

July 19, 2021 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on July 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Chairman John H. Jackson, Commissioner Mike McGinley, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice and their Assistant Cindy Decker.

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris and Public Works Secretary Jamie Flynn joined the meeting.

County Attorney Jed Fitch, Sheriff Paul Craft, Facilities Manager Chris Booth, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Victim Advocate Kayla Patrick and Casey Elliott from the Tribune joined the meeting.

Paul stated that Hwy 43 continues to be closed off and on because of the fires. Ravalli County Sheriff, Steve Holton has contracted with the Forest Service and will be doing patrol on that section of highway to slow folks down but keep them moving. Paul stated that the Butler site is fine so far. The folks in Wisdom seem to be fairly satisfied with the fire fighting. Of course, there have been some complaints. The Alder Creek fire has grown. There will be a cooperative meeting this morning at 11. Adjustments will be made as needed. Black Mountain fire is 13 miles from Jackson and campgrounds have been evacuated. The Goose fire has jumped over by Elk Lake so it is now in Beaverhead County.

Jed stated that they had a big staff meeting last week with Thorin and Jacy. Things are running smoothly. Jed also brought up the fact that we received the grant for \$86,000 which is great news. This is a *huge* win for our county and gave Kayla Patrick (Victim Advocate) kudos for her diligent work on this grant.

Thorin Giest is running for City Judge in Missoula; he can still work here helping the County Attorney's office however. Jed will be taking two weeks off to be with family beginning tomorrow.

Chris stated that he has been working on the storm drain situation. Mike asked him to get a quote from RE Miller on letterhead for the ARPA application.

The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK

July 11th to July 17th, 2021

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Bladed on the following roads: Cosgrove, Schultz, Beaverhead, Buffalo, Antelope, Clayton, Elk, Freeman, Bryce, Grant, Fern, Amber, Nick, Darrin, Wendy, Christine, Webster, Mountain View North & South, Sweetwater, Nissen, Carter Creek, Stone Creek, and Anderson.
- Dust abatement applied on: Stone Creek, Nissen, Carter Creek and Sweetwater.
- Kona radio site clean-up.
- Road checked Dillon area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

LIMA AREA

- Bladed on the following roads: North Valley, South Valley and Lima Dam.
- Rock raked on the North Valley Road and Stibal Lane.
- Road checked Lima and Dell area roads.
- Moved equipment.
- Equipment service and repair.

WISDOM AREA

- Bladed on the following roads: Gibbonsville and Upper North Fork and in Wisdom.
- Sprayed weeds.
- Road checked Jackson and Wisdom area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that the minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda**Discussion & Action ~ Jail Renovations**

Paul handed out a packet of preliminary costs for the jail renovations. The commissioners will review this. Paul has just been so busy with the fires that it's been difficult to focus on other things.

Mike commented that the application for the ARPA money is quite involved; we will have to fill out an application for each project.

Recess

Recess Commission Meeting for 911 Communication Board Meeting and lunch.

At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Jackson reconvened the meeting with Commissioner McGinley, Commissioner Rice and their Assistant Cindy Decker present.

Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion

The new Chancellor for the University of Montana Western, Mike Reid, joined the meeting to officially meet the Commissioners and offer any help with the fire situation in Beaverhead County.

Routine matters occupied the attention of the Board for the remainder of the day.

Payment of Invoices

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$60,284.57, beginning with check #207621 and ending with check #207653. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Discussion & Action ~ Appointment of Superintendent of Schools

County Attorney Jed Fitch, Superintendent of Schools Linda Marsh, Casey Elliott from the Tribune, Dillon residents Jim Valach and Mike Miller joined the meeting. Jed began the discussion by reading MCA 20-3-201(2) aloud with an explanation. The commissioners may not appoint anyone that does not hold a *current* teaching certificate. We have received two applications but neither has a current certificate. Much discussion ensued.

This subject will be on the agenda next Monday the 26th again for more discussion and information.

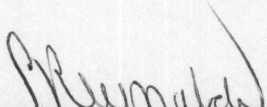
Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

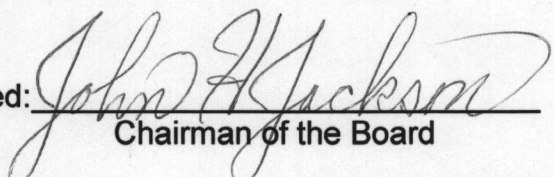
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attest:



Clerk of the Board

Approved:



Chairman of the Board