

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
January 8, 2019, Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, January 8, 2019, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:39 a.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Ron Nye, Chairman, and Dan Allhands present. Commissioner Jim Hart was absent to attend the Montana Weed Control Association conference in Great Falls, Montana. Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Bonnie O'Neill, Charity Fechter, Tikker Jones, Bob Bates, Chris Hunt, Dana Escott, and Phil Fortner.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

Approval of Minutes: Dan Allhands moved to approve the November 28, 2018, Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes as presented. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Approval of the December 18, 2018, minutes was continued to the next regular Commission meeting so that Commissioner Jim Hart can be present.

Charity Fechter, Floodplain Administrator, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Flood Plain Permit – Varney Bridge:** Charity presented the floodplain permit application for a bridge replacement project on the Varney Cutoff Road. She went over the basics of the project as well as the proposed timeline, reviewed findings, and explained conditions for approval of the permit. Based on the recommendation of the Floodplain Administrator, Dan Allhands moved to affirm the Floodplain Development Permit application from MDOT, Permit # M 2019-01, for bridge replacement and associated approach and riprap improvements on the Varney Cutoff Road (S-249) over the Madison River. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Health Board Resignation: The Board reviewed Ke'lah Savage's letter of resignation from the Public Health Board. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Dan Allhands moved to approve Ke'lah Savage's resignation from the Public Health Board, effective immediately. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Extension Request for the Integrated Behavioral Health Grant Project: The Board reviewed a request submitted by Doris Fischer, Mental Health Local Advisory Council Secretary, for a further extension of the Integrated Behavioral Health Grant project period, through March, 2019. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the request for the Integrated Behavioral Health Grant project to be extended until March 31, 2019. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

MDT Adopt a Bridge Program – Varney Bridge: The Board reviewed documents amending the 2017 MOU with MDT regarding the Adopt a Bridge program for the Varney Bridge. The amendment specifies that, when removed, the existing bridge structure will become the property of the contractor, who will dispose of all materials in accordance with state and local specifications. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve Addendum #1 to the existing 2017 MOU between Madison County and the Montana Department of Transportation for the planning and construction of the Varney Bridge. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Solid Waste Board: Tikker Jones, Solid Waste Board Chairman, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Request for License for New Solid Waste Transfer Site in Harrison:** Tikker discussed how things are going at several solid waste sites, including Palisades, Cardwell, and Pony. He presented the Solid Waste Board's recommendation to establish a new solid waste site in Harrison which would replace and consolidate the Pony and Cardwell sites, solve ongoing issues at both locations, and provide additional benefits due to its location, although residents may have a longer drive to the new site. It was noted that the County owns the Pony site, purchased from a private owner about 15 years ago. Following discussion, Dan Allhands moved to approve the application to the DNRC for a 50-year license to locate a new Madison County Solid Waste & Recycling transfer site on state land near Harrison, Montana. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

December 2018 Monthly Safety Report: Bob Bates, Safety Coordinator, met with the Board to present the Safety report for the month of December, 2018. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Bob discussed several activities and item details listed on the safety report for December, including the various meetings and trainings Bob has attended and/or facilitated, incidents investigated, assessments and inspections, safety items ordered to correct findings, and the distribution of weekly safety topics. He noted that a new road employee in Harrison is a certified flagger instructor, and can train road crews as needed. Bob has attended an MSHA train-the-trainer course and will be qualified to conduct the safety portion of county MSHA training, with qualified road foremen conducting the site-specific portion.

Courthouse Elevator Project: The Board briefly discussed the Courthouse elevator project. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Since the latest status and pricing are not finalized, information needs to be obtained from the architects. Discussion ensued about the primary issues being addressed with the current approach, public meetings, future electrical and plumbing concerns, and the compliance with conditions of the Courthouse Preservation Grant improvements completed several years ago.

IT Department: Chris Hunt, IT Director, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Madison County Records Retention Policy:** Chris presented the Board with a draft of the Madison County Records Retention Policy. He will post it on the IT website as a reference for employees, and departments can develop further details as appropriate to their specific situation. Following discussion, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Madison County Records Retention Policy dated December, 2018, as presented. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Fair Manager: Dana Escott, Fair Manager, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Fair Update:** Dana presented the Board with a December update on the Fair. She noted that the summer schedule is already pretty full and they are starting to book events in September. She also discussed several results from a recent safety inspection, rodeo and fair finances, and recounted benefits gained from attending a fair conference. The 2019 fair is shaping up: the theme is chosen, a potential parade marshal has been contacted, some entertainment is booked, and Dana is working on getting sponsors to help with the higher entertainment expenses. Further discussion included county sponsorship of Ranch Rodeo, playground use and donors, hog panels, bank erosion repairs using rural development funds, the possibility of a new arena, granite wall completion, advertising commitments and articles for the fair book, and upgrades to electrical and water systems in fair buildings.
- **Fair Board Recommendation Re: Security Cameras:** Dana presented a Fair Board recommendation that security cameras not be purchased at this time due to a lack of issues in years past. She is using industry contacts to gather information about the use of security cameras by similar venues.

Courthouse Elevator Project, continued: Phil Fortner, Sheriff, came in to ask the Board about the most recent status of the Courthouse elevator project, and how the remodel will affect the jail and sheriff's office. Discussion included the need for various workers to relocate during construction, who might go where, possible temporary locations including the Bowling building on Wallace Street, and the need for the Sheriff's Office electronics and evidence room to remain secure. A call was made to Bill Hanson, ThinkOne Architects, to check on the status of the project. Discussion ensued about minimizing the impact on the lower floor of the courthouse. Given the long term plan of ultimately relocating the jail and Sherriff's Offices to a different location, it was decided that work in the basement should be minimized and the focus should be on the upper two floors. Phil remarked that ADA access needs in the jail have been minimal in the past and reasonable accommodation can be made with wheelchair assistance, reducing the necessity for a major remodel in that area. He did note, however, that the wiring in the basement ceiling should be cleaned up, and Bill will have an electrical engineer come out to look at it. Bill surmised that there may be some impact to the basement area due to demolition, plumbing work and power shut-offs, but the evidence room and surveillance cameras don't need to be removed, and due to the limited impact the Sheriff's office would likely not be required to move out, unless it becomes necessary for a week or so at some point. He will have more information after discussing the change with the contractors, but said reducing the work in the basement will substantially reduce the overall cost of the project. He noted that the contractors are still gathering information and preliminary bids from sub-contractors, hopes to have enough information from them within a couple of weeks to get a barometer of the costs, and will call to get back on the Agenda in February when he has more details. The 2004 Historic Preservation Grant was briefly discussed, and Bill stated that while the grant agreement limits the amount of modification that can be done with the building, based on previous conversations with the state historic preservation officer he doesn't see any conflict with the conditions of the agreement as long as the plan is meeting ADA requirements. He doesn't anticipate any issues from local historical groups since the remodel is not substantially affecting the outside of the building.

Calendars: The Board reviewed calendars.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana.

Ronald E. Nye, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: January 15, 2019

Minutes prepared by:

Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk

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