

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
April 17, 2020, Special Meeting Minutes

On Friday, April 17, 2020, a special meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 2:32 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands and Ron Nye present. Commissioner Jim Hart was absent to assist with County Golf Course maintenance in Ennis. Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, was present to take minutes. Ryan Wolter, Information Systems Computer Support Specialist, was present to administer the public connection to the meeting via Webex.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Joe Brummell, Director of Emergency Management, Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Bonnie O'Neill, and Shelly Burke, Treasurer. Melissa Brummell, Public Health Nurse, participated in the meeting remotely via Webex.

COVID-19 – Emergency Preparedness: Joe gave a presentation reviewing County, State and U.S. COVID-19 statistics, emergency operation centers, and county and tribal emergency declarations in Montana. He noted problem spots in surrounding states, two of which were caused by employees going to work when sick, infecting many other employees, resulting in deaths shutting down their companies. He compared death rates with annual flu and past viruses, discussed updated COVID-19 cases and fatalities in Montana, but noted that the recovery rate is rising. On a chart of COVID-19 cases per capita by county, he pointed out that Madison County ranks fourth in the State. Melissa discussed the investigation process to identify and quarantine close contacts of COVID-positive patients. Joe reviewed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) acquisition issues, noting that first responders are prioritized and taken care of, and expressed appreciation for the County's Public Information Officer in disseminating information to the public. He said the Incident Command Team will be making a push toward helping with economic recovery, assisting elected officials in making sure nothing is missed, and said the Governor just implemented a task force to properly track Federal funds. Joe presented a Certificate of Recognition for the Board's signatures, made for Willie's Distillery for their community support and donations of hand sanitizer. Melissa asked the Board for thoughts and recommendations about bringing someone in to the Incident Management Team to help with finances, tracking time and expenditures for future reimbursement. Joe said the initial forms were submitted, and the paperwork process will take some time and be tedious, but he expects full reimbursement for time and materials. Melissa informed the Board that she is working with the Mental Health Advisory Council to explore up to \$40,000 in grants for mental health aspects of the COVID-19 crisis.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Dan W. Allhands, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: May 12, 2020

Minutes prepared by:

Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk

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