

Prairie County Board of Commissioners

June 29, 2022

Prairie County Board of Commissioner Christine Keltner and Deanna Bockness met in regular session at 9 a.m. Commissioner Devlin joined meeting at 9:30 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mary Bucher in to discuss a cattleguard on Section 4, North Bad Route Road, Sir Trust Lands. Ms. Bucher noted the cattleguard was previously a twenty-four-foot cattleguard, twelve-feet of the cattleguard was relocated and replaced with an eighteen-foot gate. She noted it is difficult and unsafe to maneuver farm/hay equipment from the Jerry Nagle hay ground due to road curvature and the concrete/hole where the removed portion had been. Jerry Nagle is willing to purchase a replacement twelve-foot of cattleguard but wishes to have a written statement that the cattleguard will not be removed/moved. To be placed on July 6, 2022, road agenda.

Commissioners reviewed timesheets and signed payroll and insurance warrants in the amount of \$140,934.55.

Commissioners reviewed expenditure reports noting overages in line items: commissioners training, audit purchased services, coroner fax, attorney dues, road salaries, road fuel, weed salaries, mosquito supplies, emergency preparedness supplies, senior citizen telephone, senior center utilities, extension salaries, sheriff salaries, sheriff overtime, sheriff clothing and uniforms, sheriff fuel, sheriff telephone, sheriff equipment repair, fire supplies, fire fuel and airport contributed services.

10:00 a.m. Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson and Treasurer Noell Martinson

Discussion held on email from the Montana State Local Government Services stating they did not receive the audit finding corrections with it being noted that corrections were sent to Oleness and Associates with responses on April 27, 2022, but audit report May 20, 2022, did not forward the responses to the Montana State Local Government Services.

Treasurer Noell Martinson with documentation sent in for the 2021-001 audit correction of the unreconciled difference noting the general ledger accounts are reconciled as of May 2, 2022. A journal entry #502 dated April 30, 2022, noting Resolution 22-22 resolving the cash reconciliation discrepancies from FY 2018 through FY 2021 with final passage and adoption on June 15, 2022.

Discussion held on audit finding 2021-007 coronavirus relief fund ineligible expenditures for the public health nurse in the amount of \$34,684. Letter to Mr. Ryan Osmundson, Montana Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning acknowledging the error but noting that the eligible expenses from Sheriff Department salary of \$32,275.84, DES salary of \$2,506.17 and Ambulance salary of \$8,135.00 was not previously requested but were eligible expenses in the CARES timeline and equaling a greater amount than the mistake. Prairie County wishes for those expenses be considered for the correction. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign and submit letter, motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion carried. Commissioner Devlin signed letter.

Clerk Robertson in with Journal Entry #504 with Sheriff Retirement System year end transfer of 3% from 2301 and 2300 for the permissive levy in the amount of \$5663 and Journal Entry #503 for the hound's tongue noxious weed grant in the amount of \$11,870.90.

10:20 a.m. Commissioners reviewed claims and signed warrants in the amount of \$77,091.53.

10:25 a.m. County Attorney Dan Rice joined meeting.

Discussion held on Stockman Bank loan payment #5792 of \$45,018.94 due in July. Deputy Clerk Aria Walters will call Stockman Bank to get repayment paperwork so claim can be paid prior to due date.

10:50 a.m. Public Comment Shane Eaton in with road concerns. While spraying for weeds, the County sprayed barley growing up to road on West Bad Route Road damaging approximately two acres of crop. Mr. Eaton requested information on a two-track road east North Bad Route- road to be referred to Road Specialist Gary Pfiefler. Discussion held on the increase in noxious weeds and increased steps that should be taken to pursue additional BLM grant funding and Land and Water Conservation grant funding for spraying.

11:15 a.m. Ambulance Coordinator Jennifer Grey Eagle requested to be on commissioner agenda July 6, 2022, to discuss purchasing a used ambulance and the ambulance billing account.

11:30 a.m. Road Supervisor Todd Henry reporting this morning the road crew took care of concrete received for the fuel tank placement and the concrete stringers for cattleguards. Discussion of road concerns received earlier.

Mr. Henry reported Daryl Pisk is fixing his computer today. Mr. Henry reported a refurbished walk and roll machine is available for \$15,000 from Lycop.

Top Gun Asphalt Miles City will do BARSAs project to tack, pre-level, and overlay 38,400 square feet 2" new asphalt hot mix and roller pack and 7800 square feet of 3" asphalt overlay and prep and chip seal approximately 5200 square yards for cost of \$154,000.

Complaints noted on railroad crossings in Fallon, MT. The County needs written permission and a railroad employee on site prior to any crossing work. Railroad contact Levi Burch 406-852-3523.

Commissioner Devlin reported on conference call with the Bureau of Land Management and requested a format for the application process that covers both the BLM and Department of Environmental Quality regulations. The Montana DEQ will do an onsite audit of the Cherry Creek Pit per request of Prairie County.

Lunch 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. Commissioner Bockness made a motion to accept the June 2022 Prairie County Treasurer Investments in the amount of \$2,999,248.53. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner. All in favor, motion carried.

County Health Nurse Tylene Eaton in with Task Order Number 23-07-4-31-136-0 Immunization Master Contract effective July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2026, between the State of Montana, Department of Public Health and Human Services, and Prairie County in the yearly amount of \$3402. Commissioner Bockness made a motion to accept the contract. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner, all in favor, motion carried with contract signed by Commissioner Devlin.

1:15 p.m. Area I Agency Commodity Contract No. 2023-81-6001414 and Prairie County-Terry Senior Citizens Center for July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, to serve 3,300 meals for the fiscal year to eligible participants. The dollar value of commodities is \$1.00 per meal with total annual allocation \$3,300. Commissioner Bockness made a motion to sign contract. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner. All in favor, motion carried with contract signed by Commissioner Devlin.

1:20 p.m. Mosquito Board Members Floyd Fuhrman and Randy Robertson in to discuss mosquito spraying costs for spraying outside of the Mosquito District Boundary with example being the Prairie County Fairgrounds. The Mosquito Board, Clerk Robertson, and County Attorney Dan Rice will work on a fee schedule and a resolution.

1:40 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the contract with Dawson County to provide services of Registered Sanitarian Brant Gordon for Prairie County under the supervision of Dawson and Prairie County Commissioners and the Prairie County Health Officer for the term commencing on September 1, 2022, ending August 31, 2023. Salary, mileage, and travel expenses will be billed to Prairie County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness, all in favor, motion carried.

1:45 p.m. Discussion of Cabin Creek Fire District Dissolution Resolution with email from Department of Revenue Bonnie Burbach noting 40% valuation part of the petition is met with the valuation of the signors represented and the 40% of owners will need to be interpreted and determined by the County Attorney and Commissioners. The MCA notification requirements for any changes to special district has passed for the 2022 tax year changes. Commissioner Keltner is working on owners/addresses prior to resolution and public hearing.

Commissioner Devlin took a conference call with the NACo Sexual Abuse in Families proposed policy.

2:00 p.m. Montana Stockgrowers Association Predator Control Fund for July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, for Cooperative Service Agreement between USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, Montana Department of Livestock, and Prairie County to allocate \$17,274 for protection of cattle from destructive animals. Stock cattle on tax rolls 34,529 with cattle license fee at \$0.50 per head.

Montana Wool Growers Association Predator Control Fund for July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, for the Cooperative Service Agreement between the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, Montana Department of Livestock, and Prairie County to allocate \$873.60 for the protection of sheep from destructive animals. Stock Sheep on Tax Rolls: 1,456 with sheep license fee at \$0.60 head.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign both contracts. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion carried.

2:30 p.m. Museum Glen Heitz not present to discuss museum drain gutter at the Gallery.

Clerk & Recorder Robertson presented Worker's Compensation Montana State Fund 2022 renewal quote from Seitz Insurance of \$25,295 with 2022 E-mod factor of 0.78. Last year Prairie County paid \$39,073 with 2021 E-mod factor of 1.32.

Treasurer Noell Martinson in with recalculation and list of funds regarding HB 124 Distributions and HB 303 Distributions noting combined distributions of \$80,312.75 per quarter.

Commissioner Devlin made a motion to accept the June 15, 2022, minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner. Commissioner Bockness abstained from vote as not present for meeting, motion carried.

3:45 p.m. First reading of **RESOLUTION NO. 22-21 A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO §7-6-4006 OF THE MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED, AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FY 2021-2022 TO ACCOUNT FOR UNANTICIPATED GRANT REVENUE.**

WHEREAS Prairie County wishes to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to provide increased appropriations in certain funds; **AND WHEREAS**, such amendment of the final budget will result in an overall increase in appropriation authority within the funds identified herein, **AND WHEREAS**, the provisions of §7-6-4006 MCA require public hearing upon any budget amendment resulting in an overall increase in appropriation authority,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Prairie County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. The appropriations for the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 shall be increased as the result of the County's receipt of unanticipated grant proceeds as follows: 2340.000.000.334000.000, Fire County State Grants: \$5,600.

2. Appropriations are increased in the following fund, as a result of the above referenced grant, for the purchase of chain saws and radios: 2340.000.206.420460.230, Supply: \$5,600.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to put resolution on its final passage. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Devlin made a motion to transfer a portion of the unused 4010 capital improvement savings and put the money back into the public safety budget in the amount to correct the overage to zero the budget out. Commissioner Keltner seconded motion, all in favor, motion carried.

A portable toilet has been placed at the Weed Department to accommodate employees.

Clerk Robertson prepared Budget Workbooks for the Commissioners and gave updates.

4:40 p.m. Commissioner Devlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion carried.

Signed this 6th day of July 2022



Todd Devlin, Commission Chair

ATTEST:



Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder