

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Budget Meeting

July 14, 2022

Prairie County Commissioners Todd Devlin, Christine Keltner, Deanna Bockness and Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertsons met in Budget Session at 9 a.m.

Predator Control Budget- Mark Dolatta and Dan Thomason Sheep supplies decreased \$65 to \$848.80, and cattle supplies decreased in the amount of \$920 to \$1407.50. \$2000 is available for the coyote hunt and \$25 for the sheep 4-H premium. Total budget: \$24,197.00.

FY 22-23 Revenue: Montana Stockgrowers predator control in the amount of \$17,274 with stock cattle on tax rolls 34,529 with cattle license fee at \$0.50 per head. Montana Wool Growers Association predator control of \$873.60 with sheep on tax rolls: 1,456 with sheep license fee at \$0.60 head.

Report on rifle range. Use of shot guns have damaged the close-range targets which will need repaired. Continued issues with people not picking up their trash.

9:30 a.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the July 13, 2022. budget minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin. All in favor, motion carried.

Ambulance Coordinator Jennifer Grey Eagle rescheduled for 11 a.m. from 2 p.m.

10:00 a.m. Coroner Budget-Dale Hellman Supplies decreased \$250, and the fax increased \$50. Salary unchanged. For autopsy transfers the Stevenson's and Sons vehicle is rented. Total budget: \$18,468.

10:10 a.m. Cemetery Budget-Dale Hellman Salaries increased to include pro-rated bonus for cemetery caretaker, otherwise budget unchanged.

Other business: Caretaker Art Henry has been cleaning up tree damage from storm on July 9, 2022. A new tin roof is needed for the shed that was damaged, noting no insurance coverage on building. Dale Hellman has painted and put on a new tin roof on the outhouse. Mr. Hellman will inquire about the two Walt Koehler memorial benches.

10:45 a.m. Ambulance Budget-Jennifer Grey Eagle

Discussion of possibility to purchase used ambulance from Glendive. Per MCA 7-5-2301 competitive advertised bidding is required for purchase of vehicles in excess of \$80,000. Capital project account has \$16,072.98.

Coordinator Grey Eagle requested an ambulance salary increase \$10,000 for on-call pay of \$1 per hour from 6 p.m. on Friday to 6 a.m. on Monday as an incentive for ambulance coverage for the weekends. This must be done in 24-hour shifts or for the Friday night shift 12 hours for 3 EMT's x 60 hours=\$180 x 52 weeks=\$9,360. Supplies increased \$3200 to include an I-pad grant. Pintler Billing costs increased \$1500 to amount of \$7500.

Coordinator Grey Eagle reported receiving a \$92,000 grant. The grant was from Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and is a Covid-19 Health Equity Grant. It is a cost reimbursable agreement with project reporting requirements with goals/deliverables tied to address covid-19 health disparities among populations at high-risk and underserved. Discussion held on the ambulance budget as it will need to be increased the \$92,000 with the County being reimbursed after the work is completed. The grant scope included to hire a Community Integrated Health Professional and a Community Integrated Health Professional Supervisor. Discussion to continue in afternoon.

12:10 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. County Attorney Budget-Dan Rice

Salaries increased to accommodate bonus plus ½ of the assistant. Supplies increased to \$1500, and attorney fixed assets decreased from \$1000 to \$0. Revenue FY 23 to be received from State of Montana cost share for the county attorney is \$58,146.

1:30 p.m. Prairie County Conservation District Budget- In attendance were County Attorney Dan Rice, Conservation Administrator Sandra Brown, Board Member Lucinda Placed and per telephone Chairman DeLynn Meidinger.

Letter dated July 14, 2022, received from Prairie Conservation District noting the Board voted to allow District Administrator Sandra Brown to lower her monthly hours from 74 to 60 hours per month commencing July 2022 and to transfer \$4000 from the Prairie County Conservation account to the Prairie County Treasurer to be put in the Prairie County Conservation District Mill Levy Account. Ms. Brown is a conservation district employee and benefits will be covered by the district.

Discussion held it was unknown why the former clerk & recorder changed Ms. Brown's hours from hourly rate to a salaried position. Moving forward, Clerk Robertson and Sandra Brown will recalculate hours of sick leave/vacation benefits that she was to have on the books and a time sheet will be submitted monthly so correct amounts will be calculated in the future.

2:00 p.m. Continuation of Ambulance Grant Discussion. The grant was noted to be signed for by the ambulance coordinator under direction of Hospital CEO Burt Keltner. Commissioner Devlin received an email from Montana State University, (MSU ID G395-22-W9592) but did not open the attachment, nor did he sign the contract.

Discussion held on grant scope as commissioners were informed the initial grant that was to be applied for by the Hospital be for 6 EMTs and 3 drivers be to take the Community Integrated Health Worker training and after completion of training, \$3500 be paid to each successful volunteer and the grant would cover additional EMT classes.

The grant presented today included to hire a Community Integrated Health Professional, complete trainings, participate in programs for covid-19 testing, contact tracing, isolating, and vaccination, connecting community members to the programs, healthcare providers, and services; and to designate a Community Integrated Health Professional Supervisor to direct program and do paperwork required. Discussion held on if the positions would need to run through payroll, could be contracted out, be temporary vs permanent part-time, and if positions are over 24 hours per week, eligibility for county insurance. Commissioner Keltner contacted Burt Keltner, CEO to meet with Commissioners later in day.

Discussion held on the Sheriff 2301 Sheriff Retirement 3% contribution and per Local Government Services this can be budgeted in the Sheriff 2300 budget as a special fund is not needed.

3:00 p.m. Road Supervisor Henry gave update on road work completed post storms road damage. He will contact Airport Dale Galland for possible use of the payloader to get stockpiled gravel from Cherry Creek Pit. Call placed to Shane Findley, Bureau of Land Management, to verify that stockpiling gravel from the site is allowed as it will take time to repair the extensive county wide flood damage. The County has 15 consecutive days to remove gravel and the road crew has several days of dirt work to complete first before applying gravel. Gravel reports will need to be submitted to the BLM by October 30, 2022.

Supervisor Henry reported he has 2 trucks out for repairs.

3:30 p.m. Grant Discussion- Hospital CEO Burt Keltner and Ambulance Coordinator Jennifer Grey Eagle Mr. Keltner noted that he did not read the grant contract, nor would he read the grant contract, and it was up to the Commissioners to figure it out and the 5 EMTs taking the class to become Integrated Health Professionals should be able to do what is required of the grant.

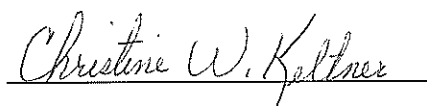
4:10 p.m. Call placed to Montana State University Katie Olson and Rachel Norris to get clarification of grant during the July 20, 2022, commissioner meeting. (406- 994-6495).

4:30 p.m. Discussion of department trades of county vehicles and need for a reliable county car for staff to take to their trainings.

Commissioner Devlin reported he will be absent from the July 20, 2022, meeting as he will be at NACO meetings in Denver, Colorado.


5 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bockness. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Signed this 20 day of July 2022



~~Todd Devlin, Commission Chair~~

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ATTEST: 

Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder