

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting

August 17, 2022

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Todd Devlin, Christine Keltner, and Deanna Bockness met in regular session at 9 a.m. In attendance were Road Supervisor Todd Henry, Road Specialist Gary Pfiefler, Harold Gaub, and Halle Keltner, Eastern MT Field Representative for Senator Tester. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Harold Gaub questioned Supervisor Henry when the hill on Kessler Road would be repaired, and reported issues with the cattleguard, culvert, dirt, and ditch work on Spring Creek Road.

Road Crew removed 276 loads (5244 yards) from the Cherry Creek Gravel Pit from August 1-15, 2022, under the emergency use permit. Gravel placed on roads including Cabin Creek, Spring Creek, Ismay, Highway 340, Red Hills, Bad Route, Coal Creek, and stock-piled gravel at road shop for future use.

Halle Keltner was updated on issues Prairie County is experiencing with getting the BLM gravel pits permitted as the federal government owns approximately 70% subsurface mineral rights in Prairie County. Discussion was held on the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund which would give additional money to assist revenue sharing counties (PILT and SRS) based on real economic conditions rather than historic payments. Payment to counties is being held up in the US Treasury due to Treasury not knowing definition of revenue sharing counties.

Supervisor Henry reported the road crew will do the traffic control and detours for the Top Gun Asphalt/BARSA project of overlay on 3-tenths of one mile on Ten Mile Road and extending around the corner onto the Broadview Bench Road for approximately one hundred yards

Supervisor Henry reported that he will be short-staffed for the next month due to vacations.

Reviewed letter from Carissa Shilling, BLM Geologist regarding leafy spurge at Cherry Creek Gravel Pit and Scenic View Road. Supervisor Henry reported the weed crew had sprayed the gravel pit this spring. Commissioner Keltner called Weed Department and left message.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign gravel donation tax forms for Kyle Mathiason for 3848 tons aggregate for \$7696 and for Fallon Crossing LLC for 1967 tons aggregate for \$3933. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness, all in favor, motion carried.

10:00 a.m. Preliminary budget hearing has been set for August 29, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. at the Prairie County Courthouse. The County Commissioners will meet on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, to consider and adopt the final budgets, mill levies, and permissive mill levies for the Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The preliminary budget is available for inspection at the office of the Clerk & Recorder and notice has been placed in the Terry Tribune for August 17 and August 24, 2022.

Resolution No. 23-4 A Resolution Pursuant to 2-9-212 of the Montana Code Annotated Authorizing a Permissive Medical Levy for FY 2022-23 to Fund Group Health Insurance Premium Contributions by the County of property tax levy of 34.81 mills and **Resolution 23-5** A Resolution Pursuant to MCA 19-7-404 Authorizing a Permissive Sheriff's Retirement System Contribution

Levy for FY 2022-23 for a levy of 1.2702 mills be imposed for the 3% additional contribution for the Sheriff's Retirement System will both be held on August 29, 2022, at 2:30 p.m.

Resolution 2023-6 Adopting Fiscal Year 2022-23 Levies and **Resolution 2023-7** A Resolution of the Commissioners of Prairie County, State of Montana Adopting Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-20023 will be further discussed and signed on September 7, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. during the final budget hearing.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to put above resolutions on Commissioner's Agenda and noticed to the public. Commissioner Bockness seconded motion, all in favor, motion carried.

10:30 a.m. Discussion on Fairgrounds Technical Memorandum on the Fairgrounds Water and Sewer Project. In attendance was County Extension Agent Sharla Sackman, Fair Board Member Tom Pisk, and per telephone Beth Epley, Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation, Chad Hanson and Gina Barry, Project Engineers for Great West Engineering.

Question and answer clarification of Fairground Water and Sewer Technical Memorandum. Great West will revise memorandum per recommendations given and design to match site. Beth Epley will prepare the grant application in conjunction with Great West. The application is due November 1, 2022, obligated by 2024 and to be completed by 2026.

Tom Pisk will contact TRECO Power for placement of another powerline/box at the fairgrounds for the livestock barn and future trailer electrical hookups.

11:30 a.m. Public Comment-no one in for public comment.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the August 3, 2022, minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin, all in favor, motion carried.

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

1:00 p.m. Commissioners reviewed claims and signed warrants in the amount of \$11,744.33. Discussion held on \$2317.20 sheriff vehicle repair for deer accident.

1:30 p.m. Ambulance Coordinator Jennifer Grey Eagle reported the Town of Glendive accepted ambulance bid of \$14,075 for purchase of the 2005 Ford Ambulance. Ms. Grey Eagle will submit claim.

Quote for Server from DIS has not been received.

2:00 p.m. **Resolution 23-08 A RESOLUTION OF THE PRAIRIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISSOLVING THE CABIN CREEK RURAL FIRE DISTRICT UPON PETITION OF PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN SAID DISTRICT.**

A public hearing on the above referenced petition shall be held on the 21st day of September 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in the Prairie County Court House The Clerk & Recorder shall cause notice of such hearing to be published in the Terry Tribune, in accordance with §7-1-2121 MCA, at least 2 times with at least 6 days separating each publication, and shall mail notice to all property owners within the district via USPS first class mail, postage prepaid. Commissioner Kelter made a motion to

place Resolution 23-8 on Commissioner agenda and notice public. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness, all in favor, motion carried.

2:15 p.m. Meals on Wheels discussion to be placed on August 29, 2022, agenda.

3:00 p.m. Commissioner Bockness made a motion to sign grant documents to support the T-Mobile Hometown Grant application and to give approval for the Prairie County Economic Development Council (PCEDC) and the Terry Roping Club to move forward with improvements of the corrals and roping chutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Keltner, all in favor, motion passed.

Dwight Tague in with sign design for the airport. Mr. Tague reported that the \$7800 grant has been received to furnish the truck with equipment and radios for the Cabin Creek district.

3:30 p.m. Milwaukee Bridge Project Commissioner Devlin will follow-up with MACO Director Eric Bryson. Talena Adams, Program Manager for Western Federal Lands Highway Division email noting that Prairie County will need to reapply for the project. MOA, budget, and project timeline will need to be revised, project would fall under IJA funding, Western Federal Lands will take over project delivery with county needing to compete for funds by January 2023.

4:00 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion for Department Heads to decide whether to leave or take down the plexiglass shields. Motion seconded by Commissioner Devlin, all in favor motion passed.

4:30 p.m. Community Paramedicine Program Jennifer Grey Eagle and Andrea Bybee.

Ms. Bybee also reported that she finished the NAAC certified ambulance coding class.

Ms. Bybee reported grant funding \$92,774.00 until May 2024 and with intent Medicare/Medicaid to fund program after. A revised budget was submitted. An office has been rented in the hardware building for \$250/month. Calls placed to Midrivers for authorization to set up internet services. Clarification given that Community Integrated Workers will be paid \$20 per hour and Community Supervisors \$25 per hour **after the completion** of the mandated trainings and will be paid out of the CIH grant. County Attorney Dan Rice will be contacted to work up an agreement that if people do not complete the trainings, it will be their responsibility to pay the training costs.

5 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bockness, all in favor, motion carried.

Signed this 29th day of August 2022



Todd Devlin, Commission Chair

ATTEST:



Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder