

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2021

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Todd Devlin, Christine Keltner and Deanna Bockness met in regular session at 9 a.m. In attendance was Road Supervisor Todd Henry. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Road minutes were reviewed. Permit and deposit of \$150 received from Les Thomason for T12N R50E S13 SE¼ to install electrical cable across Pump House Road for a center pivot. Road easement on permit was changed from 30 feet to 60 feet. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept permit. Seconded by Commissioner Devlin. All in favor, motion passed.

Commissioner Keltner reported on her research on Warner Road. Commissioner Devlin and Road Supervisor Henry viewed road on June 30, 2021. Noted 300-400 feet road built up with gravel and slight ditches where shoulders were previously pulled. Road did not have posting or paint noted for hunting or trespassing.

Road Supervisor Henry was given permission to purchase a 2003 Chevy Silverado State Surplus pickup with 73,000 miles for \$1800 if it becomes available to Prairie County.

Supervisor Henry placed an order for hot mix for fixing potholes on paved county roads.

10:00 a.m. First Reading of Resolution No. 2021-24

Resolution No. 2021-24 A RESOLUTION PRUSUANT TO 7-6-4006 OF THE MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED, AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT OF THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE FY 2020-2021 TO ACCOUNT FOR UNANTICIPATED REVENUE AND EXPENSES.

The appropriations for the Final Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 shall be increased in the following funds and in the following amounts.

1000.000.201.431500.390	Irrigation Purchased Services	\$100,000
2190.000.202.411800.510	Comprehensive Insurance	\$16,384.84
2371.000.202.411800.510	Health Insurance Premium	\$2,330.32
2800.000.202.440500.392	Alcohol Rehab Services	\$3,442.00

The following budget transfer is hereby authorized. 2899.000.411240.793 Oil and Gas Operating Transfer in the amount of \$18,715.16 which shall fund the increased in the Comprehensive and Health Insurance Premium. A public meeting will be held on the 19th of July, 2021 at 11 a.m. in the Prairie County Courthouse with hearing being published in accordance with 7-1-2121 MCA.

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

John Pisk presented a bid from TAB Electronic to refurbish the old hospital generator to be used at the Community Center to install, plumb, natural gas, new transfer switch, and complete electrical for \$15,000.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the June 30, 2021, minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin. All in favor, motion passed.

10:30 a.m. Reviewed Allegiance Flexible Benefits Plan for Prairie County Montana effective July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. Commissioner Bockness made a motion to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner.

Reviewed Allegiance Section 105 Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) for Prairie County Montana effective July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. Eligible employees are those who satisfy the Group Health Plan eligibility requirements except Employees Electing the County Health Plan with maximum benefit for coverage of \$8352. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin. All in favor, motion passed.

Reviewed Allegiance Debit Card Implementation Agreement for Prairie County and the Debit Authorization for Claims Based Funding. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion passed.

Reviewed the Allegiance Reimbursement Accounts Employer Access Form with Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson, Deputy Aria Walters, and MACO Pam Walling to have access.

11:00 a.m. ARPA Fund Use-Montana Association of Counties-Jason Rittal per telephone. In attendance were Sheriff Keiffer Lewis, Library Rolane Christofferson, Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson, Treasurer Noell Martinson, Road Supervisor Todd Henry, Extension Agent Sharla Sackman, DES John Pisk, Ambulance Jennifer Grey Eagle. Commissioners Devlin, Keltner, and Bockness.

Discussion held on ARPA funds and recommendation by MACO prior to obligating or incurring costs to be paid from the ARPA funds to consult with MACO, your County Attorney and auditor.

Categories of ARPA funds: 1) County Direct Federal ARPA Allocation in which the County must request a direct allocation of the ARPA funds from the US Treasury with a certification you will follow the rules. Prairie County's allocation is \$209,194 which ½ can be requested this year, and the other ½ next year. There categories eligible for expenditures are in the Public Health and Economic Impacts include responding to Covid-19, negative economic impacts, premium pay for front line workers, proof of revenue loss, investment in water and sewer infrastructure, broadband infrastructure with regulations contained in the 150 pages of Treasury Interim Rules. Interim reporting will be required December 31, 2024, with all funds obligated by December 2026. Discussion held on calculation of revenue loss, use for stormwater diversion and replacement of culverts, premium pay, impacts tied to Covid, use for generator at the Community Center, and fairgrounds upgrades requested by the County Sanitarian.

2) Montana State HB 632 with eligible uses and funds come with a match requirement 1:1 or 25% of the amount or whatever is less. Projects must fit as a water or sewer project defined by the

Drinking Water or Clean Water Program and applications are due by July 15, 2021, and January 1, 2023, and are submitted to the Montana DNRC. Prairie County has \$393,458 allocated. If funds are passed through to other towns, districts for water/sewer, the county will be the applicant and responsible to the state so a memorandum of understanding must be in place. Projects discussed were the Fallon Irrigation Project, culverts to replace the bridges on CB route, administration costs, if money can be invested, private sector grants, and noted the money cannot be used to give direct tax relief.

12:15 p.m. to 1 :30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Public Comment-no one in for public comment.

1:45 p.m. Clerk & Recorder Assistant Fran Fleckenstein in with claims. Noted two large payments 1) \$45,018.94 for grader payment -Stockman's Bank and 2) \$88,353.60-Property and Casualty Insurance. Commissioners reviewed and signed claims in the amount of \$142,489.86.

2:15 p.m. Community Center Director Karen Rauch in to discuss need for new stove for the Community Center and would like to purchase a natural gas 60-inch range with 2 ovens. A new hood will need to be purchased and installed. Shepherds Stainless from Billings was contacted and will meet Karen at Center on July 10, 2021 and prepare bid. Jason Rittal contacted to see if cost could be paid from the ARPA funds and noted enhancement to health capacity through investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs and mitigation tactics for emergency use.

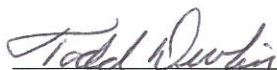
Reviewed correspondence from the Fallon Disposal District Board Member Terms. The three members for the 4-year terms will be designated to Elton Stickel, James (Nick) Dixon, and Terry Burbach and the two members for the 2-year terms will be designated Jack Huber and Gary Kalmbach. Prairie County Commission confirmed the Fallon Refuse Disposal Board Members Terms.

Reviewed correspondence from Neal Christenson, Program Manager for the Western Federal Lands Highway Division, who is temporarily filling in for the Sheryl Synder who had taken another position requesting additional information for the Milwaukee Bridge capability assessment form. A zoom meeting has been set up for July 19, 2021, at 10 a.m. to meet with Federal Lands Neil Christenson, Lotse Townsend, Beth Epley, Executive Director Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation, and Great West Engineering,

Clerk & Recorder Robertson in with budget questions.

16:45 p.m. Commissioner Devlin made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion passed.

Signed 19th of July 2021.



Todd Devlin, Commission Chair

ATTEST:



Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder