 2015-2016. The modification rate for workers comp will stay the same and property/casualty will increase.

#### **AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE**

The Commissioners discussed the issue of 30 hours full time benefits change. We will change Sherry Decker's insurance to full time status. She will be receiving a refund on her next pay check to deal with her last contribution.

#### **BNSF**

The Commissioners and the Road Supervisor, Marc Holmes, met with Jason L. Sanchez, who manages public projects for BNSF, to discuss the Beulow Crossing. BNSF made a crossing closure offer. The Commissioners are considering the offer.

#### **TOWN OF CHESTER**

The Commissioners met with Mayor Noel Walston to discuss the Decay Ordinance the Town is considering.

**VEBA**

We called Melanie Denning, from the State of Montana, to discuss offering a VEBA vote to the Road Department. We will consider offering the vote if we can fulfill the obligations.

**EAGLE SCOUT**

Cory Kelly will be painting the Segmented Circle at the Liberty County Airport for his project. Liberty County will furnish the supplies.

**PLANNING**

Jim Ghekiere, the County Planner, printed off maps of the State Land right of ways we are working on now. We will have Hugh Brown, the County Attorney, check out the map descriptions to make sure they are right.

**WEED DEPARTMENT**

Jim Ghekiere will be hiring Dace Houle through HRDC to work on the Weed Crew. HRDC will be covering the whole salary.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

#### **ROAD ISSUE**

We had a phone call about the condition of the Bison Road. The Commissioners inspected it and found it to be ok.

#### **LIBERTY COUNTY AIRPORT**

The Liberty County Airport bid opening was held at the RPA offices in Helena on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Stillwater Electric of Kalispell was the low bidder in the amount of \$29,565.00. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion, Commissioner Wicks seconded, and the motion passed.

#### **SEGMENTED CIRCLE**

Cory Kelly who is working on his Eagle Scout project was in to finalize his project. The colors that will be used are international orange and titanium white. The County will buy the supplies and Cory will supply the labor.

#### **CLAIMS**

The current claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Wicks. The motion passed with all in favor.

#### **HRDC**

Karen Thomas and Amber Thompson from HRDC visited our office. They explained some of the programs that are available to the area. Justice Court Clerk Jeannie Fauerbach inquired about programs for abused individuals. They were introduced to Anne Melton the Clerk of District Court.

#### **EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright attended the multi County 4-H camp in Hill County. Liberty County had 7 kids attend. He presented an orienteering program to 72 4-H people. Liberty County had a good showing at the 4-H Campground clean up at the Whitlash Camp.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Commissioner Wicks attended a presentation by Greg Gianforte on Better Montana Jobs.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

#### **ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Marc Holmes has the crew working on cattle guards on Flat Coulee Road. We are still considering on how to proceed with the offer from BNSF on the Beulow Crossing. Marc will check some prices on rental equipment for the project.

#### **EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright updated us on the orange blossom midge traps out in the County. He has not found any at this time.

#### **CTEP**

The Commissioners called Mike Wherley with MDT CTEP/TA Programs Manager (406-444-4221). He explained the paper work from Bear Paw Development did not get in on time. We called the Congressional Delegation to ask for help.

#### **SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson inquired about the process on the CTEP project. She has a full staff at this time.

#### **WEED DEPARTMENT**

Jim Ghekiere has the crew out spraying round up on the road edges. Jim brought in his training records for the safety review. Jim reported the "Bing Search Engine" map people are in the area mapping streets.

#### **4-H SHOOTING SPORTS**

The 4-H Shooting Sport Instructors met with the Commissioners and discussed the issue of where they are going to shoot next year. The CJI School District offered the old gym; but after some discussion it was decided to explore some other options.

#### **CLAIMS**

The current claims were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Wicks. The motion passed with all in favor.



**SAFETY AUDIT**

A Representative from MACO was here to audit our Safety Committee. Emelia McEwen had some recommendations to improve the committee. Liberty County passed the audit.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks. Chairman Russ Tempel was in Lewistown for an oil and gas meeting.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Marc Holmes reported the crew was grading. They fixed the Black Jack Road; it turned out to be ok. They are getting the u dig. Ted Zorn will be contacting Marc on the location of the line and the interconnects in the cemetery.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Safety Committee met and discussed the safety audit MACO did last week. Julie will supply the minutes of the meeting.

**BOR**

Mike Hilliard of the BOR stopped to explain the paper work dealing with closing some of the projects the County has worked on with the BOR.

**PAYROLL**

Employee payroll was submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and seconded by Commissioner Wicks. The motion passed to approve all current wages.

**LIBERTY COUNTY AIRPORT**

The Commissioners signed the agreement with FAA to approve the grant for both the fog seal and electrical work at the airport. Copies were sent to RPA to add to the file. Patrick Wicks was in to discuss his hanger project.

**911**

Jim Ghekiere will be attending a regional 911 meeting in Fort Benton. He will report next week on what new news there is.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 ♦ 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 Russ Tempel, Commissioner Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Morb Wicks.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Marc Holmes has the crew working on the harvest roads and the Lake Elwell access. We discussed the Windy Ridge State access road.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson reported the Sunday bus route was extremely hot and the drivers were concerned about rider safety. The center had a large crowd.

**AUDIT REPORT**

Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the audit report. Commissioner Wicks seconded and all were in favor.

**BEAR PAW DEVELOPMENT**

Commissioner Hendrickson made the motion to approve the contract Resolution 15-05 with Bear Paw Development for the annual amount of \$6,250.00. Commissioner Wicks seconded and all were in favor. We will be sending a letter along with the contract discussing the CTEP project that was lost because of Bear Paw.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-05

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING ACTIVE PARTICIPATION 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,

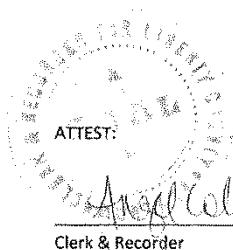

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we support the continuation of said staff and will actively participate in the District Program. We pledge \$6,250 as our share of the Local Matching Funds.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 6 day of 30, 2015.

  
Chairman

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
ATTEST:  
  
Clerk & Recorder

911

Jim Ghekiere had some information from the companies that are bidding the public service siren. We decided we wanted to go with a siren that did not have any moving parts. We will be contacting Triangle Telephone about a 50 foot pole.

**WEED**

Jim Ghekiere said the new pickup is in. The Weed Department will pay for the pickup and send a bill for the other pickup to the Road Department. We had asked our auditor how to make the transaction.

**COMPENSATION BOARD**

The County Compensation Board met at 1:00 pm. Dana Lalum and Rusty Cowen were the members of the public. County officials were Anne Melton, Holly Frederickson, Gayle Dahlen, Angel Colbry, Morb Wicks, Larry Hendrickson, and Russ Tempel.

After discussion Anne made a motion, and Angel seconded to raise Elected Officials wages 2.5%. The motion passed with all in favor. Since a majority of the Commissioners voted for the motion it will go into effect July 1, 2015.

The Commissioners then discussed raises for the rest of the county employees. After some discussion Commissioner Wicks made a motion to give the county employees a .41 cent per hour raise. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

The Commissioners also gave the Clerk of Court, Justice of the Peace, and the Commissioners the \$2,000.00 extra per year as allowed by the Legislature.

Julie Gagnon was given a \$1.00 raise for her added duties of the web page management and the Assistant Safety Officer.

RESOLUTION 15-06

**WHEREAS**, 7-4-2504, MCA, states that the Board of County Commissioners must establish salaries for all elected officials by the first day of August each year, and

**WHEREAS**, 7-4-2503 (4) (a) MCA, states that a County Compensation Board must be established to recommend salaries for Elected Officials for each Fiscal Year, and,

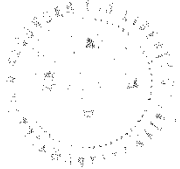
**WHEREAS**, the recommendation of the County Compensation Board was to award a 2.5 % raise for all Elected Officials effective July 1, 2015;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it hereby resolved that effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2015, the County Commissioners, County Clerk and Recorder/Election Administrator, County Treasurer/Assessor, Clerk of District Court and County Sheriff shall receive a salary of Thirty Nine Thousand Thirty-seven Dollars and Sixty-one cents (\$39,037.61). The County Commissioners, County Sheriff, the County Justice of the Peace, the County Clerk of Court, the County Treasurer/Assessor, and the County Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator shall receive an additional Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) per year setting their salaries at Forty One Thousand Thirty-Seven Dollars and Sixty-one cents (\$41,037.61). The 1% longevity established in FY 2004-05 will be an additional Two Hundred Sixty-one (\$261.00) for qualifying officials. The County Superintendent of Schools is a half-time position, therefore, she shall receive Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Eighty-one cents (\$19,518.81) plus an additional Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) per year. The County Attorney shall receive in addition to his state compensation of Twenty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Three Dollars (\$26,803.00), a salary of Twenty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-four Dollars and Seven cents (\$24,984.07) plus 1% longevity of One Hundred Sixty-seven Dollars (\$167.00) from the County. The Justice of the Peace is a half-time position and shall receive a salary of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Eighty-one cents (\$19,518.81).

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such pay schedule as hereinbefore referred to be effective from and after July 1, 2015.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

ATTEST: Angel Colbry  
Clerk



Rusty Cowen  
Chairman

Morb Wicks  
Commissioner

Larry Hendrickson  
Commissioner

**JOPLIN**

The Commissioners went to Joplin and inspected the center pivot. Photos were taken. It will be advertised in the Liberty County Times for bids. The minimum price was set at \$1,500.00.

While in Joplin the Commissioners met with Cliff Nelson to discuss property access on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West. Cliff Nelson will remove some of the obstruction that is infringing on access.

**911**

Jim Ghekiere has talked to Triangle Telephone about the public service siren. Triangle will help with placement of the pole. We will ask them for a donated pole.

**CONGRESSMAN ZINKE**

Christy Hagler, the new District Representative, introduced herself and discussed some of the County's issues. One of the topics was the Montana 409 Whitlash Road paving project. Jesse Fulbright was in to voice some concerns of the orange wheat blossom midge. Christy scheduled a meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015; we will be taking her to the Port of Whitlash.

**BNSF**

The Commissioners received a proposal from BNSF dealing with closing the Beulow Crossing. The message was forwarded to the County Attorney for his review.

**LIBERTY COUNTY AIRPORT**

Bill Burkland has sent us the final documents to be signed for the airport lighting project. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion, Commissioner Wicks seconded, and the motion passed with all in favor.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman