

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
February 16, 2021, Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, February 16, 2021, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:51 a.m. in the Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Jim Hart and Ron Nye present. Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Gail Nelson, Colleen Croy, Kaleb Kovash, Dave Reintsma, Bonnie O'Neill, Alex Hogle, Tommy Luksha, Jayne Forsythe, Kacey Smart, Vicki Tilstra, Antoinette Bloem, Flo Bay, Tony Forsythe, and Laurie Buyan. Ryan Wolter, IT Support Specialist, was present to administer the Webex connection. Those who attended via Webex or by phone included Abbi Lee, Casey Klasna, Britani Allhands, Janie Alt, Kindra Todd, Kathy Barnes, Jani Flinn, Elizabeth Barnett, Lynda Holt, Zack Winfield, Keely Larson, Allison Veland, Lisa Stapp, Carmin Hill, Margie Edsall, Mia Bell, Nancy Stewart, Pam Birkeland, and several unidentified Webex attendees.

Approval of Minutes: The Board reviewed meeting minutes. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Tony Forsythe, Maintenance Manager, were present for this portion of the meeting. After review, Jim Hart moved to approve the January 19, 2020, Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes with corrections. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Nursing Homes COVID Update: Gail Nelson, TRMCC Administrator in Training, met with the Board to present a COVID update for the nursing homes. Dave Reintsma, TRMCC Maintenance, Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, Kaleb Kovash, County resident, and Colleen Croy, County resident, were present for this portion of the meeting. Gail reported a census of 23 residents at TRMCC. One resident is quarantined pending a lab result, and two staff members are quarantined. They continue to do daily PPE training, testing everyone two times per week, and are not allowing visitors. At MVM, the census is 13, no residents or staff are quarantined, 11 residents have recovered from COVID, and there were no hospitalizations. They are also doing PPE training twice a week, and no visitations. Dave said the second boiler arrived at TRMCC and is in place, the installation details are being worked out on the first boiler, and the gas line is connected to both. Everything is in place to switch over the entire system so it will only be down a matter of hours, and it is planned to happen on a warmer day so the loss of heat for a limited time won't be significant. Jim asked about the possibility of adding residents, and Gail said they are in the process of doing so.

Planning Office: Alex Hogle, Planning Director, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Colleen Croy, County resident, Kaleb Kovash, County resident, Tommy Luksha, GIS Coordinator, Jayne Forsythe, HR Assistant, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, were present for all or a portion of these topics.

- **Amended Plat of Golf Course Subdivision Phase 1, Lot 712 and Open Space 704, Yellowstone Mountain Club:** This topic was postponed to a later date.
- **Discussion Regarding Road Naming of Mylane Road E:** Alex reminded the Board of a previous discussion regarding road naming of Mylane Road East. Alex said that one property owner, Colleen Croy, requested renaming the road due to difficulty of visitors and delivery drivers finding her address. She communicated with another property owner, Kaleb Kovash. Alex reviewed options to resolve the matter, including reinstating the original name as well as prior addressing; establishing and assigning a new road name and assign new address numbers using a road name petition; or to do nothing and maintain the current, new addresses with A and B designators instead of separate address numbers. Kaleb said he did not consent to the name change, Colleen agreed that Kaleb did not consent, only that they had a discussion, and said she had been waiting for a response for several months and didn't know what was happening until she received the notification. Kaleb stated he would like to keep everything the same but find a solution so that emergency services can find the addresses. Colleen explained the circuitous route and impassable conditions experienced on Tobe Road and Mylane Road, and how "East" confuses people. Discussion ensued about possible solutions, emergency service access, the complications of companies using GPS, and details involved in various options.

Tommy explained how he sends updates to Google maps and other mapping platforms with varying results, but his updates to Emergency Services maps are immediate, and he also sends updates to various other entities such as title companies. It was decided that the involved parties will meet together immediately to work out a solution.

Human Resources: Jayne Forsythe, HR Assistant, and Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Allison Veland, MVM Administrator-in-Training, participated via Webex.

- **County Employees for COVID-19, 120 Hour Extension Usage:** Jayne reviewed situations where a County employee is off work due to COVID illness or quarantine, and after the time when normally they would be approved to return to work, they still have doctor-documented, COVID-related symptoms, and the Board discussed whether COVID pay can continue to be used. After discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve the use of COVID-19 classified pay up to 120 hours for COVID-related illness in situations where the Public Health department approves an employee to go back to work but their doctor says they should not return to work due to COVID-related symptoms. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Allison asked if this would be retroactive back to January 1, 2021, as there were employees who had already exhausted the previously-approved 80 hours and had used vacation or sick time, and it was clarified that they should submit documentation to the Finance department and when the COVID pay is approved they will get their vacation or sick hours back.

DIS Technology Investigation Report: Kacey Smart, Sanitarian's Assistant, met with the Board to discuss a DIS Technology investigation report. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Kacey said she left a message with Brett after the discussion last week, he hasn't responded, and she asked the Board if DIS was hired to investigate her or not. Jim said he asked Brett for a list from DIS of what they worked on and thinks that's as much as can be expected. He stated that DIS was not hired to investigate her, to his knowledge, at the time he may have taken the idea of an apology less seriously last week because everyone on the Board has been accused of this or that at various times. He acknowledged that it causes anxiety when we are questioned, he apologized for that and wishes it wouldn't have happened, but thinks it was necessary to have at least asked the questions. Kacey asked if the County is hiring DIS to do an investigation, since that was approved. Jim replied that DIS was hired to fix the system, and the result of that is it appears there was no need for an investigation. Kacey noted that on December 22, 2020, the Board voted to hire DIS to investigate the breach. Ron stated DIS was hired to investigate the incident, not Kacey. Jim said having them provide a list of the work they did should take care of the question, and Bonnie stated that Brett plans to report to the Board in the near future about what happened, with solutions and options, hopefully by the next Commission meeting.

First West Insurance: Antoinette Bloem, First West Insurance, and Flo Bay, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT), met with the Board to discuss the following topic. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Tony Forsythe, Maintenance Manager, and Kacey Smart, Sanitarian's Assistant, were present for all or a portion of this topic.

- **Introduction and Review of Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) Claims Status:** Antoinette introduced herself to the Board and reviewed her background, related that when Maynard McQuiston retired as Madison County's former insurance agent he sold his book of insurance to First West Insurance, she was assigned as a First West employee to take care of Madison County, worked with Maynard until he left, and is working closely with Flo. She presented and reviewed an overall analysis of the County's BCBS claims status including its 196 members which is an increase over last year, the average age of participants which has decreased, claims paid, loss ratio, network discount percentages, high-cost claims and categories, pharmacy use information, risk score which has increased a bit, and potential rate increases. Jim questioned whether the County should have a bid process because Maynard retired, and Antoinette said her understanding is that it is not necessary if they want to continue with First West as the agent, but bids would be necessary if there is a question about staying with BCBS. She noted that First West is an independent broker that works with all insurance companies in Montana, and she would welcome the opportunity to work with the County's insurance committee to compare different companies and plan designs, and to help explain and choose options. Flo discussed her efforts to keep the County's BCBS rates as low as possible and her intent to keep Madison County as a client, offered to work with the insurance committee to provide options if the

current plan is not meeting the County's needs, and noted the benefit of working with a broker like Antoinette who is familiar with the County.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

Sneeze Shield in Commissioners' Office: The Board discussed the installation of a sneeze shield at the desk closest to the door in the Commissioner's office. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Tony Forsythe, Maintenance Manager, were present for this portion of the meeting. Tony said he needs to go to Bozeman to purchase materials and the project will be completed after that.

Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, joined the meeting at this point and was present for the remainder of the meeting.

Drive Workshop Attendees: Laurie met with the Board to discuss participation in upcoming Drive Workshops, presented the schedule for June, July and August, noted that in the past 3 or 4 drivers would attend each year but last year due to COVID only one person attended, and reviewed which budgets cover different workshop expenses. Discussion ensued about who might attend.

Public Administrator Position: Laurie said two letters of interest were received in response to advertising the Public Administrator position, and briefly reviewed her understanding of the position which works primarily with the court system. Discussion included interviewing for the position and including a commissioner as well as someone from the courts, and Laurie said she will schedule interviews.

Resolution for Sale of Surplus Property: The Board discussed various items that may be sold as surplus property, listing everything on Exhibit A of the Resolution so everything is documented, having a public auction in May, and Ron discussed a surplus screen and needs to verify if it is the one that District 1 & 2 own together. A surplus blower was mentioned that will be sold by sealed bid. Following discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve Resolution 14-2021, a resolution declaring County property surplus property, pending confirmation of which screen is the correct one to add to the list. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Big Sky Transportation District Board Appointment: The Board reviewed an application for the Big Sky Transportation District Board. Based on the application and encouragement from David Kack, District Coordinator, Jim Hart moved to appoint Kris Corzine as the Madison County representative to the Big Sky Transportation District Board for a three year term that will expire on December 31, 2023. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Calendars: The Board reviewed calendars.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana.

Dan W. Allhands, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: March 16, 2021

Minutes prepared by:

Jane Bacon, Commissioners' Clerk

Attest: _____
Paula McKenzie, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County