

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2015**

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

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; Maureen Davey and Gerald W. Dell, Members; Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant; Webb Mandeville, Marissa Hauge, Economic Development Coordinator; Nancy Rohde, County Attorney; Shirlee Keffer, Stillwater Republican Women; Coralee Hicks, and Marlo Pronovost, Stillwater County News.

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.

Shirlee Keffer made comments on the following:

1. She thanked Commissioner Dell and Davey for attending the Human Trafficking program held last week in Billings. She passed out copies of information for public awareness on human trafficking and its relation to drugs, gangs, and illegal immigration. She said it is happening in Montana, in our area (Billings).
2. She also thanked the Commissioners for having the services of a notary public in the Courthouse.

Reports:

1. Justice Court - Fees in the amount of \$15,082.75 were collected for the month ending April 30, 2015.
2. Clerk & Recorder - Fees in the amount of \$12,742.71 were collected for the month ending April 30, 2015.
3. Sheriff - Fees in the amount of \$1,050 were collected for the month ending April 30, 2015.

Special Issues:

1. Courthouse Facilities Space Project - Commissioner Dell stated since the public hearing of May 5, 2015, the following persons submitted written comments:
 1. Bill Hagen, proponent of Alternate 3 - renovating the present courthouse and constructing a new law and justice center on a new site.
 2. Anita Green, proponent of Alternate 2 - upgrading the courthouse and building a new law and justice center at the northeast corner of the property and install an elevator between the two facilities.
 3. Webb Mandeville - proponent of Option 5.

Commissioner Dell said these letters will be filed with the Clerk & Recorders Office for public inspection.

Great West Engineering:

Commissioner Dell read Task Order No. 9 to the Great West Engineering Agreement for Professional Services dated February 21, 2012. The scope of services for this task order includes a survey of alleyways between Woodard Ave and Montana Avenue, from Highway 78 at the Northern limit to School Street at the Southern limit. Services also include review of surveyed information, and preparation of three (3) conceptual alternative to solve drainage concerns. Compensation for these services is estimated at a total not to exceed \$3,800. Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve Great West Engineering Task Order No. 9 - Absarokee Alley Survey Project No. 1-11310. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

TSEP Resolution :

Bridge Inventory and Preliminary Engineering Report - Commissioner Dell read the draft resolution and application. Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to adopt **Resolution 2015-12**, to apply for an Infrastructure Planning Grant through the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP); and submit a Planning Grant Application. Commissioner Dell **SECONDED**.

Commissioner Davey said the county has participated in the TSEP Program since she has been in office, and the program has been very instrumental in keeping our infrastructure going. It is part of the Coal Trust Fund for infrastructure throughout the state, she said. TSEP is a funding program that has to be applied for and Stillwater County has been very

fortunate as our applications have never been denied.

Commissioner Shupak said we have replaced many bridges through the program. Commissioner Davey said this will also help update our bridge inventory which enable us to apply for grants. Commissioner Dell said 2 years ago the county had an application for a grant, and the first review of the applications, we were denied due to unavailable funding. During the legislative session that year, he attended the committee meeting and stated our case for the bridge across Butcher Creek on Rosebud Cemetery Road. Several other counties were pleading their cases for funding, and following testimony, Stillwater County was funded. Dell said it is a 2 year process to obtain funding, but well worth it because for the past 15 years, every bridge that has been built in the county has been funded through the TSEP Program.

Vote: Commissioner Shupak called for a vote, Motion passed unanimously.

Overall Economic

Development Plan: Marissa Hauge, Economic Development Coordinator, said the plan has been established and was written by her with the help of the committee. She said they have been meeting quarterly for the past 2 ½ years. The last plan was done in 1997 and it was definitely time to update it. The goal of the plan is to have a guiding document, a working document, to guide our economic development for the next 10 years. She said when the new census comes out, they will be able to update that information at that point. The last eight pages of the document that has the goal objectives and activities that committee and herself have put together which are goals, short term and long term for the next five to ten years county-wide for Stillwater County. Marissa Hauge is requesting the Commission adopt the 2015 updated Overall Economic Development Plan. She is also requesting the Commission consider extending the committee's terms so she has a resource team available when grants do become available.

Commissioner Davey said in regards to the current membership terms being extended - at that time, we advertised for three-year terms. She said she doesn't have a problem with those same people being on it, but we might find somebody else that might also want to be on it and to open it again and advertise it again. Davey thought it is a good idea to have this committee meet once a year to review the plan. Webb Mandeville said whenever you are in the process of a grant application, you always want this document and have it be compatible with the overall long-term goals and objectives, which helps obtain the grants. He said you have a really good, strong, and involved committed people.

Commissioner Davey said she appreciated all the time the committee members and Marissa spent on this. It is something not be taken lightly. This was a good process, and this is the way it should be.

Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to approve the 2015 Overall Economic Development Plan presented by the committee with the few amendments made by Commissioner Davey. Commissioner Dell **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Compensation Board:

Commissioner Dell said it is that time of year to update the membership of the Compensation Board. It is noted that Nancy Rohde, County Attorney, shall serve on the committee as required by state statute. He said another elected official has to be appointed to complete the Board to replace the outgoing Treasurer. Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to appoint Treasurer Jerry Friend to serve on the Compensation Board, for a term to expire April 30, 2018. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Area II Agency on Aging:

Commissioner Dell stated he is the current Commissioner Representative and has spoken to George Bokma, current consumer representative, who is willing to serve another term on the Area II Agency on Aging. He said it is a worthwhile organization with a number of seniors attending. The camaraderie is good and it lightens your heart he said. Commissioner **Davey MOVED** to reappoint George Bokma as Consumer Representative and Gerald W. Dell as Commissioner Representative FY 2015-2016. Commissioner **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 9:34 AM