

January 10, 2022 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on January 10, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Chairman Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner John H. Jackson, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice and their Assistant Cindy Decker.

Pledge of Allegiance

At this time, all those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to begin the day.

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris joined the meeting and began by stating that the crew has been busy plowing snow. He said that it is ironic that the Centennial Valley really hasn't had much snow yet.

County Attorney Jed Fitch, Deputy County Attorney Jennifer Morgan, Facilities Manager Chris Booth, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Sheriff Paul Craft and Casey Elliott from the Tribune joined the meeting.

Mike welcomed Chris Booth back to work after many months off from Covid. He will be working several hours a day to begin with. Chris commented that he is just catching up on paperwork and emails. He thanked Shonna and Jim for really stepping up during his illness.

Paul said that they have found a way to get the cable over to the radio room. He said that the jail renovations will hopefully begin in mid-February.

Jed deferred to Jennifer to address the Roberts Rule of Order question. Jed had asked if the commissioners have ever moved and voted to adopt the rules. Mike replied that we have looked in the minutes over the years to no avail. Her answer is that the chairman has the same rights and abilities as the other board members to make motions and vote; but the suggestion is that the Chairman should vote last to avoid deference.

Jed suggested that the commissioners formally adopt the Roberts Rules of Order on the next agenda. Even though the commissioners have been observing these rules over the years, it should be done in writing and formally and in its current edition.

Tracy handed out a printout of the most recent census and the three commissioner districts and how it has affected them. It looks like Commissioner McGinley has 34.44%, Commissioner Rice has 32.69% and Commissioner Jackson has 32.86% of the county's population. Mike suggested that some minor adjustments could take place right in the city limits. This issue will be discussed throughout the year.

Mike commented that it is quite interesting that according to this last census, Beaverhead County's population only went up by about 120 people. This is hard to believe. Mike said that even if there was an error in the census, it won't be changed for this year; it could be adjusted on the estimate next year.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK January 2nd to January 8th, 2022 Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Plowed snow on the following areas: Horse Prairie, Elkhorn and Melrose area and local roads.
- Road checked Dillon area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

LIMA AREA

- Plowed snow on the following roads: South Valley and Lima Dam.
- Flood control on Lima Dam Road.
- Moved equipment.
- Road checked Lima and Dell area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

WISDOM AREA

- Plowed snow on the following roads: Skinner Meadows, Miner Lake, Little Lake Creek, Big Swamp Creek, Big Lake Creek, Twin Lakes, Steel Creek, Upper and Lower North Fork, Lower Bender Creek, Lower Mussigrod, Warm Springs, Gibbonsville, Rock Creek, Moose Creek, Jackson, dump, firehall, and school.
- Road checked Jackson and Wisdom area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the December 27, 2021 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner moved and Commissioner seconded that the minutes of the December 27, 2021 meeting be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda

Mike mentioned that he has been receiving emails (which he has forwarded on to the other two commissioners) from Clenera solar company asking that the Upland Dillon be categorized as a qualifying facility. They are planning on coming to Dillon in March to break ground for the Apex facility. Mike does not see how *both* of the facilities can meet the qualifications to become qualifying facilities. Time will tell.

Stacey said that she would like to set up the voting booths in the Commissioner's Room on the Monday before elections. The Commissioners gave their blessing and said that they will meet elsewhere or do something else to make this work.

Discussion ~ County Planner Year End Report

Planner Rob Macioroski and Planning Board Chairman Larry Volkening joined the meeting. Rob began the discussion by reading his presentation aloud. A copy of this report can be found in the Planner's office and on the website.

Jed suggested that the county should consider making a list of all the septic permits issued during a year and forwarding it on to the Department of Revenue so there is somewhat of a check and balance system for new builds. Rob concurred.

Mike said that the big question is are we interested in zoning or implementing building permits? How strict do we want to go?

Larry said that the Planning Board did a survey on what the folks of Beaverhead County would like to see done. Now, he feels that the Board needs to hear from the Commissioners what THEY would like to see. Larry expressed concern about how this all will look in 20 years; we need to be proactive rather than reactive.

Rob said that one of the components of the Growth Policy is the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and that is what the Board will be concentrating on in the next few meetings.

Discussion & Action ~ RFP/RFQ for Property and Casualty Insurance Agent Services

Chairman McGinley began the discussion by stating that this should just be done every so often just to keep the costs down. Commissioner Rice concurred that this should be done statewide. Right now, HUB insurance is Beaverhead County's agent.

MOTION: Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that Beaverhead County go out for an RFP/RFQ for Beaverhead County Property and Casualty Insurance Agent. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Cindy will get the advertisement in the Tribune this week.

Discussion ~ Scheduling quarterly Department Head Meetings

Jed was unable to attend this meeting at 11. He expressed his support to have quarterly Department Head meetings before the meeting took place.

Clerk & Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Planner Rob Macioroski, and GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer joined the meeting.

The subject of using company vehicles as opposed to using personal vehicles to travel to conferences etc. was discussed.

Tracy mentioned that his wife works for the Federal Government and they have a "no tolerance" policy of using a company vehicle for any personal use in any way including transporting purchased goods while in the "big city".

Stacey feels that if the county vehicles were more reliable that people would be more apt to utilize them.

Mike would like to pick a quarterly date set in stone for Department Head meetings. It was decided that we will have Department Head meetings every 4th Monday of each quarter at 1:30 p.m. but the first meeting will be Monday, January 24th at 9:30 a.m.

Recess

At 12:00 noon, Chairman McGinley recessed the meeting. At 1:30 p.m., Chairman McGinley reconvened the meeting with Commissioner Jackson, Commissioner Rice and their Assistant Cindy Decker present.

Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion

Lima Mayor Dave Olson joined the meeting to check in.

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 \$462,117.51, beginning with check #208787 and ending with check #208846. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

Dillon resident George Warner joined the meeting to discuss a lease increase of the Airport leases. He would like a copy of the new airport lease contract. He expressed concern about the notices of the meetings and would like to be included in the email list for agendas for the Airport Board and the Board of Health as well. He referred to the last contract that he has. He believes that this particular contract expired 2 years ago.

George also commented on the new cell tower down by Dell. He, like Commissioner McGinley, believes that it should be lit regardless of what the FAA says. He would like to see this revisited. Mike commented that even our own county tower ordinance discourages the lighting of towers.

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