

February 14, 2022 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on February 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Chairman Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice, Commissioner John H. Jackson and their Assistant Cindy Decker.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris joined the meeting. They are still hauling gravel on Ten Mile Road and it is extremely dry and dusty with no snow. The Road Department will meet with Chairman McGinley tomorrow to go over budgets unless the weatherman is right and a snow storm arrives tonight.

Facilities Manager Chris Booth, Superintendent of Schools Mike Miller, County Attorney Jed Fitch, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Deputy County Attorney Jennifer Morgan, Casey Elliott from the Tribune and Sheriff Paul Craft joined the meeting. Chris said he is waiting on quotes for the carpeting.

Mike has the spelling bee this Wednesday and he has a teacher observation in Jackson on Friday.

Paul said that the jail renovations are on schedule to begin on March 7, 2022. He will need to meet with the County Attorney regarding what will be done with the inmates during the renovations. He also wanted to discuss hiring someone for detention.

Paul stated that late last Friday, he got word from Dunne Communications that the repeater 966 Wisdom and Wisdom Sheriff were functioning and he wants someone to go and test it. He also received a quote for the 5 repeaters (as discussed in the 911 meeting) for \$21,305 and that information has been relayed to the County Attorney's office so they can draft a contract. Jed and Jennifer will be working on that including a penalty phase if not completed within 21 days.

Paul said that the ambulance has been received for Coroner use. He asked what the Deputy Coroners will be paid when they respond. Jed replied that the best thing to do would be to use a deputy who is on duty already. Paul responded by saying that he only has one actual deputy that is deputized as deputy coroner and one is a city police. Paul will speak with the Chief of Police. Chairman McGinley would like to know how many times in the past year the Coroner was called out. It varies too greatly from year to year to make a guess. Jed said that sometimes a call is 10 minutes long and sometimes it could be many hours. Mike will check into the Coroner budget.

Paul asked when the swearing in will be for the new Deputy Coroners. It is set for this Wednesday the 16th at 9:00 a.m.

Mike commented that he would like Jed to draw up a policy statement or contract that is more "generic" and can be used for other situations and then just "tweaked" for each contract.

Tracy is applying for a MLIA (Montana Land Information Act) grant which is due tomorrow.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK February 6th to February 12th, 2022 Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Plowed snow on the following areas: Horse Prairie
- Hauled gravel on Ten Mile Road.
- Safety Meeting
- Moved equipment.
- Road checked Dillon area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

LIMA AREA

- Plowed snow on the following roads: South Valley and Little Sheep Creek.
- Hauled gravel on Ten Mile Road.
- Safety Meeting.
- Moved equipment.
- Shop cleaning and maintenance.
- 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, Upper and Lower North Fork, Lower Bender Creek, Twin Lakes, Rock Creek, Moose Creek, Big Lake Creek, Big Swamp Creek, Steel Creek, Gibbonsville, Warm Springs and in Wisdom.
- Cleaned a culvert in Wisdom.
- Safety Meeting.
- Road checked Jackson and Wisdom area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.