

March 21, 2022 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on March 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: Chairman Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice, and their Assistant Cindy Decker. Commissioner John H. Jackson was absent.

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. He said that the bridge at Corrine Trail has been installed. It snowed over the weekend so the crew did some plowing.

GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Facilities Manager Chris Booth, Superintendent of Schools Mike Miller, DES Coordinator/Land Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, Sheriff Paul Craft, Jail Commander Dan Fields and Casey Elliott from the Tribune joined the meeting. Chairman McGinley said that we may have the fire drill this Friday so each department can check their exit lights etc.

Mike Miller will be in Wise River on Wednesday.

Tom W. said that he is working on the EMPG that is due the end of this month. Joyce has been doing quite a few inspections to keep up with everything. Septic permitting has been super busy. He went up to the solar farm site and spoke with the folks there right now and they expressed concerns about housing during construction. There will be several hundred workers coming in. Mike Miller asked if anyone has heard if any of these workers will have school aged children; because that would be a huge influx for the schools.

Tracy has new computers to get set up in several county offices.

Paul said the jail project is coming along nicely. The Sierra Repeater has been installed and is working. Mr. Dunne plans on doing Maurer next week but is hesitant to start on Ellis because of the weather. On a side note, Dunne never did sign the agreement. Chairman McGinley would like to have a day set aside so the public can take a tour of the newly remodeled jail.

Dan expressed thanks to the Road Department for helping them remove a steel bench from one of the cells in the jail.

Jed complimented the Sheriff staff on how well they have worked during the detention renovations and the transporting of prisoners. He also stated that his office continues to be extremely busy.

Chris stated that his crew plowed snow over the weekend as well.

Chairman McGinley said that there will be a Department Head meeting in early April and he would like each person to be thinking about their budgets and what they will need. He brought up, as an example, having an elevator installed in the courthouse. He discussed the different "buckets" of money from ARPA, Cares, Homeland Security Grants and HB 632. This is actually our grandkids and/or great grandkids' money, so we want to use it to benefit *them* in the future and be here in years to come, not just us right here right now.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORKMarch 13th to March 19th, 2022

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Plowed snow on the Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway.
- Bladed the Stonehouse Road.
- Replaced bridge on Corinne Trail.
- Road checked Dillon area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

LIMA AREA

- Plowed snow and hauled gravel on Little Sheep Road.
- Bladed on Sage Creek Road.
- Gravel pit reclamation GP219 – Big Sheep Creek.
- Moved equipment.
- Road checked Lima and Dell area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

WISDOM AREA

- Shop maintenance and yard cleaning.
- Road checked Jackson and Wisdom area roads.
- Equipment service and repair.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the March 15, 2022 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded that the minutes of the March 15, 2022 meeting be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda

Treasurer Cathy Huckle joined the meeting and presented the February Cash report.

Commissioner Rice presented a letter from MDOT concerning the new curb ramps, sidewalks and/or approaches adjacent to Beaverhead County property. Chairman McGinley will sign and date giving permission to MDOT to pursue this.

Bob Ferris and Jamie Flynn joined the meeting to discuss the Road Agreement with Clenera Solar. Chairman McGinley will sign and date this agreement today and will be revisited on April 1, 2023.

Discussion & Action ~ Construction & Maintenance Agreement – S Hwy 324 Project

Bob Ferris, Tracy Sawyer and Jamie Flynn joined the meeting. Andy White from DOT called in on speaker phone in case anyone had any questions. Jed Fitch joined the meeting as well. Andy said that this is pretty much a standard agreement.

After brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded that the Construction & Maintenance Agreement for S Hwy 324 Project be approved and signed. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Recess

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

Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion

Financial Administrator Betty Tinsley DeMars, Sheriff Paul Craft, Jail Commander Dan Fields, GIS Coordinator Tracey Sawyer, DES Coordinator/Land Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht and Casey Elliott from the Tribune joined the meeting and discussion began regarding CARES, ARPA, HB 632 and the Homeland Security Grant monies.

Basically, what needs to happen is to wait for all the invoices for the detention remodel to come in and then decide which "bucket" the bills will be paid out of.

It was suggested that a letter be drafted from the commissioners to NW Energy requesting *them* to remove the transformers from the breezeway.

Jed Fitch joined the meeting late.

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 \$17,496.84, beginning with check #209247 and ending with check #209271. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

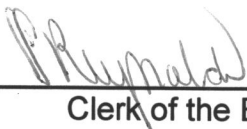
Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

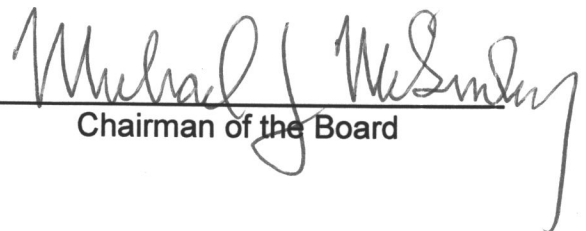
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attest: _____



Clerk of the Board

Approved: _____



Chairman of the Board