

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting

August 7th, 2024

*Prairie County Court House Commissioners Room
217 West Park St Terry, MT 59349*

Prairie County Board of Commissioner Christine Keltner and Dennis Teske met in a regular session at 9:00 a.m. In attendance Administrative Assistant Harry McNall. Commissioner Devlin is in Helena Montana for the week.

9:00 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance & call to order. Norma Riley phoned into the meeting, to speak about her windmill lease issues. She and another person did not receive their payments for January 2024 from the windmill company, and she had to have a lawyer contact them to get it reissued. Commissioner Teske updated her about his visit with NextEra a couple weeks ago.

9:32 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Brandon Duffey from Great West Engineering to get an update on the Milwaukee bridge. He informed the commissioner that the bridge is open to travel, with MDOT doing a final inspection sometime in September 2024. Brandon also spoke to the commissioners about the museum building repairs etc.

9:40 a.m. Pat Haughian in to sign a road agreement and make a comment about the Milwaukee bridge. The bridge has a space between the planks put in, and the rail that is installed. It is just wide enough to put a trailer tire in, and it will ruin tires on trailers.

9:50 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Road Supervisor Todd Henry, about the opening of the Milwaukee bridge.

10:03 a.m. Commissioner Keltner read the minutes from the July 31st, 2024, commissioner meeting.

10:12 a.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 31st, 2024, commissioners meeting, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

10:15 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Dewight Tauge, to say that Brian Morast has two vehicles on his property and would like them removed. He suggested that the district they belong to should be taken care of the vehicles.

10:20 a.m. Bernie Schaaf, Glen Heitz and Sheila Dixon joined the meeting with the museum board to speak about the museum mill levy.

10:26 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Road Supervisor Todd Henry to speak about the Thorn bridge and CB route. They both needed warning signs put up, and pictures sent out to MTD. He has not taken pictures yet but will get them done.

10:30 a.m. Glen Heitz said they have a leak in the roof of the gallery, and in the Larson Building. The gutters on the Gallery building also need repairs. Sheila will contact Marty and Tom for repairs. There was discussion on roof repairs/replacements for the buildings. Sheila mentioned that the roof on the depot building is also bad, commissioner Teske ask that when Tom and Marty go over, ask for an estimate for the roofs. Glen also ask about the last window, and

Commissioner Keltner confirmed that the county had agreed to order 1 window a year. The commissioners want an estimate for an opening window and a solid window before they confirm which they would purchase for the building. Glen would like to have some drilling around the building to determine where the water in the basement is coming from.

11:24 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Brandon Duffey with Great West Engineering and left a message about the museum board discussion and Milwaukee bridge.

11:30 a.m. Interim Treasurer Cheryl Morrison to talk about tax abatement. Property Taxes (PP) abatements were explained to the commissioners, and they signed off on the abatements. The state and county paperwork didn't match, she had an update of mill values for the commissioners. Personal property mill values for J&J Ventures Gaming LLC, that commissioners decided to not update the value, because it is below \$5, but the state requested the change be made and the overage was not paid out, because it was under the \$5 value.

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Deputy Clerk & Recorder Aria Walters provided the commissioners with claims and journal vouchers.

Commissioners signed checks for fire trucks sold for the Town of Terry at the Smith Auctions, who sent the town's money to the county.

FY2024

Prairie County Voucher Adjustment # 504 Sheriff Gifts account to Sheriff Sale Gen Fixed Assets (For sale of vehicles in Smith Auctions)

Prairie County Voucher Adjustment # 501 From Capital Improvements to Capital Improvements accounts payable (Terry Fire Trucks sale)

Prairie County Voucher #1163 \$6,556.50 (Terry Town Fire Truck Sale)

FY2025

Prairie County Voucher # 1015 \$32,277.08

Prairie County Voucher # 1016 \$2,743.44

2:05 p.m. Commissioner Teske Recessed the Meeting. Commissioners made a trip out to inspect the work done on the Milwaukee bridge.

2:45 p.m. Public comment (not on agenda). No public comment.

3:00 p.m. Road Supervisor Todd Henry, and County Attorney Dan Rice joined the meeting.

3:10 p.m. Sheriff Lewis into go over funding for a customer service training for the county, for September 20th, 2024. There was discussion on the local 911 board. While he was in, he also spoke about compensation for road and rumors he has heard.

3:25 p.m. Commissioner Teske made motion to fund the Customer Service Training for September 20th, 2024, in the amount of \$500 out of account 1000.300, second Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

3:45 p.m. Sheriff Lewis explained that drug use and possession in Prairie County is very low, due to hard work by the Sheriff’s office and other agencies with dogs over the past few years.

4:00 p.m. Commissioner read over resolution 25-02, 25-03,25-04.

4:00 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to adopt and accept **Resolution No. 25-02 “A Resolution Approving The submittal of a Mill Levy Issue to the Voters of Prairie County to Assist in funding the Prairie County Ambulance Service”** and **Resolution 25-03 “A Resolution Approving The Submittal of Mill Levy Issue to the Voters of Prairie County to Assist in Funding the Prairie County Road Department”** and **Resolution 25-04 “A Resolution Approving The Submittal of a Mill Levy Issue to the Voters of Prairie County to Pay for Maintenance and Utilities for the Prairie County Museum Complex”**, Seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

4:12 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to sign an acknowledgement from Action for Eastern Montana RMOA, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

4:15 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

Signed this 21st day of August 2024



Todd Devlin, Commissioner Chair

ATTEST: 

Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder