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STATE OF MONTANA MADISON COUNTY
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Paula McKenzie, CLERK & RECORDER
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To: FILED, ,

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
May 16, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

On Tuesday May 16, 2023 a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 10: 00 am on the Second Floor in the Motor Vehicle Office of the Administrative Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, Ron Nye, and Bill Todd present. Lisa Carruthers, Assistant to Commissioners, was present to take meeting minutes.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Meg O’Leary, Al Malwowski, Alison Elser, and Amy Grice. Ryan Wolter, IT Specialist, facilitated the WEBEX connection. Those who attended via WEBEX or by phone included Kate Rose and other unidentified phone attendees.

All STAND FOR PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**10:00 AM Presentation of Big Sky Trails, Recreation and Park Districts Assessment:
Meg O’Leary**

Al Malwowski Gallatin County appointed board member of BSTRP gave a basic rundown of how the Board works. An Interlocal agreement was created so it could basically operate as one community. The Board is setup with 2 Board members appointed by Madison County, 2 Board Members appointed by Gallatin County and one member who represents both. The Boards job is to oversee numerous parks and trails in the area. Historically the maintenance and operation have been financed by a large portion of Big Sky resort tax annually. There is currently a \$1.1 million budget. The Board is looking at ways that BSTRP can be long term financially helpful, pursuing the ability to receive resort tax in a three-year cycle not a one-year cycle. (Next year will be a three-year cycle process.) Looking for resort tax to fund that full responsibility as it is a big number. BSTRP has the ability to request an assessment of various parcels through the commissioners. What does that number look like? is the major question.

The request to the Madison County Commissioners is to assess the individual parcels within the district BSTRP. If we take \$1.1 million and divide into the number of parcels that would take the assessment down to around \$90 per parcel. Gallatin County is open to the process but would not pursue furthering the discussion unless the Madison County Commissioners are onboard.

BSTRP have presented this to the community and are currently working on a website, continuing to educate the communities, and get the information out there for the community to decide. Further discussion followed with Commissioners commenting that they are not comfortable creating an assessment without community support. BSTRP researched Bozeman and Belgrade districts to have an idea on how to approach this. BSTRP has come up with an outreach plan that will involve a survey that will go out to a property owner, plan to do a public event, email distributions to HOAs, getting it out in as many ways to the public.

There are more parcels in Madison County than Gallatin County. Question was asked by Bill Todd as to if the assessment would be equal to each property? Response was that each property would pay the same assessments regardless of county of origin.

The partnership would be between the two County Commissioners offices, BSTRP, BSCO, resort tax and community members. June and July will be significant outreach. Gallatin County Vote is in September.

This would be annually required to be voted upon by the County Commissioners. Commissioners would like to see this on the three-year cycle coinciding with the resort tax. There is a Resolution in the works and it will be sent for review on next scheduled meeting to be discussed and potentially approved.

10:15 **Discussion and Action Items for Madison County Clerk and Recorder: Paula McKenzie**

Resolution 28-2023 : Bill Todd made a motion to approve the signing of Resolution 28-2023: A Resolution affirming the results of the May 2, 2023 special district election to increase the fees for the Sheridan Alder Park District. Seconded by Ron Nye. No further discussion followed. All three Commissioners voted in favor at 10:15 am Dan Allhands, Chairman carried the motion.

Resolutions 29-2023: Bill Todd made a motion to approve the signing of Resolution 29-2023: A resolution affirming the results of the May 2, 2023 special district election to raise the mill levy limitation for the Sheridan rural fire district. Seconded by Ron Nye. No further discussion followed. All three Commissioners voted in favor at 10:18 am Dan Allhands, Chairman carried the motion.

10:20 **Discussion and Action Items for Madison County Livestock Protective Committee**

Bill Todd made a motion to approve the MOU terms of the Cooperative Agreement between USDA APHIS Wildlife Services program and the Montana Dept. of Livestock, Madison County Livestock Protective Committee agreeing to allocate \$6000.00 toward aerial work for the protection of cattle from destructive animals in Madison County. Seconded by Ron Nye. No further Discussion. All three Commissioners voted in favor at 10:20 am Dan Allhands, Chairman carried the motion.

DISCUSSION and/or ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Discussion and/or Comments on Items Not Listed on the Agenda but Within the Board's Jurisdiction

Amy Grice with Virginia City Town Council, Historic Preservation County Rep requests an answer regarding the Virginia City Madison County Resolution 5-2011 and continues to ask if Madison County will provide three members to this. Bill Todd would want to amend and/or rescind the document as the County cannot pay a Historic Preservation Officer. Amy Grice and Commissioners agree that the Resolution needs to be revisited once the documents have been reviewed and revised.

Amy Grice then asks: What is going on with the County Courthouse, has an engineer been called? Commissioners replied that yes, they have and drainage is an issue. The road is much higher than it used to be, some of the pipes are so clogged up that they cannot drain. Commissioner Todd asked if the town would be willing to help with forensic investigation and if they have pictures to help out. Grice spoke about changing the road, adjusting the drainage and utilizing some of the locals who have institutional knowledge. Wondering if an engineering report is available. If the drainage is an issue how would we approach the funding? Grice stated that the ability to raise funds is available, and by the grant that was received the County is obligated to maintain and uphold the terms of the grant. Requirements of the Courthouse maintenance need to be met. Town of Virginia City wants to be a part of the process. Bill Todd asks that they review the clause and come back to talk about it.

Amy Grice then asked if the Commissioners can move back into the Courthouse? The response was that until the County can guarantee that the mold will not make another county employee ill we will not be moving back into that Courthouse.

2. Approval of Minutes

Bill Todd makes a motion to approve Meeting Minutes as presented from April 4, 2023. Seconded by Ron Nye. No further discussion followed. All three Commissioners voted in favor at 10:32 am Dan Allhands, Chairman carried the motion.

3. Claims: None
4. Calendars: None

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:34 am.

Next Meeting: The next regular Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday May 23, 2023 beginning at 9:30 am on the second floor in the Motor Vehicle Office in the Administrative Building in Virginia City, Mt.



Dan W. Allhands, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners


Date Approved: May 30, 2023

Minutes taken by:



Lisa Carruthers
Assistant to Commissioners



Attest: 
Paula McKenzie, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County

