

**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 -  
November 12, 2019**

**PRESENT** Commissioners Mark Crago, Chair, Tyrel Hamilton Dennis Shupak, Members; Pamela Stoddard Administrative Assistant Cynthia Garoutte, Brandon Garoutte, Adam Tuning, Adam Warren, Doreen Stockdale Stillwater County News, Marlo Pronovost Stillwater County News, Mark Schreiner Road and Bridge Superintendent, John T Patterson, Carol Arkell, Mike Rouane, Shirley Keffer

**PLEDGE**  
Commissioner Crago opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE AGENDA**  
Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Commissioner Crago announced that the Facilities Concept Plans survey results are now on the County website.

**MINUTES**  
The minutes of November 5, 2019 were presented. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT ITEM**  
Commissioners

- A. Community Development Block Grant Program Economic Development Grant Administration Agreement Montana Silversmiths
- B. Subrecipients agreement for CDBG.

**FILE ITEMS**

Commissioners

A. Change Order request for Safetec. In regards to Old Hospital Cleanup in the amount of \$1200.00

Clerk and recorder

A. October Financial report \$9,018.54

Justice of the Peace

A. October Financial report \$18,711.36

Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to Consent to the Consent Agenda and to File the File Items. Commissioner Crago **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Marlo Pronovost of the Stillwater News inquired what the change order was for? Commissioner Hamilton explained that there was a wall in the Old Hospital that had been added later in the buildings lifespan and it was found there were contaminates under the wall requiring it to be removed which was not in the original plan.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

Commissioners

A. Cattleguard application for unnamed road intersecting Shane Creek Rd. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the application to allow a cattleguard as requested. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion; Mike Rouane asked how wide the cattleguard will be? Commissioner Crago state the County standard is 24 unless an exception is requested.

Brandon Garoutte said the County is in receipt of letters in regards to the land owners on the Road in question not wanting a 24-foot cattleguard. Commissioner Hamilton read a letter received from Mr. Krueger and land owner on the road in question. The letter surmised that Mr. Krueger's wishes are the County use a cattleguard no smaller than 16 feet wide.

A letter from John T. Patterson a leaseholder on the road was also received during the meeting which stated he also wished to have a cattleguard no smaller than 16 feet wide.

Commissioner Crago asked if there were any further comment. Commissioner Hamilton clarified that the motion on the table was merely to approve the fact that a cattle guard can be installed on the road it is not specifying a size at this time. The applicant can petition the board for a variance in the size of cattle guard he wishes and that would be considered at a later time, and it is standard that the cost of the cattle guard is cost shared with the applicant paying for the expense of the cattleguard and the county supplying

the installation. With no further discussion Commissioner Crago again asked for the vote. **ALL IN FAVOR.** Motion passed unanimously.

B. Old Hospital Demolition Contract Gairrett Excavating in the amount of \$258,020.00

Commissioner Hamilton made **MOVED** to approve the contract in the amount off \$258,020.00. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED.** Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Hamilton stated that all work for the demolition of the Old Hospital will be completed no later that January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

C. Absarokee Sewer Request to reconnect to system. (205 West Grove Street)

Commissioner Crago explained that the connection was a disconnect due to unpaid taxes and the new owners of the property have asked to be reconnected. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the request at the recommendation of the sewer manager. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED.** Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Public Comments:**

Shirlee Keffer read a statement in to the record:

I'm in opposition for the Commissioners making the decision on the facilities plans for the following reasons;

1. Courthouse issue- because it is old like the "old hospital" the cost to save it may not be affordable from a firm that does renovations on old historical buildings no decision to move forward should happen. When that information is available, a questionnaire needs to be sent to every registered voter/property owner along with facts about the three concepts.

2. I would like to know after hearing comments from Commissioner Mark Crago about the old hospital and the safety of the building. Did those contractors put in writing to the Commissioners their findings?

3. Discussion about the cost of rents for the two offices and the weed department of \$67,000- this amount is nothing compared to what the cost to tax payers would be if their taxes had to be raised to complete projects in the three concepts presented.

4. Final point- I object to the County Commissioners making the final choice without first completing point 1 above. I understand from attending both the meetings to display the three Concept Plans and weekly Commissioners meetings that it is within their authority to decide on the dollar amount of the projects. This may be; however, the wiser path would be to engage the public.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Hearing no further business, Commissioner Crago adjourned the regular meeting at 9:22 a.m.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mark Crago, Commissioner Chairman

ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder