

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 26, 2019, Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, March 26, 2019, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Ron Nye, Chairman, Jim Hart, and Dan Allhands present. Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Leona Stredwick, John de Jarlis, Tommy Luksha, Bonnie O'Neill, Dana Escott, Tammy Mahlstede, Vicki Tilstra, Jani Flinn, Cindy Purdue-Dolan, Phil Fortner, and Ken Bailey.

Approval of Minutes: After review, Jim Hart moved to approve the March 12, 2019, Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes, with corrections. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Dan Allhands moved to approve the March 19, 2019, Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes, with corrections. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

Planning Office: Leona Stredwick, Planner I, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. John de Jarlis, Madison County resident, Tommy Luksha, GIS Coordinator, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for all or portions of these topics.

- **Resolution (#18) of Road Name Change – East L&M Ranch Road:** Leona explained that the road name change for the East L&M Ranch Road was initiated when Tommy was in the area gathering map data, and discussed renaming the surveyed road with a local resident. A petition was then received with agreement from 100% of the affected landowners. Tommy pointed out his objection to the use of an ampersand in a road name because it tends to cause problems with GIS scripts and databases, and increases the potential for future issues. The main road nearby already contains an ampersand, alternatives were discussed, but it was decided that the ampersand would remain in the name for now, although it may need to be changed later. Leona read the Resolution. Based on the recommendation of the Planning Department, Jim Hart moved to approve Resolution 18-2019, Resolution of Road Name Change in Madison County, for East L&M Ranch Road. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Resolution (#19) of Road Name Change – Red Wheat Drive:** After visiting the GIS office, a petition was sent in by a local landowner to change the road name of a previously unnamed driveway to Red Wheat Drive. Leona read the Resolution. Based on the Planning Department's recommendation, Dan Allhands moved to approve Resolution 19-2019, Resolution of Road Name Change in Madison County, for Red Wheat Road. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Resolution (#20) of Road Name Change – Allentown Road:** Leona explained that a petition was brought in to give the name of Allentown Road to an unnamed road easement in Cameron, after several issues were resolved. She read the Resolution. Based on the recommendation of the Planning Department, Jim Hart moved to approve Resolution 20-2019, Resolution of Road Name Change in Madison County, for Allentown Road. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Resolution (#21) of Road Name Change – North L&M Ranch Road:** Leona read the Resolution to change the name of a previously-unnamed road easement to North L&M Ranch Road. Tommy again stated his objection to the name containing an ampersand, for the reasons listed above. Following review, Jim Hart moved to approve Resolution 21-2019, Resolution of Road Name Change in Madison County, for North L&M Ranch Road. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Discussion ensued about the emphasis on avoiding duplication of road names within each county to reduce any chance for confusion. Leona also handed out a

map of an area that may be under review soon, and briefly reviewed the issues of emergency access, neighbor disputes, confusion regarding private roads, and gates. John de Jarlis asked about potential address number changes in his neighborhood. Leona explained how the numbering system is supposed to work and the reasons that address numbers might need to be reassigned, and pointed out that clarity is especially important in the event that emergency services are needed. She told him that if address corrections are required to reflect the road names and house locations, the GIS Department would send them a notice and they can work with Tommy on that. Leona then turned to discussing upcoming projects where a senior planner's review will be required, and asked for the Board's guidance about options. Bonnie initiated a conference call with Alex Hogle, the newly-hired Planning Director, to discuss his ability and willingness to start work on a part-time, as-needed basis prior to his anticipated start date of May 1, 2019, and Leona reviewed timelines for projects that may be coming in. Alex expressed openness to starting work part-time in order to help with Planning projects, and scheduled meetings with Planning and Human Resources at the end of the week to get the process started.

- **Driftwaters Final Plat:** There was no discussion on this topic.

Gas Tax Maps: Tommy Luksha, GIS Coordinator, met with the Board regarding updates to the Gas Tax allocation maps. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this portion of the meeting. Tommy received instructions from the DOT about how to submit the Mileage Certification form. Any adjustments to the road mileage will take place in late spring of this year, and Tommy will talk to the Commissioners further about roads under consideration.

Human Resources: Tammy Mahlstedt, Human Resource Generalist, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Dana Escott, Fair Manager, were present for all or portions of these topics.

- **Authorization to Fill Fairgrounds Groundskeeper (2 Positions) Part-time:** Dana discussed hiring part-time Fairgrounds Groundskeepers for summer positions. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Authorization to Fill for two part-time Fairgrounds Groundskeeper positions. Jim Hart seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about defining time and duration for these positions and the ramifications of different options, and it was determined that they should have a stated start and end date, be defined as short term this year, and as temporary starting next year. Following discussion, all voted aye and the motion carried.
- **New Fairgrounds Crew Assistant Job Description:** Dana explained the position of Fairgrounds Crew Assistant, said that the Fair Board had approved the job description, and there was some discussion about advertising for permanent versus seasonal, retaining qualified people, the possibility of benefits, and how positions have been filled in the past. Following discussion, Dan Allhands moved to approve the new Fairgrounds Crew Assistant job description, with corrections. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Authorization to Fill Fairgrounds Crew Assistant Part-time:** Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Authorization to Fill for a part-time, short-term Fairgrounds Crew Assistant. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Recommendation to Hire Ennis Road and Bridge Technician Full-time position:** Tammy discussed the candidate interviewed for the Road and Bridge Technician position in Ennis, and briefly reviewed his background and CDL license. Based on the recommendation of the hiring committee, Jim Hart moved to approve hiring Dan Henry for the full-time Road and Bridge Technician position, Ennis, at \$18.06 per hour or 80% of the Personnel Road Department wage (\$22.58) scale, and to place him on the County's step increase schedule. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Snowplow Bid Selection: Commissioner Jim Hart discussed the selection of snowplow bids. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, were present for this portion of the meeting. After reviewing the bids with his road foreman and exploring finance options for buying three snowplows, he presented his view about proceeding with an Intercap loan at 3.7% interest for five years, explained why he wanted to proceed with this, and how it would work. The other Commissioners asked questions about levels of equipment owned and needed in District 3, maintenance issues, operators, justification for new versus used equipment, and budgets. Differing opinions and concerns were expressed,

and the topic was continued to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 29, 2019, for a more in-depth, overall budget analysis.

Grants: Jani Flinn, Grant Administrator, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Cindy Purdue-Dolan, Field Representative for U.S. Senator Steve Daines, were present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Big Hole River – FEMA Funds:** Ron explained that a large gravel bar has formed and caused problems in the main channel of the Big Hole River, and a solution to dig out the channel was agreed upon by everyone concerned, including the Big Hole Watershed Council. Funding will come from various sources including Beaverhead County and several landowners, and the possibility of contributing \$5,000 from the County's FEMA emergency fund was discussed when and if the situation is declared an emergency.
- **Fairgrounds Waterline – Final Closeout:** Jani related that the Fairgrounds Water Main Extension Project has been completed other than a small break being fixed this week under warranty, and final seeding scheduled for spring. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Madison County Fairgrounds Water Main Extension. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **BUILD Program Grants:** Jani presented information about the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) transportation grants program intended for bridge and road improvements and infrastructure. She relayed how the program has been used by other counties, and asked for the Board's input on pursuing this grant. Discussion included Jack Creek improvements and what would be involved, updating the 2009 feasibility study, and getting assistance from Great West Engineering. Cindy had several questions and comments, and suggested the possibility of asking for a letter of support from Senator Daines. Jani will contact Great West to pursue the possibilities discussed.
- **BaRSSA Funding:** Jani presented Montana county listing of 2018-2019 fuel tax allocations distributed from BaRSSA funds. Discussion included fund amounts expected for this year's budget, logistics and timing, questions and answers about the process, and upcoming update reports.

Airports: Jani Flinn, Airport Board Secretary, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Cindy Purdue-Dolan, Field Representative for U.S. Senator Steve Daines, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **AIP Grant Oversight – Risk Assessments for Airports:** After review, Jim Hart moved to update the Business Continuity section of the AIP Grant Oversight Risk Assessment for the Ennis Big Sky and Twin Bridges airports. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Sheriff 's Office: Phil Fortner, Sheriff, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Cindy Purdue-Dolan, Field Representative for U.S. Senator Steve Daines, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Southwest Montana Drug Task Force Inter-Agency Memorandum of Understanding:** Phil discussed the Southwest Montana Drug Task Force (SWMDTF), its short supply of drug agents, the MOU between participating agencies regarding funding and deputy assistance, comparisons with other programs, and SWMDTF board structure and issues. He and Vicki discussed Madison County's past participation. Following review, Dan Allhands moved to approve the Southwest Montana Drug Task Force Inter-Agency Memorandum of Understanding for one year from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Further discussion included local drug and alcohol enforcement, and the Sheriff's Office deputy staff and budget.

Public Discussion on Items Not Listed on the Agenda but Within the Board's Jurisdiction:

- **Senior Bus:** Ken Bailey, Senior Bus Driver, stopped in to discuss modifications to the new Senior Bus. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Cindy Purdue-Dolan, Field Representative for U.S. Senator Steve Daines, were present for this portion of the meeting.

MACo WCT and PCT Amendment Approvals: Following review, Jim Hart moved to approve signing the acknowledgement of the MACo WCT and PCT Amendments, as previously approved at the MACo Midwinter Conference in Helena on February 13, 2019. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Sheridan Rural Fire District Board Appointment: Following review, Dan Allhands moved to appoint Del Bieroth as a trustee on the Sheridan Rural Fire District Board for the remainder of a three year term that will expire in May of 2021, subject to the Fire District Board's approval. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Planning Board Appointment(s): After review, Jim Hart moved to appoint Laurie Schmidt as the At-Large Representative on the Madison County Planning Board to fulfill the remainder of a two year term that will expire on December 31, 2019, pending concurrence by the Planning Board. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Housing Board Appointment(s): Following review, Dan Allhands moved to appoint both Martha Klaumann and Angela Karanas to the Madison County Housing Advisory Board for three year terms that will expire on December 31, 2021. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Opencut Mining Plan of Operations – Allhands Excavation: Following a brief discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve the Zoning Compliance Form for the Opencut Mining Plan of Operations for Allhands Excavation. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Ron Nye voted aye, with Dan Allhands abstaining from the vote due to family considerations. The motion carried on a majority vote.

Courthouse Elevator Project: There was no discussion on this topic.

Calendars: The Board reviewed calendars.

At 4:00 p.m., the remainder of the meeting was continued to March 29, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, March 29, 2019: The meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Conference Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Ron Nye, Chairman, Jim Hart, and Dan Allhands present. Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, took notes for this portion of the meeting.

Snowplow Bid Selection: The Board met to discuss the snowplow bid selection. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Jani Flinn, Airport Board Secretary, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed the 2018-19 budget, and Vicki estimated expenses and income for the current fiscal year and the total budget for the next fiscal year. Jim presented his ideas and reasons for acquiring three snowplows for District 3, and a lengthy discussion followed about needs, equipment use levels, options and funding. Following discussion, Jim Hart moved to accept the bid from Floyd's Truck Center for the purchase of two snowplow trucks for District 3 using INTERCAP Loan funds, price to be determined after consultation with the dealership based on their original bid for three trucks, and to sell two existing snowplows and the small loader to offset the cost of the loan. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Dan Allhands voted aye, Ron Nye was opposed, and the motion carried on a majority vote. Ensuing discussion included budgeting for fire-related labor, effects of this year's weather on road maintenance, purchasing equipment versus leasing, and Jani encouraged the Board to think about upcoming BaRSSA fund projects.

With no further business, this portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Next meeting: The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 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: April 23, 2019

Minutes prepared by:

Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk

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