

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARINGS
May 11, 2020, Minutes**

On Monday, May 11, 2020, the Board of Madison County Commissioners conducted Preliminary Budget Hearings beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the Madison County Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Ron Nye, and Jim Hart present. Commissioner Dan Allhands, Chairman, was absent for personal reasons. Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the hearings were Vicki Tilstra, Bonnie O'Neill, Denny Lueck, Kacey Smart, Van Puckett (via telephone), Joe Brummell, Lynda Holt, and Phil Fortner.

Solid Waste, Junk Vehicle, Recycling Preliminary Budget Hearing: Denny Lueck, Solid Waste Foreman, and Kacey Smart, Solid Waste/Sanitarian Administrative Assistant, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the Solid Waste, Junk Vehicle, and Recycling programs. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this meeting. Denny stated that they were over in machine repair but only used 30% of the tire budget so they moved \$5,000 from tires to machine repair. All other line items will remain the same. Denny asked the Board to consider increasing the pay scale for Solid Waste and Roads. He stated he has been here for 30 years and has never gotten an increase other than the annual cost of living increases. He stated that other departments have gotten increases and he feels like they're being overlooked. He stated that drivers have to maintain CDLs and are subject to random drug testing that is not required of other departments. Denny said a couple of bucks would be nice, adding that he doesn't want to be greedy. He also asked that the County pay the medical insurance for the Solid Waste Department as it does for the nursing homes and other departments. Vicki stated that if departments have funds to cover the insurance, they let them cover it. If not it is paid by the general fund. Kacey added that the Solid Waste Board is thinking about increasing the Solid Waste fees and adding another guy. There was discussion about moving the pilot shack from the Ennis Airport to the Ennis Landfill, manning the Solid Waste sites, and setting up a Solid Waste District in conjunction with Jefferson County.

Sanitarian's Preliminary Budget Hearing: Kacey Smart, Solid Waste/Sanitarian Administrative Assistant, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the Sanitarian's Department. Van Puckett, Sanitarian, participated in the meeting via telephone. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this meeting. Wages were discussed. Kacey will talk to Vicki about wages. She thinks they will be fine, even with Joe's wages, but will double-check. Van stated that training line could be reduced by \$5,000. That amount could be added to the salary line if needed. It was noted that gas costs will be down. Van also discussed contract services and explained what this line item is used for. Kacey discussed Joe's position, stating that since it is a 90-day position they've been cramming as much as they can into each day. He has been working 10 to 12 hours, 2 days a week. She added that Van is still doing a ton of phone calls.

Homeland Security/Disaster and Emergency Preliminary Budget Hearing: Joe Brummell, Director of Emergency Management, presented the Board with the budget for DES. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this meeting. Joe stated he would like to bring his deputy up to 30 hours per week, and discussed the advantages of doing so and duties that he would be assigned. He would like to add \$1,000 to Maintenance and Repairs because the SAT trailer needs new tires and bearings; and is adding \$2,500 to the contingency fund as he is trying to bring it up to \$10,000. He noted that FEMA ends on August 3rd and contract services will also go away, so both of those funds will be zeroed out. There was discussion about other grant opportunities. Joe stated that because we were the recipient of two back to back grants, they would likely not get one for a while. There was also discussion about the status of Pre-Construction Safety Reviews. Joe stated they were down for a while but are now picking up again, specifically in the Raynold's Pass area.

Communications Department Preliminary Budget Hearing: Lynda Holt, Communications Coordinator, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the Communications Department. Phil Fortner, Sheriff, Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this meeting. Lynda stated that there were not a whole lot of changes but did request doing something for officers who are assigned training duties. The training period typically lasts for three months and creates additional responsibilities for the person doing the training, basically doubling their workload. She stated that Gallatin County gives the trainers an extra hour per shift. Phil agreed they should get something and suggested \$1.50 to \$2.00 per hour, adding that it would be about 1500 hours per year for training three new people. Lynda stated that they don't currently need anyone right now and is hoping they don't have to train in the coming year. There was also discussion about Communications towers and where funding for them comes from. Lynda also noted that there were no changes to the 911 budget.

Sheriff/911/Jail/Dispatch Preliminary Budget Hearing: Phil Fortner, Sheriff, presented the Board with the preliminary budgets for Sheriff, Coroner Services, and Care and Custody of Prisoners. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this meeting. Phil reviewed changes to the Sheriff's budget noting increases in clothing and uniforms, gas and fuel, tires, and training due to hiring 3 new deputies. He also noted an increase in contract payments due to an increase in the Big Sky Law Enforcement contract and the possibility of having to assist in additional dispatchers for Big Sky. He decreased the vehicle budget by \$4,000, making the overall increase for the Sheriff budget \$18,300. Phil stated that the Coroner budget would remain the same. He discussed Care and Custody of Prisoners noting a decrease in chemicals/lab supplies and other operating supplies due to no longer having a jail, but increased medical/dental/hospital and boarding prisoners for an overall increase in this budget of \$7,200. Phil stated there were no changes to the drug forfeiture budget. The need for a jail was discussed along with the repairs needed on the old courthouse.

With no further business, the hearings concluded at 2:10 p.m.

Dan W. Allhands, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: June 9, 2020

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant

Attest: _____
Kathleen Mumme, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County