

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 31, 2015**

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes were approved and will be filed with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)) in their entirety, and the complete current month ending, along with resolutions and other supporting documents.

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; and Maureen Davey, Member; Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Carol Arkell, Fire Warden; and Robert Whitham, Stillwater County News. Absent - Commissioner Gerald W. Dell.

Public Comments: Public Comment on matters within the Commissioners jurisdiction pursuant to §2-3-103, MCA, public comments will be accepted on any public matter that is not scheduled on the Agenda.
No comments were heard.

Minutes Approval: Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the minutes of March 24, 2015, as presented. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Add on Agenda Item

Pine Crest Fire: The Pine Crest Fire started on Saturday, March 28, 2015. An emergency meeting was held by the Commissioners on Sunday, March 29, 2015, in which Resolution 2015-06 was adopted declaring an emergency. Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is on scene with a County Assist Team (CAT). Commissioner Shupak reported approximately 3,000 acres have burned. Carol Arkell, Fire Warden, said 24 engines, 3 helicopters, 3 water tenders, volunteers, and a team of 114 people are currently working on suppression efforts. There is one minor injury that was reported. She said DNRC, Columbus, Absarokee, Park City, Sheriff's Office, BLM, FWP, and Forest Service, are on the fire. A Red Flag warning is in effect for the next 24 hours. She said residents of Pine Crest Subdivision have been allowed to return to the area, and passes are being used to check in and out. School buses, delivery service trucks, postal service, and utilities maintenance were allowed access this morning, she said. At 10:00 AM, a media escort will be provided by DNRC. She also reported the fire is 45% contained and is under investigation. Arkell thanked the Commissioners for the quick response in getting DNRC assistance in place. Commissioner Davey said our volunteers

are very important, as they were on the initial attack, and if it wasn't for them, it would have been a lot more critical. She also stated that she really appreciates the state agencies coming in. Davey said, a big thank you for all our volunteers and all the entities participating in the fire.

Report(s):

1. 2015 Legislative Session - Commissioner Davey said the most watched item currently is the Appropriations Bill in the house and the senate. She said the legislators are going over it with a fine-tooth comb. Commissioner Shupak thanked Commissioner Davey for keeping the board up to date on the Legislative Session which includes corresponding with our senators and representatives, and Montana Association of Counties. Davey also reported schools were contacted for comments on HB 235, the metal mines bill. She said they responded and the bill passed that reading. Jerry Friend, Treasurer, reported on HB 621- Revise tax lien, sale, and title laws related to residence tax delinquency. He said the intent of the bill was good but the practicably is not.

Courthouse Facilities

Space Project:

1. Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to set a public hearing for Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 6:30 pm to be held at the Stillwater Pavilion to accept public comments regarding five (5) options identified by the planning process for providing additional county office space for county services. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously. Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant, said notices will be published in the Stillwater County News and posted on the bulletin boards in the courthouse as well as the county website.
2. No written comments were received this past week. All previous written comments, that have been received, are on file in the Clerk & Recorders Office for public review.

Road Department:

1. Material Sites Agreement - Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve Materials Site Agreement between Stillwater County and Tri-Creek Land, Inc. for crushed material up to a maximum of 60,000 yards at one-dollar per yard extracted. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Davey said this is an example of landowners working with the county to help improve the roads in the local area.
2. New Road Department Shop - Commission Davey read the letter received on March 26, 2015, from Cassie Riggin, PE, Great West Engineering. The letter stated they have *completed the review of the bid packages opened on February 3, 2015. As result of the seven (7) packages submitted, Outback Construction, Inc. of Missoula, MT was the lowest responsive bidder for the base bid and within the project*

budget. Upon the County's review of the bid tabulation – and concurrence with our recommendation– please executed the Notice of Award.

Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to award the bid to Outback Construction Inc. in the base bid amount of \$935,774 and execute the Notice of Award as recommended by Great West Engineering Inc. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**.

Discussion: Jerry Friend, Treasurer, stated now would be a good time to point out the money for the new building is already in place, it won't have to come from any new tax dollars. Commissioner Davey said there will be no bonds. Friend said he understands it is already set-up in the Capital Improvements Fund. Davey said most of it is. Friend asked if it would be an additional cost to the taxpayers. Commissioner Shupak stated it will not raise their taxes. Treasurer Friend thinks that is very important that people understand that. Commissioner Davey stated we've been talking about this for several years now. It has always been the message that we would not have to go out for bonds, she said.

Vote: Hearing no other discussion, Commissioner Shupak called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 AM