

March 6th, 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, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

LEPC

Eleven members attended the annual LEPC meeting at the firehall.

- Ed Gierke sent the Commissioners the new 35-page grant form.
- Angie Milliken is the new grant manager.
- Darrell Stafford reports the Phase-3 "players walk-through" on 03-15-2012. The actual exercise will be 03-20-2012 in Chester.
- Yvonne Hunnewell is doing "refresher" classes for local and Rudyard ambulance personnel.
- Quannah's retirement party is 03-07-2012.
- New rescue equipment is being discussed for the two new elevators.
- At about \$450 each, Jim Ghekiere reports purchase of 15 new pagers (5 for Joplin and 10 for Chester).
- The new DNRC grants are due April 15th. Joplin Fire Department also got a new float-pump through these grant funds.
- Jason Wanken and another fireman will attend a "grain-burial" rescue in Cut Bank on 03-14-2012.

MDOT

The quarterly 5-county district meeting of the MDOT was held in Chester with 18 members attending. The group was updated on current construction projects and active, future projects in our region. Liberty County is getting a chip-seal on Highway 2 from Lothair to the Hill County line this summer. The recon to the Whitlash Road (the 6 miles north of Hwy 2) is proposed for 2017. The next meeting will be 06-5-2012 in Shelby.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE STATE

Justice of the Peace Holly Frederickson asked for permission to leave the state from 03-09-2012 through 03-12-2012. The motion was made by Commissioner Tempel to grant permission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson, and the motion carried.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Mike LaFrentz and Nick Ludwig stopped in to discuss two written agreements that are recommended by the BOR with Liberty County:

1. Memorandum of Understanding [MOU];
2. Long term [25 year] management agreement.

The Commissioners will have County Attorney Hugh Brown look over these documents.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in regarding road issues. His repair budget has been unusually high this year. He has \$14,000 left, but the loader engine will be \$11,000 and the lease loader will be \$2,000. He recently spent \$4,000 on new tires for Charlie's grader. Good news: T&E are bringing Liberty County a new demo grader for about a week.

CONCERNED CITIZEN

Ray Morkrid was in to discuss road traffic related to the two elevators. He is excited about the economy and the use of our roads, but he thinks the future tax revenues from those ventures should go towards upkeep of the roads.

COUNCIL ON AGING

The three Commissioners attended the monthly meeting for the Council on Aging.

- Treasurer’s report shows a balance of \$81,238;
- They nominated Rod Keith for a special award; the Orval Meyer Award for Transit Excellence;
- 12-14 people successfully completed the AARP Safety-driver class.

TRANSIT

The quarterly Transit meeting was attended by Commissioner Rockman. The new bus should be arriving soon.

Ron Gleason inquired about using the Senior Citizens bus for special Olympians to bowl in Rudyard; his request was approved.

WEED SUPERVISOR

Jim Ghekiere was in regarding the weed department. He testified on the weed grant last week in Helena. The total budget has been reduced \$1.5 million this coming year. Liberty County’s river grant funds were cut from \$34,000 to \$27,000.

Jim reports that the BOR (Mike Hilliard) wants a breakdown on the proposed expenses for spraying at the lake this spring (estimated acres = 10,000).

LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION

The Commissioners attended the Extension Advisory board meeting (12 members were present).

HIGHLIGHTS:

1. 2012 is Montana’s 4-H Centennial, so special events are being planned.
2. Marias Fair dates = July 18th to the 22nd.
3. Application for a \$2,000 grant for educational material on BP/sodium reduction/cholesterol.
4. Promote interest in “solid finances” webinars.
5. Marsha Goetting will be here October 15th – 19th ; what topics would we like to hear about?
6. Health Fair = May 30th
7. Next meeting = October 23rd.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

MARCH 7TH, 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.

CLAIMS

The current county claims were submitted for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Rockman, and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson to pay these claims. The motion carried.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve the current payroll for payment. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

WOOD INSURANCE

Tina Wood had the Commissioners sign the renewal application for the MACo / JPIA insurance.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Commissioner's received a letter from Justin VanCampen, which is his "story" on his discontentment with the pharmaceutical contract at Liberty Medical Center. He offered his official resignation.
2. Letter from the Montana Department of Commerce requesting an ADA report on the new senior center and a few financial reports necessary to complete the CDBG paperwork. Information was given to Glenda Hanson.
3. Letter from NCAAA, which requires "action" (assessment) on the Health Programs at the Senior Center to guarantee our Title III-D funds. Info was given to Glenda Hanson.

SAGE CREEK WATER DISTRICT

Commissioner Tempel attended the South Chester Water District meeting on the morning of March 7th, 2012.

MIKES THRIFTWAY

The Commissioner's gave Mike Novak a copy of the letter containing the "opinion on possible tax abatement" from our local DOR office (as it relates to his planned "modernization" project at the Thriftway store".

QUANNAH BAILEY

Quannah Bailey's retirement party at the Liberty County Senior Center was well attended this afternoon at a reception from 1-3 PM. Quannah spent 47 years (36 years as Fire Chief) on the volunteer fire department and 45 years on the ambulance crew. He was given a nice plaque from the county. His fellow fire-fighters all signed his fire helmet and offered it as a cherished keepsake.

DES

Commissioner Hendrickson visited with Darrell Stafford to discuss concerns by Ed Gierke about Darrell's new part-time job with Toole County Weed District and the possible ramifications regarding overtime wages, keeping up on DES paperwork, and relating issues.

The Commissioners also met with Ron Gleason, Karla Kulpas, and Yvonne Hunnewell to make early plans for an evacuation exercise at Wheat Country Estates; the Liberty County Senior Center will be the site to house the evacuees.

C-J-I BUSES

The Weed Department will not be using the C-J-I buses.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

March 13th, 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, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Tempel made the motion to pay the end of the month payroll. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Hugh Brown responded to the Commissioners regarding the Bureau of Reclamation's two Memoranda of Understanding (#R12MU60022 & R12MU60023). He recommends clarification on a few items (i.e., definition of "reservoir" areas and the "Unauthorized" use item). Mike LaFrenz and Nick Ludwig stopped in to pick up the M of U's to make the adjustments.

DES

Info from Jack Holstrom (MACo legal counsel) regarding Darrell Stafford's employment in Liberty and Toole Counties follows: Darrell can work 40 hours / week for Toole County (1/2 DES and ½ Weed Department) and 20 hours / week for Liberty County without Liberty County paying any overtime as these are separate jurisdictions / jobs. Darrell was notified.

Darrell stopped in to get a signature on the Sub-Contractors Agreement for DHS/EOP Rewrite grants for the 2011 Fiscal Year files.

GARBAGE PITS

John Fritz inquired about the regulations regarding garbage pits on private property. He plans to dig a pit on his land near the Tiber Elevators to dispose of / bury the remnants of an old bin that was torn down. After some discussion, the Commissioners felt the only regulations would be the "burn permit".

LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

The Commissioners heard back from Mike Sehestedt (MACo legal counsel) regarding their inquiry about the deputies salaries (85% - 90% range of sheriff's pay). His opinion, as stated before, is that the Commissioners would not have to increase the deputy wages to that 90% level if the sheriff is supportive of the Commissioner's decision. However, if the Sheriff is not behind the Commissioners, then the Commissioners will have to accept the Sheriff's demands on the 90% pay.

The Commissioners also asked Mike Sehestedt how this will affect the other departments. For example, our general agreement with the unionized road crew is that we offer them equal raises that we give to the other county employees. Mike suggested that the Commissioners are probably going to have to extend these raises to the other county employees, too, because of this decision by the Sheriff.

ROAD MILE MAP

Commissioner Tempel made a motion to approve the road mileage map for gas tax, as is. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

ROAD SUPERVISOR

Shawn Norick was in to discuss road issues. The crew is hauling gravel and they're blading roads. The group discussed the Buelah Railroad crossing between Chester and Joplin; the property there is owned by Ramberg's, Minnehan's, and Wilmes'; there's continued ideas on how to build up this approach.

The two pickups are available for acquisition in Great Falls.

CLAIMS

A few late claims were submitted for approval. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to pay these claims totaling approximately \$900. Commissioner Rockman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Nick Ludwig stopped back with the two corrected Memorandums of Understanding. Commissioner Rockman made the motion to approve and sign the two memos. Commissioner Tempel seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

ZONING COMPLIANCE

Craig Henke stopped in for approval on an opencut mining permit for his sandpit (to be used by the Rocky Boy Water project). Commissioner Tempel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Rockman to approve the permit. The motion carried. Point of information: about 20,000 yards of sand to be screened.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

March 14th, 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.

WEBINAR

A webinar dealing with "Supervisor Drug Awareness and Reasonable Suspicion" training was held at the Commissioner's Office. Those present were three Commissioners, Shawn Norick, Jim Ghekiere, Gayle Dahlen, Rhonda Pimley, Glenda Hanson, Rachel Ghekiere, Teresa Fenger, and Penny Walston. This was a 2 hour training program.

LAKE ELWELL SHELTERS

The Commissioners got a packet together for insurance agent, Wood Enterprises, which shows the general design and photos of the shelters for insurance purposes. The packet was mailed to Woods' Enterprises.

CTEP

The Commissioners sent a bid packet to Greg May for the CTEP project at the Lions' Park.

MDOT

The gas tax map was sent to MDOT.

HRDC

Commissioner Tempel attended the monthly HRDC meeting in Havre on Thursday, March 8th, 2012.

TESTER'S REP

Jon Tester's area representative, Cheryl Ulmer, stopped to visit with the Commissioners about any pressing issues or concerns. While here, the group toured the two new elevators (Gavilon and EGT). Cheryl reports that there is currently a moratorium on post office closures until May 15th.

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

ATTEST: _____

Clerk

Chairman

March 20th, 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, Commissioner Russ Tempel and Commissioner Rlynn Rockman.

DES TRAINING

A DES training exercise was held at the Chester Firehall. There were 17 people involved in the exercise, which dealt with heavy snowstorm scenario, with closed roads, power outages, and complications.

PAYROLL

County payroll was submitted for consideration. Commissioner Tempel made the motion to approve the current payroll. Commissioner Rockman 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