

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)).

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 24, 2018

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; Maureen Davey and Mark Crago, Members; and Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Tyrel Hamilton; Carol Arkell, Fire Warden; Coralee Hicks; and Mikaela Koski, Stillwater County News.

Pledge to Flag: Commissioner Shupak opened the meeting at 9:00 am with the pledge to the flag.

Public Comments: Commissioner Davey stated on July 19, 2018, she attended by invitation the tour of the of the White House in Washington D.C. and Montana Day conducted by the President of the United States. She said the invitation was extended to all Montana Elected Officials and commissioners, sheriff's, mayors, legislators, attended. Senator Daines; Representative Gianforte; and the Secretary of Interior along with several other persons that spoke on issues important to counties. She said it was a real honor to attend the night tour when the House was in session. She also stated that she paid for the trip herself.

Minutes: Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the minutes of July 17, 2018. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

File Items:

1. Department Reports
- a. Sheriff's Office – Tri-County Victim Witness Program Narrative and Financial Status Report

Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to place the file items to file. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Special Issues:

1. 2018 Fire Season – Carol Arkell, Fire Warden, said the weekly Billings Area Fire calls have begun for the fire season. She said at this time the group decided not to enter into restrictions at this time but instead caution people of the dry conditions.

Regular Business:

1. County Attorney – Butler Ranch Road Findings and advice regarding private easement and rural addressing.

Commissioner Crago explained there has been an ongoing debate regarding a portion of Butler Ranch Road. Given the historic use of the private easement as part of Butler Ranch Road, the County Attorney conducted extensive research into the issue. Following review of the County Attorney's recommendation, Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to follow the County Attorney's opinion and recommendation on the matter:

1. Road and Bridge Superintendent assign a crew member to remove the sign off of Fiddler Creek Road and place it at the intersection of Mystic View Road and Butler Ranch Road.
2. Rural addressing map be modified to the extent the private easement is shown as such rather than part of Butler Ranch Road.
3. Do not require address changes to the affected properties.

Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Commissioner Davey said she felt it was a good solution to the issue. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Facilities – Courthouse South Stairs Report and Options – Commissioner Davey stated the stairs have been closed since winter and have gotten to the point where they need engineering and expert opinion. Whitten and Borges, Structural Engineering Firm from Billings, submitted a study of the front steps. Two options were presented to the Commission; 1- repair at approx. \$124,000 and 2- replace at approx. \$186,900. Davey said the stairs have had small fixes (bandaids) over the years but it is time to fix them permanently. Following discussion, Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to go with the option for the replacement of the entire stairs. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously. The next step in the process is to go out for bids. Davey said it is a good investment.

3. Road & Bridge Department - Rockslide Repair – Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to approve the payment of the first set of GSI Invoices in the amount of \$543,950 and the Contractor Gross Receipts Tax for work performed on the rockslide repair. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Crago said bolting and grouting now, things are proceeding well at this point and time.

4. Resolution – Commission consideration of the adoption of a resolution in opposition to Initiative No 186 (I-86). Commissioner Crago **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2018-13 as referenced above. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Commissioner Davey stated this is a very good resolution, It supports our mines, it lets the legislature and the laws already enacted on mines do what they are supposed to do. Motion passed unanimously. Filed in the Clerk and Recorder’s Office Document # 372754.

5. Historic Preservation Committee Appointment – Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to re-appoint Steve Keating to serve a 3-yr term until 2021. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Treasurer – Request to cancel uncollectible taxes on Tax ID 5030038 totaling \$2,354. Jerry Friend, Treasurer, the taxes that are uncollectible were for heavy equipment once owned by Timberweld Manufacturing. An auction was held and the equipment was sold however the tax documents were still produced and should not have been said Treasurer Friend. He said the best route to clean this up would be to cancel the taxes. Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the request and cancel the uncollectible taxes as presented. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Disaster and Emergency Services – Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the request to seek proposals for 911/Dispatch Maintenance Service Contract as recommended by Carol Arkell, DES Coordinator. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: Hearing no further business, Commissioner Shupak adjourned the meeting at 9:24 AM.

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