

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting

September 7, 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 Specialist Gary Pfieffe. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Road Specialist Pfieffe is preparing the paperwork for the Cherry Creek Pit for the Town of Terry to operate through the County's permit. The permit expires on 3/31/2022 and the free-use permit application, the Mine and Reclamation Plan and the habitat compensation from the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program will be required.

The Warner Road meeting will be scheduled for October 29, 2021. Letters will be sent to parties listed on the petition and the meeting will be advertised in the Terry Tribune for two weeks.

Commissioner Bockness will be out of state on the October 5, 2021. meeting. Warrants will be reviewed, and checks will be signed on October 1, 2021, and the October 5, 2021, meeting will be changed to October 4, 2021.

10:00 a.m. Mark Dolatta and Dan Thomason in to discuss the PAC Budget which is money collected from the livestock producers to protect livestock from depredating animals. The budget was adjusted to account for all monies to be received: PAC sheep \$1243.20, PAC sheep 4-H premium \$25, Coyote Hunt \$1000, and PAC cattle \$18,672.50 for total \$20,940.70.

10:15 a.m. Ambulance Coordinator Jennifer Grey Eagle gave a recommendation to hire Lonnie Kortum as an ambulance driver. Coordinator Grey Eagle reported that she submitted the EMT class syllabus for County Attorney Dan Rice to review.

Deputy Treasurer Cheryl Morrison contacted Greg Foster to order the window for the Clerk & Recorder's office.

10:30 a.m. Budget Public Hearing In attendance was Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson. Commissioners and Clerk & Recorder Robertson reviewed all budget line items. County Attorney Dan Rice jointed meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Correspondence: Reviewed letter from Kristin Reynolds, Bureau Chief for the Local Government Services regarding the significant findings related to the financial audit of Prairie County.

Correspondence: Reviewed Montana-Dakota Utilities Commercial Lighting Incentive Approval of \$1500.00 for the conversion of the fluorescent light fixtures to LED in the Prairie County Courthouse. Glader Electric has been notified to order the fixtures.

11:30 a.m. Public Comment No public in for comment.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. **Budget Resolutions 22-3, 22-4, 22-5, 22-6**

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-3 -- A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO §2-9-212 OF THE MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED, AUTHORIZING A PERMISSIVE MEDICAL LEVY FOR FY 2021-22 TO FUND GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE COUNTY.**

***WHEREAS*** Prairie County contributes funds for employee group health insurance premiums; ***AND WHEREAS***, §2-9-212 MCA permits the County to levy an annual property tax, designated "Permissive

Medical Levy,” to fund the payment of such health insurance premiums in the amount in excess of the base contribution as determined under §2-18-703(4)(c) MCA for group benefits under §2-18-703 MCA; **AND WHEREAS**, such levy is not subject to the mill levy limitation set forth in §15-10-420 MCA, **AND WHEREAS**, the County desires to levy such property tax for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. **AND WHEREAS**, the provisions of §2-9-212(2)(b) MCA require public hearing upon any increase in such permissive medical levy prior to implementing such levy, and said hearing was noticed and held on September 7, 2021, at 10:30 am. **NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PRAIRIE COUNTY, MONTANA AS FOLLOWS:** That a property tax levy of 31.6157 mills be imposed, pursuant to §2-9-212 MCA, for the purposes of funding the premium for group health insurance for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. **SAID RESOLUTION FINALLY PASSED AND ADOPTED THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PRAIRIE COUNTY, MONTANA THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.**

Commissioner Kelter made a motion to pass and adopt Resolution No. 22-3 to authorize a permissive medical levy for FY 2021-22 to fund group health insurance premium contributions by the County. Commissioner Bockness seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-4-A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO MCA 19-7-404 AUTHORIZING A PERMISSIVE SHERIFF’S RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONTRIBUTION LEVY FOR FY 2021-2022.**

**WHEREAS** §19-7-404 MCA permits the County to levy an annual property tax to pay the additional 3% employer contribution to the Sheriff’s Retirement System (SRS), and to take public comment on such proposed levy. Said hearing was noticed and held on September 7, 2021, at 10:30 am. **NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PRAIRIE COUNTY, MONTANA AS FOLLOWS:** That a property tax levy of 1.00021 mills be imposed, pursuant to §19-7-404 MCA, for the purposes of funding the additional contribution to the Sheriff’s Retirement System (SRS).

Commissioner Bockness made a motion to pass and adopt Resolution 22-4 to authorize a permissive sheriff retirement system contribution levy for the FY 2021-2022. Commissioner Keltner seconded motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 22-06 ADOPTING FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 MIL LEVIES** Commissioner Bockness made a motion to adopt Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Mil Levies. Of County Wide-\$5650.86; Road-\$5003.985; Town of Terry-\$646.875; Fallon Fire-\$819.913; Cabin Creek Fire 2-\$131.165; and Soil Conservation-\$4518.913. Commissioner Devlin second motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 22-06---RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF PRAIRIE COUNTY, STATE OF MONTANA ADOPTING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021-2022** **WHEREAS**, the County Commissioners of Prairie County, State of Montana, pursuant to Section 7-6-4024, MCA, held a public hearing on September 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the Prairie County Courthouse during a regularly scheduled commissioner meeting for the purpose of adopting the FY 2021-2022 budget. **WHEREAS** no public comment and no written comments were received regarding the FY 2021-2022 budget. **WHEREAS**, the Prairie County Commissioners have determined that there is and will be sufficient funding available throughout the year to offset said expenditures. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Commissioners of Prairie County, State of Montana, pursuant to Section 7-6-4030, MCA hereby declare, decree, and order the adoption of said budget for FY 2021/2022.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to adopt the budget for FY 2021-2022. Motion Seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion passed.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign the budget letter to submit with the budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion passed. Commissioner Devlin signed letter.

1:30 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the August 30, 2021, minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin. All in favor, motion passed.

2:00 p.m. Claims reviewed and checks signed in the amount of \$37,062.96.

2:30 p.m. DES John Pisk in with Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Agreement EMD-2021-EP-00003 for the federal award amount of \$25,792.00 The required County Match is \$25,792.00 for total amount of \$51,584.00. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign award letter. Commissioner Bockness seconded motion. All in favor, motion passed. Commissioner Devlin signed document.

DES Pisk requested Jerry Pisk to have volunteer status under workman's compensation to assist him with deploying the Command Trailer. Commissioner Devlin made a motion to approve the use of DES volunteers be covered under workman's compensation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner. All in favor, motion passed.

Deputy Clerk Aria Walters in with the Budget Certification letter for Commissioner Devlin to sign.

3:00 p.m. Terry K-12 Schools Budget Report In attendance were Superintendent of School Noell Martinson, Terry School Clerk Jody Huber and Cathy Kalmbach.  
School Levies Milled: County Transportation 1.31; County Retirement 20.007; School District Levies 117.31; Transportation 17.41; Buildings Reserve 4.46; Bus Depreciation 8.16 and Technology 3.54. Todd Devlin, Chairman signed Budget Report Certification.

4:0 p.m. Commissioner Devlin made a motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, motion passed.

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

 9/20/2021

Todd Devlin, Commission Chair

ATTEST: 

Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder