

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**March 6, 2018, Meeting Minutes**

On Tuesday, March 6, 2018, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 10:50 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 National Association of Counties conferences in Washington, D.C. Laurie Buyan, Commissioners' Assistant, and Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, were present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Tommy Luksha, Bonnie O'Neill, Denny Lueck, Jani Flinn, and the people on the attached lists.

**Approval of Minutes:** Dan Allhands moved to approve minutes from the February 20, 2018, meeting. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Road Naming Resolution:** Tommy Luksha, GIS, presented documents to support assigning the name of Gold Cup Road to a previously-unnamed driveway in the Bradley Creek area. This road provides access to more than one property, there has been confusion about correct addresses, and landowners requested the fix and suggested the name. After review, Dan Allhands moved to adopt Resolution 11-2018, Resolution of Road Name Change in Madison County, naming Gold Cup Road. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Montana Association of GIS Professionals Conference:** Tommy Luksha, GIS, requested the Board's approval to attend the Montana Association of Geographic Information Professionals conference, April 16-19, 2018, in Helena. He detailed costs, current budget, and noted the value of networking contacts gained at last year's conference. After consideration, Dan Allhands moved to approve Tommy Luksha's attendance at the 2018 Big Sky GeoCon conference in Helena, starting April 16, 2018, at a total cost of \$1,297.00. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Journal Vouchers:** Dan Allhands moved to approve Journal Vouchers for the 2/18 accounting period. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Claims:** The Board approved claims.

**Airports:** No airport topics were discussed.

**Quote for Beds at TRMCC:** Dan Allhands moved to approve the request by the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center to purchase two new beds for a total of \$3,278.81, including shipping. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Housing Board Appointment(s):** Dan Allhands moved to appoint Ray Shaw, Madison County resident, to the Madison County Housing Board. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Elected Board Member Appointments by Acclamation:** Following review of a letter from the Clerk and Recorder listing candidates who have filed for office, Dan Allhands moved to appoint by acclamation all of those candidates that have filed Declarations and Oaths of Office for unopposed seats in Fire Districts, Hospital Districts, and Sewer and Water Districts of Madison County. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Decision on Road Review Committee Recommendation for Pony/Mammoth Road:** The Board reviewed the recommendation from the Road Review Committee for the Pony/Mammoth Road. Present for this portion of the meeting were Justin Ekwall, Deputy County Attorney; RRC members Al Hendricks,

Chairman, and Ellis Thompson; Tommy Luksha, RRC Secretary; and guests from the Pony/Mammoth area (see attached list). Ron Nye stated that the Board has reviewed the Road Review Committee's recommendation regarding the road between Mammoth and Pony, and have read the letters from area residents. Dan Allhands moved to accept the recommendation of the Road Review Committee stating that the road between Mammoth and Pony is a County Road, and to pursue reopening the previously closed portion of the roadway. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Discussion included the following topics:

- Contacting Forest Service, local mining operators and landowners prior to issuing written notifications;
- Possible resistance to restoring closed section of road;
- Importance of establishing agreement and/or legal status before initiating any road work;
- Individuals, agencies and other Counties who may be helpful with legal process;
- Establishing right-of-ways under BLM Revised Statute 2477 and the Quiet Title Act;
- Road signage regarding private land;
- Involvement of County attorneys vs. experienced outside legal counsel, in anticipation of similar road issues in the future.

Ron Nye closed the discussion by noting that this was a productive meeting, thanking the RRC for their hard work, and reiterating the Board's intention to proceed.

**County Attorney Assistant – Authorization to Fill:** Bonnie O'Neill, Human Resources, presented the Board with the upcoming resignation of a County Legal Assistant, and requested that the position be filled two weeks prior to the departure of the current employee for training purposes. Dan Allhands moved to approve authorization to fill the County Attorney Legal Assistant position on a permanent, 40-hour per week basis, hourly wage ranging from \$16.78 to \$20.97, with an anticipated start date of April 16, 2018. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Speed Study Request for Alder:** In response to Alder-area business concerns about highway safety, Dan Allhands moved to approve sending a letter to the Montana Department of Transportation requesting a speed study to be conducted in Alder, Montana. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Resolution of Budget Amendment – Road District 3:** Following review, Dan Allhands moved to adopt Resolution 12-2018, increasing the Road District 3 budget by \$67,031.00. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Purchase of Recycle Boxes:** Denny Lueck, Solid Waste Foreman, requested permission to purchase two heavy recycling boxes for Pony and Norris. Windy days cause current containers to blow over, scattering contents around dumpsite grounds. Denny purchased used boxes in the past for \$4,500 each, and the same source will have two boxes available in April. Discussion ensued about non-resident use of dump sites, primarily in Cardwell and Norris, and the idea of moving the Cardwell site to State-owned ground. Following discussion, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Solid Waste request to purchase two used recycle boxes for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Grants:** The Board discussed the following grant related topics. Jani Flinn, Grant Administrator, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **TSEP Contract:** Janie distributed copies of the finalized TSEP Contract for Laurin Bridge Replacement. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Montana Department of Commerce Treasure State Endowment Program Contract #MT-TSEP-CG-19-987, pending review and approval by the County Attorney. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Fairgrounds Masterplan:** This topic was continued to the next regular Commission meeting.

**Gas Tax Maps/Mileage Certification Forms:** This topic was continued to the next regular Commission meeting.

**Courthouse Elevator Project:** This topic was continued to the next regular Commission meeting.  
**Administrative Office Building Canopies:** This topic was continued to the next regular Commission meeting.

**Audit Exit (Public Meeting Room):** The Board moved its meeting to the Public Meeting Room to hear the report from an internal audit conducted by Bob Denning of Denning, Downey & Associates, P.C., CPAs. Present for this portion of the meeting were those people on the attached list. Bob stated that this was a combined Federal, State, and private audit, because the County received over \$750,000 in Federal funds. He stated that the audit in this area produced clean results. His firm will submit the required reports to both the Federal government and to the State of Montana. Bob explained that in every report he includes an overall opinion statement, and the report for Madison County will include his opinion that “the financial statements are fairly stated.” Bob went on to explain areas of concern and his suggestions for improvement in those areas, several of which had already been addressed based on his input.

**Calendars:** The Board reviewed calendars.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

**Next meeting:** The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana.

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Ronald E. Nye, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: March 13, 2018

Minutes prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Bacon, Commissioner’s Clerk, and

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Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Mumme, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County