

Tuesday, December 22, 2009

Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Donald Rieger and William L. Randash, Members and Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder met for a regular session.

Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman and Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman met to discuss various items of Road business.

Compressor-Alba discussed the need to purchase an air compressor for the new shop so they have access to it for maintenance purposes. The Commission granted permission to purchase.

New blades-Bobby stated they are running great and doing a good job. Alba stated the only issue is they are throwing rocks and breaking the windows, just as the old blades, but the windows that are being broken are different windows. You can not get the windows from CAT; they have to be custom made.

Trailers-Alba and Bobby have both looked at the various makes of trailers. Trail King sent their Representative up from South Dakota. They are now ready to write up the specifications. The way they will be written, no one will be able to meet all the specs. Alba stated each trailer has its own good features. Commissioner Rieger stated the bidder can state why they cannot meet the specs. Discussed various features they like about the trailers. Discussed the plan is to keep the best of the two (2) Ranco Trailers and trade the Fruehauf.

Weed spray pickups-Are ordered; one truck will be a manual and one will be an electronic 4-wheel drive. They will be delivered to Bowman, ND from Oklahoma and Kansas.

Underground storage tank training-Commissioner Randash asked if the balance of the Commission felt it would be possible to invite local business owners, dealing with the underground storage tanks, to our meeting. Commissioner's Rieger and Ranum agreed this would be a good idea. Alba will decide on a date and the business owners will be invited to attend.

Road Crew work-The crew will be hauling gravel on Bracket Butte road this week.

Rich Batterman, County Attorney met to discuss the Crawford Road (leading to Clyde Crawford's). Commissioner's Rieger and Randash have a huge concern that this road was built with Taxpayer and County funding and now we are being shut off from the County's section. Rich stated we can take the road by declaration. We will need to notice up the hearing date and hold the public hearing. If the road is laid out, maintained and constructed by Fallon County, we take it by declaration and pass the resolution. Rich would also like to visit with David Crawford and find out if he will give an easement. Rich feels Commissioner Ranum needs to stay out of this matter and let Commissioner's Rieger and Randash take care of this, due to the conflict of interest.

Speed limits-Commissioner Rieger asked if a County road is not posted, is the speed limit the same as the highway. Rich quoted from 61-8-303, MCA and 61-8-312, MCA, which states the speed limit is 70 MPH during the day and 65 MPH at night for passenger vehicles; 60 MPH during the day and 55 MPH at night for trucks and special permit vehicles are 55 MPH on any other public highway other than a Federal Aid-Interstate Highway

Inter-local Agreement-The agreement for the Justice of Peace/City Judge was discussed.

The Commission reviewed and approved the December, 2009 mid-month claims in the amount of \$395,565.95 and they are filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Noon Recess

Bud Anderson, Trans Canada Pipeline Representative updated the Commission on the progress of the pipeline. Bud stated the DEQ and Governor Schweitzer are holding them up by asking them to reroute, which causes them to have another environmental assessment completed.

Liaison-Dawson County Commissioner Buxbaum felt Bud would make an excellent liaison between TransCanada, landowners, in general all involved. This would be a paid position through the State of Montana. Bud stated Commissioner Buxbaum felt a letter of support from the Counties involved would help this effort.

Roads- Bud stated the Commissioner's should make sure they have the roads evaluated before this project begins so they can make sure the roads are put back to the same or better shape. Bud stated they will also need to see if they would like the new approaches left in, or taken out.

Bud will continue to keep the Commissioner's informed.

Letter of Support-The Commission will write a letter of support for the liaison position.

Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director was asked to further discuss work to be completed at the Ambulance garage and Ambulance personnel positions.

Ambulance Garage-Lisa stated Mike Rinaldi, Jr. has not started the projects at the Ambulance Garage as of this time.

Personnel positions-Ambulance Director-Lisa is the Ambulance Director and is paid a monthly stipend. Lisa feels if the Commission had an Ambulance Director that was part/full time, the County could advance in the EMS field as far as conferences, etc. and this position would also look for grants and all items involving Emergency Medical Services to further benefit the members, Fallon County and the Association.

Maintenance-Steve Schweigert takes care of the ambulance vehicle maintenance. Steve takes them wherever it is necessary for repairs, etc.

Purchasing Agent-Lindsay Barrett-Chaska takes care of the inventory, gets sale items, new items that may benefit them.

Training Coordinator-Nancy Hirsch is the training coordinator. Nancy takes care of the book work and also critiques the driver's/attendants, trip reports. She makes sure the treatment/procedures are followed in accordance with the call they are attending.

Secretary-Mary Lou Ryden is the Secretary for the Association and takes care of the minutes, filing, etc.

Discussion-Commissioner Ranum discussed cleaning ambulances and buildings. Lisa stated she and Mary Lou do most of it but they all try to pitch in and help. Commissioner Rieger asked if Lisa or the Association would write a job description for the Director. Lisa stated they will be renewing their policies and procedures so they could include this also. They also have new Ambulance personnel on board, which has been wonderful.

Building discussion-Darold Brown will be asked to give quotes for painting the meeting room and also for the garage area, when it is completed. Commissioner Ranum asked if they had gotten a paper towel dispenser as of yet. Lisa stated the purchasing department will get it ordered after the Association meeting. Darold Brown or Joe Janz, Outside Building Maintenance will take care of placing the sleeves over the lights.

The Commission assisted with the Christmas potluck cleanup.

Jon Brosz, Brosz Engineering met to update the Commission on various projects.

Bridge inspections-Jon stated they are finished with them but are trying to finish up the computer work. Jon stated they will plan to have them finalized the first week in February. Commissioner Ranum asked if they found any that need replaced. Jon stated there were a couple bridges Brosz made recommendations they should be replaced in the next couple of years.

Bridge on Custer Camp Trail-Jon received quotes for a 72" double corrugated, metal culvert-\$153,743.25, which would flow half of what a box culvert would; or a single 14' x 5' cement box culvert-\$210,063.25 which would meet the 25 year event. No decision made at this time.

Low Water crossing-Jon feels it just needs to have some dirt work completed on it; the bridge does flow water.

Bridge SW of Plevna-Jon stated Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman had also asked him to look at a bridge the State inspected and gave it a 31% efficiency rating. The bridge is located south of Plevna and ¼ mile west. It has a 4 ton load restriction and is a cable bridge. Jon stated he has put a call into Ray Mengel, MT Department of Transportation regarding this bridge.

New Park/Road Shop-Jon brought a rough sketch of the drainage issue for the new shop for the Commission to view and share with Bobby.

North Baker Water and/or Sewer-Jon stated they really need to get the certification of easements for the NBWS to the DEQ before we can get the EDA to commit to the funding. Jon stated they would like to go to bid February, 2010, if they get the funding.

Jason Rittal, Executive Director-Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation joined the group.

Faye Koenig, Treasurer/Assessor was allowed to visit with the Commission briefly before the continuation of the above meeting. Faye discussed delinquent taxes on a couple of parcels and the penalty and Interest that accrued. Faye had not gotten those parcel's taxes revised from the AB26 (Department of Revenue-request for formal review). One of the parcels in question belongs to a landowner who leases to another individual and the Lessee was the person that filed the appeal, not the landowner. Faye stated she wanted the Commission to be aware as the landowner would probably not have filed the AB26, they probably would have paid their taxes and now there are penalty and interest charges on this property. Faye thought the landowner or other family members may be calling them to discuss this further. The Commission was grateful for the heads up.

Back to Jason Rittal and Jon Brosz-Jason has some updates on the North Baker Water and or Sewer project. The TSEP contract was received and has been mailed back and the same for the DNRC. Jason stated the EDA has informed him they are drafting the approval documents but they still need to get the County Attorney to sign off on the easements to get DEQ approval.

ROAD EASEMENTS:

The Commission signed road easements for Dave E and Cindy L Wang-Big Hill Road and Farmstead in Section 24-9-60.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Commission viewed the pipe in the basement that rusted through and spewed glycol out of the system. The Commission feels this issue will need to be dealt with soon before more problems arise.

The Commission submitted a letter to Steve Engebrech, Helena FAA regarding the Baker Municipal Airport pre-application for 2010 expansion project. Application and letter are filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

The Commission signed the purchaser's order for the skid steer loader for the Fallon Medical Complex. The skid steer loader has arrived for their use. This is funded in great portion by the CDBG Disaster Grant.

LETTERS:

The Commission wrote a letter of support for the Otter Creek Appraisal and Coal Lease Options. The letter is filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

APPOINTMENTS:

The Commission appointed William Lane as trustee for the Plevna Rural Fire District.

Adjourned.
Deb Ranum, Chairperson

ATTEST:
s/Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder