

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
April 20, 2021, Meeting Minutes

On Tuesday, April 20, 2021, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, Jim Hart and Ron Nye present. Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Joe Brummell, Jennifer Martens, Bill Doggett, Allison Veland, Vicki Tilstra, Dale Grose, Jani Flinn, Alex Hogle, Kevin Germain, Beth Famiglietti, Jeremiah Theys, Karl Yakawich, Justin Gatewood, Scott Kelley, Ellis Thompson, John Roberts, Dave Baldwin, Bernard Branstetter, Bob Nevins, Dan Stroud, and Darcy Stroud, . Ryan Wolter, IT Support Specialist, was present to administer the Webex connection. Those present via Webex were Gail Nelson, Janie Alt, Jani Flinn, Jane Bacon, Keely Larson, Margie Edsall, Michelle Schriock, Robert Wallingford, Lyn Baughn, Kathy Barnes, Tammy Estensen, Abbi Lee, Tammy Mahlstedde, Craig Erickson, Becky Lawson, Lance Bowser, Tommy Luksha, Tomas 406, TL, Bob Briggs, and others that were not identified.

Approval of Minutes: Ron Nye moved to approve the March 16, 2021, meeting minutes as presented. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

COVID Update: Joe Brummell, Director of Emergency Management, updated the Board on the current COVID-19 status. He stated Madison County has had a total of 759 confirmed cases, with 19 currently active. 732 have recovered. There have been 8 fatalities. There are currently 2 active hospitalizations and total hospitalizations are at 50. He noted that Madison County and Beaverhead County are seeing a slight surge in hospitalizations. He reviewed statewide cases, US totals, and worldwide totals. Joe added that Incident Command is still assisting Public Health, reviewed the command structure and stated that they still need a Public Information Officer. He reviewed vaccination numbers, school surges and numbers, upcoming meetings, current weather and drought conditions, and fire activity, discussing an accident that occurred during a prescribed burn.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

Nursing Homes COVID Update: Allison Veland, Madison Valley Manor Administrator, gave the Board an update on the status of COVID at the Madison Valley Manor. She stated that they're holding steady at 15 residents and have 11 residents that have recovered from COVID. There are have no staff or residents in quarantine and they are expecting the outbreak status to be lifted today, so just waiting the state. Training is ongoing and the current prevalence rate for the County is 2.2%. They are now doing once a week testing. She added they have at least 2 admissions scheduled for this week. Gail Nelson, Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center Administrator, update the Board on the COVID status at TRMCC, stating that they are still at 23 residents and unfortunately the 2 admissions got postponed. She stated they have gone another week with no residents in quarantine, none in the hospital, and no staff out with quarantine. She added that training is continuing and as Allison said county prevalence rate is 2.2%, but expected to go up. They are testing staff once a week and residents as needed. She stated the biggest thing with them is the indoor visitation has been going excellent, adding that it is the most heart-warming thing she's seen all year seeing these people get to hug their families.

Authorization to Fill Nursing Home Business Office Manager Position: Allison Veland, Madison Valley Manor Administrator, and Gail Nelson, Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center Administrator, met with the Board to discuss an authorization to fill for a nursing home business office manager. Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. Dan Allhands stated that in his opinion, like administrators, there should be one office manager at each facility. Allison discussed the customer service portion of the position, keeping it separate from HR, travel time involved in having one position, and the goal

of having two expert billers within a 2 to 3 year time frame. She added that Wipfi does an excellent job but she is confident that with an office manager in each facility, they can get them up to speed on the billing. Following much discussion and per recommendation of the Madison Valley Manor Administrator, Jim Hart moved to approve the Authorization to Fill for a full-time, non-exempt, permanent Business Office Manager position at the Madison Valley Manor for 40 hours a week. Allison requested that the position be advertised internally for five days. Jim Hart amended the motion to include in-house advertising for five days. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Jennifer Martens, Public Health Clerk, Joe Brummell, Director of Emergency Management, and Bill Doggett, retired County Commissioner, were present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Public Health Interim Director Appointment and Rate of Pay:** Jim Hart noted that he received a text from one of the Public Health Director candidates saying that he could not make the numbers work for him and his family. Jim asked in what direction do we go? Dan stated he thinks we should re-advertise and get someone with a nursing degree who is able to give immunizations and that type of thing. Vicki noted that the staff currently in the office is doing grant work which is typically a director duty. The Board contacted Tammy Mahlstede, former Public Health Clerk, to discuss how things were handled before when they did not have a director. She discussed the phone that is required to be answered if the State calls, noting that they took turns carrying it and made sure someone was available to answer it at all times. She stated it was a bit challenging but they made it work with three before. Jim noted that there are still three people in the office. Jennifer stated that they now have a COVID phone and PHEP phone. There was discussion about continuing to advertise. Lyn Baughn, Public Health Nurse, joined the meeting via Webex, and stated that continuing to advertise would be a great idea. She added she has been working with Jennifer to get grants in and has been doing weekends taking calls, that they need a supervisor so they have someone to talk to when they need to call off, and that she has taken over the contact tracing. Ron Nye stated that when we offer positions to out-of-state people, it very seldom works out, adding that we have a person now, why not give her a try. After much discussion, Ron Nye moved to offer the Public Health Director Position to Emilie Saylor of Sheridan, Montana, with a salary to be determined based on education and experience. Jim Hart seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Ron Nye voted aye. Dan Allhands was opposed. The motion carried on a majority vote.
- **Human Resource Specialist Rate of Pay:** The Board discussed the rate of pay for the new Human Resource Specialist. It was noted that a letter has been sent offering her \$70,000 and that she accepted. There was discussion about what the job entails and that it could cost the County much more without a competent Human Resource person. Jim Hart discussed possible places for her to rent, noting that he has talked to several people and is still looking. Following discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve the recommended salary of \$70,000 annually for the exempt position of Human Resource Specialist. Dan questioned starting at that wage without waiting six months for an increase. Ron Nye seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Ron Nye voted aye. Dan Allhands was opposed. The motion carried on a majority vote.

Virginia City Planning Board Member: The Board discussed a request from the Town of Virginia City to designate a County representative to the Virginia City Planning Board. The town suggested David Laufenberg for the position. There was discussion about whether or not the position should be advertised. After discussion, Jim Hart moved to advertise for a County representative for the Virginia City Planning Board. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. After further discussion, it was determined that since the position may be a member of the Board of Commissioners, an office holder, or employee of the County, it would be advertised internally.

Planning Board Member Appointment: Jim Hart moved re-appoint Lincoln Roberts to the Madison County Planning Board for another two (2) year term that will expire on December 31, 2022. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Recommend to Hire Weed Personnel: Dale Grose, Weed Coordinator, presented the Board with a list of applicants he would like to hire to fill vacancies in the Weed Department. He stated that they are recommending enough to run three crews but won't be able to do the highways. He read the list and

recommended hiring those on the list. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to hire Edward Burke, Nikole Stockett, John White, Mason Zlotnik, Andrew Allhands, and Colton Hellwinkel as Field Crew personnel; Bruce Kobielush as the Compliance Tech; and Cody Martens as part-time Maintenance. Jim Hart seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Ron Nye voted aye. Dan Allhands abstained from voting as one of the applicants was related to him. The motion carried on a majority vote.

Madison Valley RFD Board Appointment: The Board reviewed a Declaration of Nomination and Oath of Candidacy for a vacancy on the Madison Valley Rural Fire District. It was noted that the Fire District Board recommended the candidate. Based on the recommendation of the Madison Valley Rural Fire District Board, Jim Hart moved to appoint Jeffery S. Sussman by acclamation as a trustee on the Madison Valley Rural Fire District Board for the remainder of a three (3) year term unfulfilled term that will expire in May of 2022. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Date for Surplus Auction: The Board discussed a date for a public surplus auction. Dan suggested holding it on a Saturday, possibly May 22 or May 29, 2021. They will work on getting a list together and put the topic back on the agenda to choose a date.

Craig Erickson, Great West Engineering, and Becky Lawson, SMA Architects, met with the Board via Webex to discuss the following nursing home topics. Jani Flinn, Grant Administrator, was present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Madison Valley Manor Project:** Craig discussed the status of the Madison Valley Manor project, stating that they did not do well; no bids were received. He stated that now they would need to follow through and go forward with the individual scopes of work and do some kind of limited solicitation process with local contractors again for the 3 scopes of work, which are the kitchen, the installation of the generator, and the installation of the new boilers. Becky stated that with no general contract bids, they have met the stated requirements of bidding twice, as long as it is of economic value to the County they can separate out the bids and get it going. Becky will get the documents written up and finalized. Jim Hart asked about the need for Davis Bacon wages and reporting requirements. Becky responded that these items would still apply. Craig clarified laws regarding Federal and State prevailing wages. Becky stated they have had interest in the individual projects and will contact those people. She also noted that this may help facilitate the use of local contractors. Jim asked about a conflict of interest with someone whose spouse works at the facility. There was discussion about a possible conflict. Craig stated he will run the question by the Department of Commerce and the County Attorney and asked the Board if he could send an email to the County Attorney. The Board agreed that he should. Becky also asked for a list of local contractors that might be available to do the work.

Memorandum of Agreement with Corps of Engineers, Historic Preservation Society, and Madison County for Giem Bridge: Jani Flinn, Grant Administrator, met with the Board to discuss an MOU for the Giem Bridge. She stated the agreement is still in draft form and that it is being presented after the fact as the bridge is already completed. She stated that the Deputy County Attorney has looked at it and has no problems with it. Following discussion and review, Ron Nye moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer, and Madison County regarding resolution of the adverse effects of the Jim Giem Bridge replacement and demolition project (SHOP Site Number 24MA1392) Madison County, Montana, (Corps Reference Number NOW-202-00522-MTB). Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Jani Flinn, Airport Board Secretary, met with the Board to discuss the following airport topics. Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia and Associates, participated in the meeting via telephone.

- **Ruby Valley Field – Schedule II (Snowplow Building / Pilot Lounge) Recommendation of Award:** Lance discussed the snowplow building and the pilot lounge for Twin Bridges, noting that two bays in the snowplow building are FAA eligible but the third bay is ineligible. He stated that Twin Bridges would be a little bit short on funds but Ennis has funds available that would be absorbed in their grant if they stay with Ennis. He checked with the FAA and if the funds are transferred to Twin Bridges, the Ennis project will still be funded. The amount of the FAA ineligible portion of the project is \$140,277.70, so Lance suggested transferring \$150,000 from Ennis. He added that this is the recommendation of the Airport

Board. Following discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve the Recommendation of Award for the snow removal equipment building for the Ruby Valley Field Airport Improvement Project, AIP 3-30-0080-016-2021, to Jay Fortune Construction, for the amount of \$687,274.76, which includes all three added alternatives; and to approve the proposed transfer from Ennis to Twin Bridges and the repayment to Plains from Twin Bridges. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

- **Ruby Valley Field – Master Plan Final Report and Master Plan Pay Request #7 FINAL:** Lance briefly discussed the Master Plan Final Report and Final Pay Request #7 for Ruby Valley Field, stating that no signature is required and that Jani has the final paperwork.
- **Ennis Big Sky Airport – Change Order #2 RTTF Gate Change (West Stearman Lane):** Lance discussed Change Order #2 for the Ennis Airport, stating that the Airport Board recommended approval. He added that he has received a second quote from Bridger Fence to replace the West Stearman Lane gate with 60' gate for \$29,130.00 (first quote was \$32,142 from Grizzly Fence) and that \$3,500 of this would be reimbursed by access user. He added that the Airport Board also asked to inquire if owner is interested in selling his lot. There was discussion about whether to move forward with a change order or wait and see if he is interested in selling. After much discussion, this topic was continued to the next regular Commission meeting.
- **Ennis Big Sky Airport – Change Order #3 Drainage Improvements (East Belanca Lane):** Lance discussed a change order for drainage improvements stating that he has received quote from A.M. Welles to install a drop inlet on the north side of East Bellanca with culvert crossing beneath East Bellanca access for \$14,900.00. This would intercept any water runoff prior to hitting the east/west access. He added that the Airport Board recommended providing this dollar amount towards the paving of that access which also would fix the drainage. Based on the recommendation of the Airport Board, Jim Hart moved to provide the landowner, Vern Brown a credit of up to \$14,900 to go towards paving the Through the Fence access to his property. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Alex Hogle, Planning Director, met with the Board to discuss the following topics. Kevin Germain and Beth Famiglietti, Lone Mountain Land, were present for this portion of the meeting.

- **Lee's Pool Subdivision and PUD (Moonlight Basin Ranch) Final Plat:** Alex presented the final plat of Lee's Pool Subdivision and PUD in Moonlight Basin Ranch, and reviewed the staff report stating that the preliminary plat was approved on October 13, 2020, with 27 conditions of approval. He noted that the proposal will create 5 condominium lots with four lodge buildings (81 hotel rooms and 13 detached cabins), a spa facility, restaurant, ski lodge, and 38 residential condominium units. The plat also includes two open space parcels, two road parcels and Lot R, which is anticipated for future use, all on the 233.78 acre parcel. There was discussion regarding the improvements to Jack Creek Road and a portion that will be required to be paved, and other roads within the development along with estimated costs of improvements. There was also discussion about the cost of improvements due to inflation since the preliminary plat was approved. Kevin stated that they need to go with the engineer's estimate and hope to have the work completed this summer. Based on the recommendation of the Planning Director, Jim Hart moved to approve the subdivision improvements agreement for the site preparation, sewer, water, storm drain, and roadway improvements and accept performance bond #1001130668 from US Specialty Insurance Company for the amount of \$9,042,166.88 as the financial guarantee to cover 125% of the estimated \$7,233,733.50 in improvement costs; and to approve and sign the final plat of Lee's Pool Subdivision and PUD, adjacent to Jack Creek Road within the Lee's Pool area of the Moonlight Basin Overall development Plan area in Section 12, Township 6 South, Range 2 East. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- **Road Name Resolution 19-2021 – River Road:** Alex reviewed a proposed resolution of road name change, noting that a petition has been brought forth to change a segment of an existing road between Jefferson Island and Whitehall. He stated that residents at the east end of McCollum Road have been having issues with deliveries and that McCollum is not a through road. He read the proposed resolution, noting that the dispatch office has no issues with the new name. Tommy Luksha, who participated in the meeting via Webex, stated that they have historically stayed away from River Road because it is a commonly used term for any road next to a river. Following discussion, Ron Nye moved to approve Resolution 19-2021 naming River Road, as presented. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Jeremiah Theys and Karl Yakawich, Great West Engineering, Kevin Germain and Beth Famiglietti, Lone Mountain Land, and Jani Flinn, Grant Administrator, met with the Board to discuss the following topics.

- **Jack Creek Road Discussion:** Jeremiah discussed the Jack Creek Road project, stating that this is a 60% plans package and they are basically 90% done with the design. He stated that the utilities have been the big thing, there is fiber running up the road that they don't want to disturb and which they have been working around. There are also telephone pedestals which they have been working with 3 Rivers on. He noted that they are down to seven locations that they still have to deal with and further discussed what still needs to be done, including possibly moving culverts and fiber. There was discussion about an anticipated start date and how to keep the public informed. Jeremiah stated that it depends on the next steps adding that the plans need a few adjustments but that they are really close to going to bid. He stressed the key points of the project are public safety, improvements to the road, and separation from Jack Creek. Jim suggested advertising for bids along with holding public meetings. Kevin discussed the need to be transparent and keep the relationships up in the neighborhood, adding although people know this is coming, there is a need to keep them involved by having public meetings and stressing safety improvements, the emergency exit out of Big Sky, and the concern about water quality and drainage issues. There was also discussion about creating a horse-back trail away from the road for safety. Jeremiah stated that there are places where it would be hard to create a trail without impacting the creek. He noted that the project will include flattening slopes, cleaning up blind corners, creating site distance, and so there would be opportunities to ride off the road and use the shoulder in many areas. He further discussed outreach, addressing concerns, the need to maintain traffic, and other details that need to be worked out before the project goes to bid. He noted that the project could begin as early as this fall and that it is broken into eight segments, with individual schedules within the main project so that they can pick and choose which one to prioritize, in the event that the bids come in over budget. Kevin agreed that fall would be ideal and that the only lull in traffic is in the spring and fall. Jeremiah stated they will go through a list of questions and get things going. He asked about a time frame for daily work schedules. Kevin suggested an early morning time frame and an afternoon time frame of unimpeded travel and to let people know that there could be waits of up to an hour during other times of the day. There was further discussion about budgeting and the volatility of material and high construction costs; hoping that 3 Rivers will get the fiber looped before fall; gravel costs and increasing the size of the Ennis Landfill so that they can do the crushing there. There was also discussion about ARPA funding and what the funds can be used for.
- **Cliff/Wade Lake FLAP Project Update and Discussion:** Karl distributed and reviewed preliminary construction plans for the Cliff and Wade Lake Road Gravel Surface project. He stated that in 2016 the County applied for a FLAP grant and got the go ahead to locally administer the project this past winter. He noted that they were able to get the surveying done over the winter and get the plans in good shape. He reviewed maps in the plan showing where the gravel would be placed and where millings have previously been placed. He stated that other than a small portion of the milled area, they will not be replacing the millings with gravel. There was discussion about spur roads that could be included in the project. Karl noted that there is one that is not used much, so he put in the plans as an added alternative in case the bids come in too high. Jeremiah discussed discrepancies in the mileage, stating that the actual miles are less than what was estimated and that the milled areas that won't be resurfaced were also included in the plans. Karl discussed the cost estimate with 6" surfacing on the entire road at 16 to 18 feet wide and provided an estimate breaking down the costs, of crushing, hauling, and placing. Further discussion included the cost of crushing gravel, work that has already been completed by the County, and having the County prepare the surface of the road. Jim Hart will check with his road foreman to make sure he has time to prepare the surface of the road. There was also discussion about stockpiling the gravel and starting the project in the spring or getting someone to crush, haul, and place the gravel all at once. Jeremiah stated that because this is a big project, we should get some interest. Karl stated he will get the final documents back to Western Federal Lands for final approval and then final paperwork will come back to the County for signature.
- **Items not Listed on the Agenda but Within the Board's Jurisdiction:** Jeremiah stated that the State DES is requesting \$36,000 back on the Moore's Creek project for an overpayment they have found. Great West has looked into it and it looks like they owe the County \$70,000, so instead of the County paying them, they will need to pay the County around \$30,000. Jeremiah said they

would like to go back and look at what was documented, adding that it will take some time. Jeremiah will prepare a task order to work on that project.

- **Great West Task Order #35 - Madison County Fairgrounds Levee Accreditation Feasibility Study:** Ron Nye stated that they are not ready for this discussion and asked to put the topic back on the agenda. Jeremiah stated that they are working with Twin Bridges and as soon as they have authorization they are going to go but that it would be probably be a couple months before anything happens. There was further discussion about the possibility of using ARPA funds for this project.

Discussion regarding a Proposed Ordinance Related to Axolotl Lakes Road Maintenance: Justin Gatewood, Virginia City Mayor, Scott Kelly and Ellis Thompson, local residents, met with the Board to continue the discussion of the last four months regarding a proposed ordinance that would remove a portion of Axolotl Lakes Road from Ordinance 1-93. Justin thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to meet with them and stated they have heard from a lot of county voters on the importance of these roads. He discussed a draft ordinance that he prepared in the interest of a compromise and stated the ordinance did not go in front of the Town Council but that it was done in collaboration with other interested parties and stakeholders and had gone to the town attorney for review. He noted that the ordinance establishes the law and the precedence for it, referring to Ordinance 4-44 which is the bedrock of road maintenance law in this county, and extends it to the portion of Axolotl Lakes Road where it basically starts or ends, noting that Ordinance 2-2021 proposes to keep that portion of the road to the southeast border of Virginia City in that status quo, but that the prevailing feeling is that from a tax standpoint it's the fiscally responsible thing to do and from a safety standpoint, it's really the only call that should be made. He discussed the safety of this road and other roads in the county. Dan stated that they're not going to move forward with this until they get an opinion from the Attorney General which may take some time, adding that per the Attorney General's opinion on Seyler Bridge, that as the public demand increases, you need to increase road maintenance but that it is up to the Commissioners which road are kept open. He stated that he showed this ordinance to the County Attorney who thought it was redundant. Jim Hart stated that he mentioned it to a MACo land use attorney who felt that it might not be defensible. He noted that he has not yet sent the ordinance to her but will send it tomorrow. Scott asked if the ordinance for Axolotl Lakes Road is on hold until hearing back from the Attorney General. Dan responded that we will probably have a hearing on it and get it resolved adding that we can't deny people access to their property. There was further discussion about maintaining county roads; seasonally regulating roads for public safety; looking at the big picture and spots that should be preserved; and a separate agreement with the Forest Service for Alder Gulch Road. After much discussion, Jim Hart stated there will be no decision today and that the Board will keep working on it.

Request to Hire Temporary Custodial Position: Dave Baldwin, Custodial Supervisor, met with the Board to discuss hiring a temporary custodian. He stated that two of the current short-term positions will be done on May 27, 2021, and one permanent employee who has been off will be back to full duty soon. This will still leave them one person short when the two short-terms are done. He requested that he be authorized to hire a part-time (30 hour per week) position for one year. Following discussion, Jim Hart moved to approve the Authorization to Fill one part-time, temporary position to work 30 hours per week for up to one year. Ron Nye seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

District 3 Truck Purchases / Road Budgets: Jim Hart stated that two of his belly-dump trucks are worn out and that he would like to request bids for three new trucks and two belly dumps with the intention of leasing them. He added that he would be surprised if his two current trucks will last the summer. Shorty (John) Roberts asked if Jim would like him to inspect the trucks. Jim said no and asked why. Shorty stated that he might have a different opinion. Jim stated he could look at them but would like to give Roy a heads up before giving him permission. He said there is always one broken down and stated his plan is to advertise. Dan reminded Jim that there is \$80,000 to \$90,000 that needs to be paid back for the grader and crushing for the Cliff and Wade Road project that will be \$220,000 to \$250,000. He asked that Jim wait. Jim stated that he would like to advertise to see what's out there and if he decides to get them, they wouldn't even be here until November. Ron stated that his packet shows three trucks and five belly-dumps and asked if that is correct. Jim responded that it should be three and three. Dan added that he feels the Jack Creek Road should come out of Road 3 rather than from the general road budget, and further discussed road budgets noting that District 3 gets about \$8,500 per mile and the other two road districts get about \$4,200 per mile. Ron suggested that he wait until budget time to advertise and discussed needing

\$800,000 worth of equipment to move \$50,000 worth of gravel and the feasibility of doing that. Jim again stated that this is what he is going to do to see what the cost is and then he will decide if he's going to do it. There was discussion about whether the County is in the road construction business or whether they maintain the roads, equipment break-downs whether equipment is new or used, and bidding out the work rather than buying equipment. After much discussion, Jim Hart stated that he is still going to advertise.

Adobe Town Road Issues: Ellis Thompson, Scott Kelley, Bob Nevins, Justin Gatewood, John Roberts, Bernard Branstetter, Dan Stroud, and Darcy Stroud, local residents, met with the Board to discuss Adobe Town Road. Dan stated that he took the County Attorney down to look at the Adobe Town road and the possible alternative route. His suggestion was to get the "Schulz route" opened for now to give them time to go through the petition process and see about an alternative route. He also talked to Bernard Lee and filled him in on what the County Attorney had said. He was in agreement with it and agreed to open the "Schulz route" for now. He stated he also has a call into Heroes and Horses to ask them to get that route opened. Eli asked why we are going with the "Schulz route" when it has nothing to do with where the petitioned County road is and if the road is changed, the public is supposed to be involved and the public has had nothing to do with it. Dan stated that the public will be involved in the petition process and the public hearing. There was discussion about requesting the County Attorney to attend these meetings to answer questions or if questions and answers could be in writing. There was also discussion about having the Sheriff present for the meetings. After much discussion, it was determined that another meeting would be scheduled and that both the County Attorney and the Sheriff would be asked to attend. Eli then asked about the status of the Mammoth/Pony Road. Ron stated that will be down the road.

Calendars: The Board reviewed calendars.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 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: June 1, 2021

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the
Board of Commissioners

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