

STILLWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

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

REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 4, 2015

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; Maureen Davey and Gerald W. Dell, Members; Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant; Mark Schreiner, Road & Bridge Superintendent; Carol Arkell, Fire Warden; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Coralee Hicks; Nancy Rohde, County Attorney; Shirlee Keffer; and Rick Hanners and, 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 - She said her comments regarding the Norton House in the last commissioner agenda meeting was not published in the Stillwater County News. She stated that when the Commissioners make a decision about the courthouse, she hopes the Norton House be apart of that discussion. She also said if the old hospital is structurally sound, she thought it would be a good home for the library. She voiced her opinion on the Stillwater County Pavilion as well saying it is well out dated and relocation to another site should be considered.

Commissioner Davey - stated the commission received a letter from a resident stating old county records are being stored in the former hospital on the floor. Commissioner Davey stated those county records are not stored in the old hospital but rather on shelves in the lower level of the West Annex. These records, that we are required to retain, are very important and we are taking care of them, she said. The records are available for public inspection during business hours.

Minutes Approval: Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve the minutes of July 7 and July 14, 2015 as presented. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Stillwater River Road:

1. Rockslide Update - Commissioner Dell reported that a Community Meeting was held on July 30, 2015, at the Nye Fire Hall. He said approximately 60 people attended and discussion took about an hour. A meeting with the rock slide engineering (GSI) will be set up, hopefully the middle of next week. Commissioner Davey said if it was an easy matter to pull the rocks off the road, we would do that. She said this is a lot more complicated than that. We have a river with homes on one-side and a steep rock unstable wall on the other side. Commissioner Davey said it is our duty to

ensure all avenues are looked at and safety is paramount not only for the residents but for anyone working on the project. The Treasurer asked if it will impact bus routes. Commissioner Dell said it will impact one bus route for two students. Dell said it is his understanding that an agreement has been made between the parents and the Absarokee School bus system to pick up the two students in Nye.

2. State Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Application - Commissioner Dell stated that the county's on-call engineer, Great West Engineering, Inc., has informed them that there is a possibility of submitting a grant application for this pre-disaster mitigation that could possibly help us with the rock slide. He explained it is a long process and would not know the outcome of the application until next year. He said there is 25 million dollars available (nation-wide) and the county will submit an application.

2015 Fire Season: Each week during the fire season the Commissioners will discuss the current status of fire conditions and/or fire restrictions within the county. Action will be taken if conditions warrant. Carol Arkell, Fire Warden, stated there has been no human caused fires reported and cooler wet weather is forecasted for this week. It is her recommendation to not go into restrictions at this time. She also reported that approximately 50 permits to date have been sold through the new burning permit system.

Reports: Correspondence from the following agencies were received and reviewed:

a. MDT - Stillwater River - Project No. STPB 9048(48) located 2 miles North West of Absarokee for a bridge replacement with added capacity (Johnson Bridge). A preliminary field review was conducted on-site on October 22, 2014. Commissioner Dell, along with Mark Schreiner and Randy Werdal attended the review. It was concluded that MDT is going to put the bridge on their construction schedule. Preliminary work is being conducted, ie. surveying for the replacement of the bridge in 2018 or 2019. He said the Johnson Bridge is the oldest bridge in the county - built in 1907. It has a restrictive load limit of 4 ton and is a single lane 163 foot long four-span bridge. He said the replacement of the bridge will be through the MDT Secondary Road System. Commissioner Davey stated that because of the cost of replacement for this bridge, it did not qualify for TSEP funding. She said we (county) have asked for several years for it to be put on the off-system bridge list, and it made it way up the list, and it has finally been accepted for funding. The bridge in Reed Point, the Riverside Inn Bridge, and the bridge over the Yellowstone, have been replaced using the off-system program through MDT, Davey said. MDT is accepting comments on the project estimated at \$2.7 million.

b. FEMA - Commissioner Dell reported that the Floodplain Maps and Regulations are mandated to be adopted no later Oct 16, 2015. The county has submitted a request for some revisions on the maps to the State Coordinator in Helena. Dell said the county will adopt the regulations to ensure compliance.

c. MDT - Columbus Rest Area - IM 90-8(175)419 - New Facility Construction is scheduled for both rest areas (East bound and West bound) east of Columbus on I-90. The design-build project will be programmed and advertised by MDT in FY 2015, according to the notice.

d. Justice Court - fees were collected in the amount \$10,758.10 for the month ending June 30, 2015.

e. Commissioner's Office - Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant, reported that she attended the Commissioners Administrative Workshop hosted by MACo on July 30, 2015. Many items were discussed during the workshop including, resolutions, public hearings, telephone etiquette, consent agenda. To streamline the agenda, she suggested trying the consent agenda approach for the Commissioners. Lori also suggested implementing an Agenda request form to be used internally. She explained that when an agreement/contract or resolution is submitted by a department head or elected official for commissioner approval, the agenda request form would provide financial impact/budgetary and other information. The Commissioners were in favor of restructuring of Commissioner's Agenda and implementing the agenda request form.

Property & Supply

Resolution: Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to adopt **Resolution 2015-28** selecting and authorizing county agents to purchase from Department of Administration Property & Supply Bureau. Commissioner Dell **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously. This Resolution is filed in the Clerk & Records Office Document No. 363000.

Human Resources: Status Change - Christene Lowell, Clerk, appointed as Deputy Clerk & Recorder effective July 27, 2015.

Meeting Adjourned: Hearing no further business, Commissioner Shupak adjourned the meeting at 9:23 am