

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, March 23, 2021, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:50 a.m. in the Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, and Ron Nye present. Commissioner Jim Hart was absent for personal reasons. Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Bonnie O'Neill, Cheryl Mulholland, Erin Montgomery, Joe Brummell, Vicki Tilstra, Bob Bates, Ryan Wolter, IT Support Specialist, was present to administer the Webex connection. Those present via Webex were Abbi Lee, Gail Nelson, Janie Alt, Jennifer Martens, Kathy Barnes, Keeley Inez Larson, Test 1, TL, Lynda Holt, Lisa Stapp, Craig Erickson, Becky Lawson, and others that were not identified.

Approval of Minutes: No minutes were available for approval.

COVID-19 Update: Because Joe Brummell, Incident Commander, was unavailable for the COVID update, Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, informed the Board that there are currently 3 active cases and 4 positive cases in Madison County as of today.

- **Nursing Homes COVID Update:** Gail Nelson, Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center Administrator, presented updates for both facilities, stating that the current census at the Madison Valley Manor is 16, they have no residents in quarantine, no staff out, prevalence is 11.8%, they are testing two times weekly, residents are allowed visitors, and they are currently using an indoor and outdoor visitation booth. Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center current census in 23, they have eight residents that have recovered, 1 staff member is currently out on quarantine. They are also testing staff two times a week and residents as needed. Dan asked about the boilers. Gail stated they are both up and running and they are working on getting the bugs out of the system.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

Airport Board Appointment: Based on the recommendation of the Airport Board, Ron Nye moved to appoint Mary Oliver to the Madison County Airport Board for the remainder of a three year term that will expire on December 31, 2021. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Board of Health Appointment: The Board reviewed an application for the Board of Health vacancy. Bonnie stated that the Board of Health discussed this topic at their last meeting but did not make a recommendation. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to send the candidate a letter stating that the Board of Health took no action on the application. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Update on Tobacco Prevention Program: Erin Montgomery, Tobacco Prevention Specialist, met with the Board to give an update on the Tobacco Prevention Program. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, and Cheryl Mulholland, County Resident, were present for this portion of the meeting. Erin distributed and reviewed a written report of her activities which included a hypertension workshop, quarterly meetings with other prevention specialists, MYCA Youth Outreach, monthly reports to the Beaverhead County Commissioners, complaints – noting that she received one about no smoking signs at Chicks, working with schools, medical providers, and mental health. She stated she is focusing on youth and trying to get in front of them while they're still in school. There was discussion about vaping. She wants to talk with teachers about what to look for, adding that kids don't know how dangerous vaping really is. She has a demonstration kit that she can show them on how it affects their lungs. Dan Allhands asked if you could smell it. Erin responded that you can't which is why it's easier to hide. She discussed how kids are being

targeted by companies manufacturing this product. Dan also asked about marijuana, since it's legal now will there be preventions programs for that? Erin discussed marketing for marijuana noting that it's all on social media now and she's not sure yet how that will be handled. Dan suggested the Alder Fire Hall for presentations.

COVID Update: Joe Brummell, DES, stated he had just gotten back from a pretty nasty wreck and gave some details about the wreck. He stated there is currently one active COVID case in the County and that cases are also down around the state, so there are now beds available if needed. He discussed a declaration from the Governor that, beginning the first of next month, the vaccine is open to anyone 16 years and older. He added that it's good to see that but there's no up-take in the availability. He also discussed a fire that happened in Alder over the weekend.

Sheridan Cemetery District Board Appointment: Ron Nye moved to appoint Peter Rossiter to the Sheridan Cemetery District Board for a three year term that will expire on December 31, 2023. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Nursing Home Foundation Donation Letter: The Board discussed a letter received from the Madison County Nursing Homes Foundation. Gail Nelson, TRMCC Administrator, participated in this portion of the meeting via Webex. Ron Nye stated that the letter is self-explanatory, they would like the donations to go through the foundation. Gail agreed, stating that all the donations would go through the foundation, and that currently they are going to the facility or through the auxiliary. Moving forward, it would just be a matter of them speaking with the mortuaries and families to request that they forward any donations or memorials to the Nursing Homes Foundation. Gail stated she is fine with it, that the foundation has the residents' best interest at heart, and that it's a better way of tracking donations and making sure people are getting recognition for them. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to direct all Nursing Homes donations to the Madison County Nursing Homes Foundation and not through the County Finance Office, per the letter from the foundation, dated March 1, 2021. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

SFY 2021 Nursing Facility Intergovernmental Transfer Questionnaire: The Board reviewed the questionnaire for intergovernmental transfers. Dan noted that the amounts are getting smaller but it's still worth participating. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to continue participating in the Nursing Facility Intergovernmental Transfers for both Madison County nursing home facilities and to complete and submit the SFY 2021 questionnaire. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Administrator Position: The Board discussed the Public Administrator vacancy. Based on the recommendation of the interview committee, Ron Nye moved to appoint Tamara Todd to the Public Administrator position. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Bonnie O'Neill, Human Resources, and Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, met with the Board to discuss the following topics.

- **Intercap Loan Discussion:** Vicki discussed the intercap loan that was previously approved for Jack Creek Road and Fish Hatchery Road. She asked if she should start filling out the paperwork and reminded the Board that it takes about three weeks to get the funds once they've been requested. Dan indicated that they need to get going on Jack Creek. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to authorize the Finance Office to fill out the paperwork and apply for an Intercap Loan in the amount of 1.5 million to be used for Jack Creek Road and Fish Hatchery Road. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **First Choice Health Re-Credentialing:** Bonnie presented paperwork from the Public Health Office for recredentialing of the department with First Choice Health. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to approve the First Choice Health Facility/Organization recredentialing application and the Certificate of Occupancy for the Madison County Public Health Department. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Authorization to Fill Part-Time Cook Position:** Following review, Ron Nye moved to approve the Authorization to Fill for a part-time, permanent cook position at the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

- **Safety Coordinator Resignation/Risk Manager Position:** Bonnie noted that Bob Bates, Safety Coordinator and Risk Manager, had resigned last week. Bob Bates was present for this portion of the meeting. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to accept Bob's resignation, effective April 1, 2021. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. There was discussion about whether Bob would be willing to help a new person in the position. Bob indicated that he would. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Authorization to Fill Part-Time Safety Coordinator/Risk Manager Position:** Bonnie discussed the vacancy for the Safety Coordinator/Risk Manager position and asked if the Board would like her to advertise internally and externally simultaneously. The Board indicated that they would. There was discussion about the number of hours for the position. Bonnie stated that the current position is for 24 to 32 hours but it was shown as 20 hours on the form. There was further discussion about the need to work 30 hours for the position to get full insurance benefits. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to the Authorization to Fill for a part-time, permanent Safety Coordinator/Risk Manager position, for 32 hours per week at \$23.91 per hour. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Authorization to Fill Social Services Designee:** Following review, Ron Nye moved to approve the Authorization to Fill for the part-time, permanent position of Social Services Designee at the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center for 32 hours per week at \$21.52 per hour. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Craig Erickson, Great West Engineering, and Becky Lawson, SMA Architects, met with the Board via Webex to discuss the following topics. Bonnie O'Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Open Bids for Madison Valley Manor Project:** Becky stated that she checked with the Commissioners' Office and no general contractor bids were received for the Madison Valley Manor project. She noted that it was advertised in the Madisonian and the Bozeman Chronicle for a total of four weeks, back and forth. She did receive interest in various parts of the project and would like to re-advertise breaking it down into the three main parts of the project, the generator first, then the boiler, and then the kitchen. Craig noted that he and Becky had a conversation with Keegan from CDBG earlier in the day and Commerce is fine with this new plan. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to re-advertise the Madison Valley Manor renovation project, breaking it down to generator, boilers, and kitchen. Dan Allhands seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Contract for Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center Project:** Becky discussed the contract for the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center, stating that she is working on it and is excited to move forward with it is not quite ready and asked to leave it on the agenda for next week. Craig stated that Madison County's ability to apply for CDBG funds for this project is contingent on completing the Madison Valley Manor project as a county can only have one open CDBG project at a time.

Bid Openings for Snowplow and Storage Building: In an email received earlier from Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia and Associates, it was noted that the bid opening for the snowplow storage building would be delayed for one week due to a lot of last-minute questions and with the hope of getting better bid prices. The Board received and opened one bid from I State Truck, Inc. of Missoula, with a 10% bid bond included. The bid amount for an LS Carrier Vehicle, 46,000 GVW, 370 HP Diesel Truck with a dump box was \$160,989; and the bid for an LS 14' high-speed, power reversible snowplow was \$59,000; for a total bid price of \$219,989.00. The Board will take the bids under consideration.

Calendars: The Board reviewed calendars.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 30, 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 30, 2021

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the
Board of Commissioners

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