

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting

April 3rd, 2024

Prairie County Court House Commissioners Room

217 West Park St Terry, MT 59349

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Todd Devlin, Christine Keltner and Dennis Teske met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. In attendance Commissioner Secretary Harry McNall.

9:00 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance & Call to order. Public comment on agenda matters.

9:30 a.m. Commissioners discussed road department projects. Millings in the fairgrounds are close to consumed and should be enough to fill in the two tracks on the grounds.

9:40 a.m. Commissioners read minutes from the March 27th, 2024, commission meeting.

9:55 a.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 27th, 2024, commissioners meeting as corrected, seconded Commissioner Teske, "all in favor" motion passed.

10:00 a.m. Commissioner Teske called and spoke with Road Supervisor Todd Henry about the bridge on CB route rd., he heard that it had been inspected but he didn't know if it was open.

10:03 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Ryan Dahlke with MDOT, to ask about the quick fix on bridge projects. Ryan returned the call within a few minutes. The county might need a 124 permit, but Great West Engineering should have everything in order. He has not been notified about the CB-Route bridges being inspected since repairs. There was also a discussion on the Mildred bridge on secondary 340 hwy. Does the county want to lead it, or do we want MDOT to lead it and how we should we go forward.

10:05 a.m. Commissioners discussed old business and correspondences.

10:30 a.m. Treasurer Cheryl Morrison spoke to commissioners about hiring a temp treasurer assistant. There were 5 applications picked up, three completed applications, and two interviews. The position was offered to one of the applicants.

10:40 a.m. Commissioner Teske made the motion to hire Julie Stevenson at \$15.00 as a temporary full time hire till December 31st 2024, pending a clear background check, seconded by Commissioner Devlin, "all in favor, all yes" motion passed.

10:45 a.m. Treasurer Cheryl Morrison updated the commissioners on the School Equalization Mill bill, by the order of the Supreme Court of an additional 17.1 mills to make it a full 95 mills that will be going out to the residents of Prairie County. Commissioners reviewed the draft of the letter.

11:31 a.m. Commissioner Teske called Brandon Duffey from Great West Engineering. He wanted to know any progress on the Mildred Road Bridge. Brandon went over the possibilities and processes that will be needed to get that bridge completed.

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

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

Prairie County Voucher# 1117 \$88,442.17

Prairie County Voucher# 1118 \$6,318.24

Journal adjustment Entry #344 for insurance premium overpayment and correction

Journal adjustment Entry #345 for a correction in payroll.

1:54 p.m. Shane Mintz with MDOT called to talk with commissioners about certain cattle guards that they are going to install in conjunction with Prairie County.

2:05 p.m. Commissioners reviewed the bids for Examining Land Surveyor. One bid was received by Stahly Engineering Associates.

2:10 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to accept the bid from Stahly Engineering Associates, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

2:30 p.m. Members of the Museum Board came into speak to the commissioners about building repairs. They also updated the commissioners on applications for funding, which the museum board has been awarded one grant, and accepted for projects on another one. The board ask the question "how can we get on the books to have a mill levy put in to fund the museum?" Todd Devlin did his best at explaining the history of the museum board and why it is not publicly funded. The board would want a levy to support the monthly and ongoing expenses. The board ask what the possibilities would there be for the county to take on the expenses for the utilities of the buildings? Commissioner Teske suggested an annual fundraiser for the museum to help get support. County Attorney Dan Rice joined the meeting to help understand what options might be available to the museum board. He would need additional time to consider what options might be available.

3:00 p.m. Commissioners discussed future audits and possibilities of a forensic audit. In the discussion was Sheriff Lewis, Treasurer Cheryl Morrison, Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson, and County Attorney Dan Rice. They discussed what processes the Treasurer department have been doing, to figure out if there are issues and what may cause those issues. They will wait and see the audit results before moving on.

3:30 p.m. The discussion was opened to public comment. No public was present to comment.

4:00 p.m. Public comment not on agenda. Harold Gaubs into speaking with commissioners. He had a couple questions about the weed board. Also joined the discussion was Sharla Sackman They would like to keep just hiring interns, they believe that they would be okay with them, and it would only leave a short term with only one person spraying. There was a lengthy discussion about spraying, time management, and the board's view of how things are going. The commissioners have and will continue to support the decisions of the board on matters of the weed department.

5:00 p.m. Commissioner Devlin made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Teske
“all in favor” motion passed.

Signed this 17th day of April 2024



Todd Devlin, Commissioner Chair

ATTEST: 

Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder