

Monday, March 1, 2010

Donald Rieger, Chairman; Deb Ranum and William L. Randash, Members and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder met for a regular March, 2010 session.

Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman and Spencer Huether, Road Technician met to discuss various County roads. Spencer stated Walt Hanratty asked about a road abandonment that already took place. The road was abandoned and it would have allowed him to get to his section. Spencer stated it just so happens, Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder found some papers regarding this issue, while she was looking for something else. In those papers, Spence stated it was found Walt does have access according to that old petition. The other road was abandoned in November at the Public Road Hearing. Fallon County will keep the petition that does allow him access to his road and the Commission agreed they will not abandon that petitioned portion. Spencer left the conversation.

Bobby stated Barb Olind had asked him if Fallon County had any dirt she could have or pay for to be used in her yard. Bobby stated Barb had him; personally do some work for her with his private backhoe. Barb's yard has now settled and she cannot find anyone that has any dirt they can get to at this time and wondered if Fallon County had some stock piled dirt. The Commission stated they do not know of any dirt available and Fallon County cannot give or sell dirt to a private individual, they would need to contact a private business for that issue. Bobby stated Barb may be contacting them today to ask this question. If not, he will let her know the decision made today.

Various Roads-Bobby stated they have completed the work on Brackett Butte Road. Bobby stated the Webster Road needs graveled in various places. Scoria Butte Road is bad and Bobby would really like to put more scoria on that road because scoria is closer to that road than gravel. Bobby also stated Johnny Creek Trail needs some gravel. Commissioner Rieger stated we need to do the work necessary on the main roads first before working on the private roads. Bobby tries to make sure of that.

Buerkle Pit-Bobby stated the Buerkle Pit is ready to go except for the bond.

Permitting Pits-Bobby stated he found an Engineering firm in Billings that will permit gravel pits. Bobby feels this would work well for pits such as Don Fried and Mike Choat. The Commission agreed they could look into this.

Equipment purchase-Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman joined the group to discuss purchasing a tire changer/balancer. Alba has found a Hofmann through NAPA for \$17,000; COATE's equivalent is \$27,000. Alba explained they would not be able to work on the scraper tire because that would be too large. Alba stated so far the only tires they do not repair are the left side of the mowers because they are filled with chloride for counter balancing. They have approximately 230 truck and trailer tires that could ultimately need repairs. Alba explained they also could not repair the tires for the sedans and small mowers for the golf and parks. Alba said the Hofmann representative will come down and set them up and train them on the equipment. They will also come down and service the machine. Commissioner Randash asked if any of the tires had been previously balanced. Alba stated no they have not been balanced which is why Alba feels we also need the balancer. The tires will wear longer and sometimes in the past they had to take them to Dickinson to be balanced. Commissioner Randash asked where they plan to put the new equipment. Alba felt they would have the new equipment placed in the new shop. The cost for the balancer would be \$10,000. All Commissioner's agreed and approved the purchase of the changer and balancer.

Loader issues-T & E will be coming to Baker to look at the loader because of the hydraulic leaking issue (bleed by). They feel this could be a relief valve.

Backup cameras-Senior Bus and Ambulance backup cameras are having the same types of issues. Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman feels some of the issues are due to various frequencies.

Equipment next Fiscal Year-Alba stated the old 966F, with quick attach has 6600 hours and Alba is sure it will need a transmission and tires. Alba stated the 966F never had hours until the County purchased the crusher. A decision needs to be made as to whether we want to pay to have it repaired, or get a new one. This is also what is used for the new snow blower. The Commission feels we will need to trade it.

Fuel tank/tool box combination-Alba has been looking into purchasing some fuel tank/tool box combinations. Permission granted to purchase.

Pickups-Alba stated we also need to be looking for a couple small two-wheel drive pickups to pull behind the mowers. The Commission agreed with that also.

Tom Barth, Landfill Manager discussed the possible purchase of a tree/brush chipper for Fallon County. The Vermeer is not a self loading chipper. Commissioner Randash stated he felt the paperwork stated it was self loading and it is a chipper, not a grinder. Tom stated he will look into this again.

Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder met to discuss the Treasurer's Bond, Snow Days and the Public Administrator position. In speaking with the Auditor, (Wosepka), he feels Fallon County needs to raise the bond amount to a more adequate level. Debbie explained the cost for a more adequate bond is \$4200 annually. The Commission will discuss this further.

Public Administrator-Debbie stated Rich Batterman, County Attorney is looking into this position to see if it could be consolidated with the County Attorney or another County position. Debbie contacted Russell Culver, City Attorney and current Public Administrator and he stated he would carry on the duties as long as he is around. There are no qualifications and no fees. The Commission will need to appoint Rich, Russ or someone else, dependent upon the decision made. Russ feels they could possibly appoint one of Rich's Secretary's but feels it needs to be someone that has a general knowledge in this area. Debbie will bring this question up again after the election so someone can be appointed. Commissioner Ranum asked about advertising all elected positions available. Debbie explained advertising is not required by law.

Snow Day-Debbie discussed the time sheets from January 25th (possible snow day). Most people took a day of vacation. The Commission made the decision to give vacation back to everyone that used it for the 25th of January, 2010, as the Commission has determined this was an "emergency day". Debbie will put this information with the March, 2010 paychecks to remind employees of the "Snow Day" procedures. The procedure will be added to the policy manual. This procedure is for situations that are County-wide, if there is an isolated incident, they will need to make the Payroll Department aware of the circumstance when the time sheets are submitted.

Noon Recess

The Commission reconvened at 1:00 PM with all present.

Donald Rieger, Chairman; Deb Ranum and William L. Randash, Members and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder met with Pat Ehret, Don Buerkle, Dee Dee Geving, Wanda Pinnow and Courtney Dietz, Fair Board Members and Barb Lechler, Fairgrounds Secretary at the Fairgrounds to discuss the Kitchen remodel project.

Pat opened the meeting and asked why they were having another meeting regarding the Kitchen remodel. Wanda stated they needed some clarification from the Commission. There seems to be some confusion on laws per inspector and contractor. The group discussed getting a quote for the plumbing from Allied Plumbing and Mike Menger. Wanda explained the Fair Board feels they can save the sinks, as the sinks are in good condition. Scoping the sewer line was discussed; they may have to trench from the kitchen to the store room because they feel there is a collapsed line. The City was not able to scope the line because the line is too small. Wanda stated since the line is so small they did not feel they could put a pipe inside the existing pipe to save costs. Commissioner Randash wondered if the Fair Board felt they could get someone to bore the line in. The Fair Board felt it would be worth it to check that out. Wanda felt the Plumber would take care of the cement removal. Commissioner Rieger stated whoever gets the bid will hire the other contractors and should be aware of building code rulings.

Anisole Hood-Yancey Beston, Building Inspector told the Fair Board that if anyone plans to put a hamburger on to cook or deep fat fry, they will need an anisole hood, if this will be a commercial kitchen, rather than a warming kitchen and in case of a fire. The type of range you purchase makes absolutely no difference; it is the type of cooking you plan to do. Barb stated the Exhibit Hall can be used as an emergency shelter and post office so had hoped they could get some funding assistance. Wanda found some prices for the anisole hood at \$4,500.00 and a gas stove for \$2,400.00 which is much cheaper than the costs quoted them by Stevenson Design. Commissioner Rieger wondered if they could instead vent the hood through the wall, instead of the roof to avoid moving the heat vent. Commissioner Rieger stated there is a cover on the south side of the exhibit hall in almost the exact spot they may need to put the anisole hood vent. The Commission felt it would be worth it to contact the building inspector and find out if that would work. The group wondered if they made anisole hoods that

vented out the side or only out the top of the roof. Commissioner Rieger explained if they do have to go through the top of the roof, they will also have to contact Theil Roofing because of the liner Theil placed in the Exhibit Hall roof. We do not want to void our warranty and this will make it more costly.

Coffee Pot-Commissioner Rieger stated they should take a look at the coffee pot at the Plevna Community Center. The pot is mounted to the wall, is hooked to the water and works wonderfully and they would not have to worry about someone stealing the coffee pot. The group felt that would be a very good idea but wondered how costly that would be. Further research will be completed on that.

Architect-Commissioner Rieger stated it is not necessary to hire an architect for this project.

Don Buerkle recommended they contact someone about boring to see if they would be able to give them an estimate on boring the sewer line or if it is something they are able to do at all, then they can go from there.

Discussed grant funding for a portion of the remodeling, through Chuck Lee, DES Coordinator due to the possibility they could use the Exhibit Hall as an emergency shelter. Chuck explained the Engineer would have to apply for the funding, which is also two years out.

K & P-Discussed the fact that Kent Ehret would be able to submit a bid as long as Pat abstains from any of that portion of the Fairgrounds business.

Bid Paperwork-Wanda discussed the information needed in the bid package was the most important issue. Commissioner Rieger stated they could make the bid very generic and the Contractors come to the Fairgrounds, pick up the information, drawings and take their own measurements.

Commissioner Randash stated they could possibly cut some costs with the cupboards by stating they want cupboards that are serviceable. A lot of bidding a project is in how you state it in the specifications.

Courtney made a motion to update the Kitchen and put it out to bid for the project as a whole, using the plans drawn up by Wanda.

Don Buerkle stated he felt maybe they should put the kitchen project on hold and put the money into the Grandstands.

Pat stated she wondered if possibly they should wait also.

The motion was never seconded, therefore died for a lack of a second.

Barb will contact a contractor regarding the possibility of boring the sewer line. Barb will also contact Yancey to see boring will be satisfactory.

The group will move forward with the sewer line issues first.

The group decided everyone would stay in close contact regarding the remodel as the Fair Board stated the first Wedding function will be held in June.

The meeting was adjourned and the Commission resumed their meetings in their office at the Courthouse.

Barb Olind met to find out if Fallon County had any dirt she could have or purchase for her yard. The Commission stated they cannot do that for anyone from the public but she could contact someone like Gary Bruce, Bruce Ditching and he would probably be able to help her at some point in time.

Grandstands-Barb made a suggestion to the Commission regarding the possible new grandstands. Barb felt they should do an inside area so that no one has to contend with the weather. They could use it for a variety of things such as an ice arena as well as for Fair time festivities. Barb would just like to see them do something really nice.

Governor's Council for Disabilities-Barb stated it was very nice to be able to use the video conferencing in the courtroom for the Governor's Council for Disabilities. This saves everyone involved a lot of travel time.

Luther Waterland called to cancel his appointment with the Commission.

Angel Wyrwas, Fallon County Times met to review any updates within the County.

Grandstands-JGA is coming in to discuss the plans on the Grandstands March 4, 2010 at 4:00 PM. The old grandstands will be totally destroyed as it is in disrepair as it no longer meets codes. The Commission feel this will be costly, no idea how costly, but we have been setting aside funding for the Grandstands for several years now. On a historic note, Vera Abrams, Librarian found the grandstands were built in 1925. They started in May and they were finished by the August Fair. The Commission

feels it is possible that it could be demolished at the end of the Fair, ready to go to bid and have them ready for the next year, dependent upon total funding, permits, etc.

The North Baker Water Sewer District received an \$800,000 grant from the US Department of Commerce, EDA. The Commission is pleased and excited this funding was made available to enhance the infrastructure and will stimulate economic growth within Fallon County. Penny Zimmerman, Representative for Jon Tester phoned the Commission about sending a press release to the Fallon County Times. Angel will check on that.

Mid winter conference in Great Falls-Commissioners Rieger and Randash attended the Conference the last week in February. They had various learning sessions such as protested taxes learning session; a Montana County has a class action suit against the DOR pertaining to the protested taxes; future legislative issues will be discussed. The conference also addressed the energy corridor including wind energy, the TransCanada Pipelines and additional future pipelines.

WIR Conference-Western Interstate Region conference will be held in Yellowstone County. This is for MACo (Montana Association of Counties) personnel and its members and many things will be discussed such as budgets, energy, wind and future pipelines.

Oil, Coal and Gas Meeting-This meeting will be coming up in June.

The Property and Casualty Insurance, which MACo has, took a 2 million dollar hit. MACo is trying to find savings due to the economy; spent time working on cutting budgets.

Hard rock mining and forest counties are sharing the same issues as the Oil Coal and Gas Counties and feel they could unite to show a strong front when representing their interests at the State level. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of adding sage grouse to the endangered species list and how this would affect oil, gas and coal counties. This is the larger grouse not the sharp-tail grouse.

Discussion was held regarding the wolves and the brucellosis around the park.

The Commission brought back a new Public Transportation Bus for Fallon County. This transportation is provided for all Citizens of Fallon County and is no longer restricted to age.

Oil, Gas and Coal meeting-This meeting will be held in Choteau this time and they will be touring the Rocky Mountain front.

Wind tower project is in full swing and MDU is in the process of going up with the towers.

Fairgrounds Kitchen-There are tentative plans to remodel the kitchen at the fairgrounds

Ambulance Garage-We are putting new doors on the ambulance garage because they were damaged.

Pipelines-have heard nothing definite yet.

Baker Lake-We are getting closer to a resolution.

TIFID-The original TIFID suit lies in the hands of Judge Hegel and the alternate suit, which went to the Supreme Court, ruled in the favor of the Department of Revenue.

JP/City Judge issue-An Attorney General opinion was asked for, so for now things are status quo.

Mike Rinaldi, Sanitarian was phoned and the group discussed the grease trap that needs to be installed for the kitchen at the Fairgrounds when the remodel takes place.

Spencer Huether, Road Technician met to discuss the bridge by the Cabin Creek Plant. When the Commission makes the decision to take the Anticline Road, a decision will be made on this bridge as well.

The Commission reviewed and approved the February, 2010 timesheets and payroll and withholdings in the amount of \$395,792.39 and they are filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

The Commission acclaimed the following Fire Trustees Elected by Resolution:
Melissa Thielen, Plevna Rural Fire District Trustee
Dennis Koenig, Baker Rural Fire District Trustee

The City of Baker sent a copy of a letter stating they re-appointed Rod Johnson as the City Representative to the Airport Commission. His term will next expire January, 2013.

Recess

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

The Commission reconvened at 10:00 AM with all present.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

The Commission reviewed and approved the February, 2010 claims in the amount of \$191,253.48 and they are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Sarah Maynard, Director of Nursing at Fallon Medical Complex wanted to visit with the Commission about some ideas she has for the Ambulance Department. Sarah recommends the County hire a Paramedic that can perform high risk transfers and then the Ambulance Service would not need a nurse. Sarah stated she feels this position would pay for itself as there is a lot of grant money they could get if there was someone hired in that position that had the time to execute those duties. Sarah explained the paid person could also do the billing, any necessary paperwork, grants, some transfers, etc. Sarah also feels the Fire and Ambulance should be together because Firemen can drive the Ambulance. The Commission explained they do have some Firemen that are on the Ambulance crew. The Commission will consider Sarah's suggestions and discuss them further with Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director.

Angel Wyrwas, Fallon County Times met to discuss the question of the week. What procedure does Fallon County use to choose an insurance agent and does it involve submitting bids?

The Commissioner's contacted Jim Leischner of D & J Insurance regarding this question. Jim stated the bond renews every three years and the insurance every year. They have submitted the lowest quote for the longest time and that is why the County carries their insurance through them.

The Commission stated MACo (Montana Association of Counties) has given them an offer of insurance but they would still rely on a local agent to administer the account so the Commission felt it was not a better choice. MACo was also limited in what they could offer. For example, they had no option for Airport insurance. The Commission also stated it is easier to have a local agent that can offer local control but the Commission is always open to looking at new quotes. Citizens are welcome to contact the Commissioner's Office for more information.

Noon Recess

The Commission reconvened at 1:00 PM with all present.

Val Dyba, ABT Electric met to discuss the kitchen remodeling project at the Fairgrounds.

Clayton Hornung, Mayor-City of Baker met for the City's monthly meeting.

Justice of Peace office hours-The Commission stated they received information from the Commissioner of Political Practices regarding the ethics law and a letter was mailed to the Attorney General asking for a formal opinion. They will inform the City as soon as they get a reply from the Attorney General.

Keystone Pipeline-Clayton stated they had a teleconference last Friday with Representatives of the Keystone Pipeline. Those in attendance were Clayton; Don Hinman, Public Works Director; Tim Barkley, Sheriff; Randy Ketterling, Chief of Police and Kevin Dukart, City Clerk. Clayton stated Bob Bradley was the person who did most of the speaking. They discussed various issues such as security. Keystone stated they will take care of their own security and the area will be fenced. They will not have their own police officers, they will just be watching who comes in and goes out. The campsite would house their employees. They would like capabilities of sewer and water. Clayton feels it would be best if they tied into the 1st cell of the lagoon. Clayton feels they could set up a fill station, could have a tank and then they could hire someone to haul water to them. Clayton's concern is the tax revenues will go to the State and County and the City will get no tax money. The only thing they will collect is the discharge user fee for 600 people. Clayton stated Keystone felt they would begin the 2nd quarter of 2011, continue through winter months and the plan is to be finished and dismantle in 2013. The group discussed whether the Governor was on board with the project. The group felt the answer was yes and no. Commissioner Rieger stated he understood TransCanada is 80% owned by China.

Roger Meggers, Airport Manager phoned during Clayton's meeting. The Commission had phoned Roger earlier about the information received regarding the Ellsworth Air Force Base trying to get the flight expansion going again. The U. S. Air Force, in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration, is in the process of analyzing the potential environmental consequences of a proposal to expand the Powder River Complex to meet the airspace training needs of the Air Force. Results of the analysis are expected to be released to the public as a Draft Environmental Impact Statement in the spring of 2010, with formal public hearings following the release. The article states the dates, times and locations for public hearings will be published in local media. Roger stated this will devastate air traffic for the low level aircraft to transverse the area. Roger forwarded the email to Baucus and Tester also. Bill Lane, Airport Board Member is going to Buffalo, SD, tomorrow at 1:00 PM, to attend a meeting regarding this issue. Roger will keep the Commission posted.

Back to Mayor Hornung's meeting.

Commissioner Randash stated he noticed Keystone plans to place a gas line also. The group discussed the tinsel strength of steel. Commissioner Rieger stated he heard the USA did not put a bid in on the Steel.

Law Enforcement-Clayton's biggest concern is Law Enforcement; feels the City many need to hire one or two officers and discussed what will happen after the people move away. The group discussed possibly receiving impact funds for something like this.

Recess

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Reconvened at 10:00 AM with all present except Commissioner Randash who is checking roads with Spencer Huether, Road Technician and Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

Jim Wosepka, County Auditor and Faye Koenig, Treasurer/Assessor met for the FY09 Audit Exit Conference. Jim explained the County's only write-up was the County's annual report was not filed within the 6 months after the end of the fiscal year as required by Section 2-7-504, MCA. The Clerk and Recorder's response is included in the audit report and Jim feels next fiscal year we should not have the same problems, as Josie Rieger, Clerk is well trained on the fixed assets and she also has a good handle on the annual report.

Comment-The group discussed the Treasurer's Bond. Jim stated he does not know the potential of embezzlement but does know the current bond amount is no longer adequate for Fallon County.

Cash-Faye stated her Treasurer's cash is off a very small amount in comparison to what is stated on the books but she is still working on that issue.

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to accept the FY2009 audit report. Commissioner Rieger stepped down from the Chair and seconded the motion. Commissioner Rieger called for those in favor to signify by saying aye. 2 Ayes. 1 Absent. Commissioner Rieger called for those opposed to signify by saying nay. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. The motion carried unanimously. The audit is filed in the Clerk & Recorder's office. Jim stated the audit contract will need to be renewed for FY2010.

Chuck Lee, DES Coordinator/911 Supervisor met to ask the Commission if it would be possible to get wireless internet connection, a projection system and sound system installed in the Exhibit Hall. The Commission stated they would not have a problem with it; someone would need to visit with Barb Lechler, Secretary so she could let her board know about it and contact Don Dilworth, IT Department and then discuss where the funding will come from.

Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director met to discuss and update the Commission on various issues. Building-Lisa stated the new Ambulance garage doors are not here yet. Lisa explained the tin is not going up until the weather is warmer, so they can leave an ambulance out, and alternate bays to be worked on. Discussed tinning the walls so they can wash the ambulances inside to keep them professional looking. Commissioner Rieger stated they can also wash them at the County Shop. The Commission will further discuss tinning the north wall of the garage and will let Lisa know their decision.

ENCORE ambulance-Lisa stated next week may be a good time to start working on the garage because the ENCORE ambulance will be down due to repairs.

Lisa stated the bill to repair the ambulance will be \$3500.00. The Commission gave approval for Mac's Frontierland to do the repair work as they are fleet approved.

Ambulance Services-The Commission stated Sarah Maynard, D.O.N.-Fallon Medical Complex met with the Commission regarding the possibility of hiring a Paramedic. Lisa stated she explained to Sarah this would require changing of licensure. The group discussed the Ambulance Service being part of the Fire Department. Lisa stated they would love to be part of the Fire Department; as it stands now they have firemen that drive the ambulance for them.

Policies and Job Descriptions-Lisa is working on conflict resolution policies and job descriptions. The updated policies and procedures will be brought to the Commissioner's to be reviewed.

Drivers-Discussed most anyone can drive but they have had issues with some of the First Responders being able to drive due to specific trainer issues.

MSDS sheets-They are also working on updating their MSDS sheets.

Purchase-They would like to purchase a supply cabinet for various supplies. Permission granted to purchase.

Commissioner Rieger called Mid-Rivers to give permission for the Public Health Department to have Cable TV installed. This will be used for the benefit of the public and children in the waiting area. The cost will be paid from the Emergency Preparedness Budget.

Noon Recess

The Commission reconvened at 1:00 PM with all present.

Barb Lechler, Fair Secretary met to update the Commission on the Fairgrounds kitchen remodeling project.

Boring-Barb stated Gye Varner explained that his equipment is too large to bore the sewer. Josh Breitbach, Electrician will come and look and see if he could bore it. Barb was in touch with a plumber from Dickinson that could possibly camera the old line. Barb felt it would make more sense to place a new line from the old sink drain area to the store room rather than paying the expense of having someone camera the line. The Commission agreed.

Ceiling in the kitchen-Yancey Beston, Building Inspector stated they would not need to lower the ceiling.

Cold Air Return-Stevenson Design stated they would need a cold air return in the kitchen. When Clayton Verke, Verke Refrigeration was there he stated they do not need a cold air return in the kitchen. Will check further on this.

Anisole Hood-An anisole hood was discussed.

Boyd Plummer, Bryan Kary, Doug Rowe, WBI; Don Dilworth, Superintendent of Schools; Spencer Huether, Road Technician; Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman met to discuss the bridge located by the Cabin Creek Plant which was closed due to the stability of the bridge and the issues with the Anticline Road.

Bryan asked if the County was going to do anything with the bridge.

Commissioner Rieger stated Fallon County has no ownership of the road going to or from the bridge. Commissioner Rieger stated the Commission was hoping Bryan had some proof of ownership.

Bryan stated they have the bottom half of Section 21-10-58, which is located by Jack Hadley. A portion of the road on the North was sold to Sonsalla but feels it was reserved for public use.

Spence stated Fallon County has the portion from Cabin Creek, west to Kinsey's and north to Section 22 and also has it past that point to Section 16-10-58 (State land).

Bryan stated they have Cap Rock Road leased. Commissioner Rieger asked about the area by Tobin School.

Spencer stated Fallon County has the east half of Tobin School, not the west half; Bryan stated WBI does not have anything on the Tobin School Road.

Bryan discussed the Railroad (Glacier Park had the land, sold it and kept minerals); the railroad has the odd sections. Bryan feels the roads are at least 70 years old; they have been used for that long, not

only by the oilfield, but by the public and it should be prescriptive easement. WBI could give an easement to Fallon County for the roads they have.

We have easements from the Wenz's for Section 29-10-58. Discussed the private road signs on those sections.

Bryan asked if anyone knew if section lines were opened up for usage by County's. No one knew that answer. Bryan stated WBI and the other oil companies have easement through their leases. Bryan will get an affidavit together on the WBI property stating the county has usage privileges for Section 15, and south have of Section 22-10-58.

Rich Batterman, County Attorney joined the discussion.

Bryan stated he can provide well dates which would help identify the date of the roads.

Commissioner Ranum discussed fire protection issues if the bridge is not addressed.

Spencer wanted clarification regarding which roads the Commission would like to declare. The Commission would like to declare Tobin School Road, Cabin Creek Loop, Cabin Creek Road, Anticline Road and Shortcut Road.

Rich discussed we had asked for information from oil companies regarding skimmers, etc. (which we have) and we would like some kind of maintenance agreement or something protecting the county road crew should they damage something during maintenance.

Spence will notice up the hearing and send paperwork to all individuals involved.

Discussion regarding what we would need to do to get the students around/across the creek because the Road Hearing and all that goes with it will not happen before the creek is running. The decision was made to ask the parents to drive the student(s) to school.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

Commissioner's reviewed information on tree chippers/grinders.

Due to elections the Commission agreed to change their June work schedule. The Commission will plan to convene June 1st-4th, (not May 31st as that is a Holiday), June 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

The Commission granted permission to tin the north wall of the Ambulance garage. Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director will be contacted.

The Commission made the decision to change the glycol pipes deemed necessary within the courthouse. Lynda Herbst, Custodian will be contacted to get a quote from Star Service.

Recess

Thursday, March 4, 2010

The Commission reconvened at 10:00 AM, with all present.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

David Espeland, CFO-Fallon Medical Complex met for the monthly meeting and updates. David stated Val Dyba, ABT Electric took his specs over to Stevenson Design for the updates to Park View I. David stated Park View I needs to be painted soon. Discussed whether they should carry the color through from PVII to PVI or change the color of PVI. The Commission would like the colors to be carried through. New door and window colors for PVI will be coordinated also.

Call System-Val Dyba, ABT Electric repaired the call system. Stevenson felt it should be covered by Con'eer; Con'eer paid Yellowstone Electric to check it so Con'eer feels it was Stevenson's error. Therefore, to get it up and running David hired Val Dyba, ABT Electric.

Proposal-The Hospital Association is holding management training. David received a \$2,000 grant to have the training held in Baker but they only have 16 people that would attend and wondered if Fallon County would like to send some employees to offset the cost. The cost is \$5,300.00 and of that amount \$900.00 is in dues. The Commission will check and let David know.

Recruitment agency's-David discussed the cost to recruit to get nurses in Baker. The cost is \$11,000 per nurse if we recruit 4 nurses at a time; otherwise it is \$18,000.00 per nurse. Sarah Maynard feels we

are short 5 nurses and of those 1 would be a supervisor. Scholarship-They are looking into a full ride scholarship for 4 college nurses; the cost for four nurses over a 3 year period is \$800,000. Contract nurses, as they have been having now cost \$900,000. Through a recruitment center, with all fees, the cost is \$1.2 million for 4 nurses over 3 years. Commissioner Rieger asked if FMC can hold the nurses to the contracts. David stated no and they have gotten burned. Commissioner Randash asked about sign on bonuses. David stated they receive a \$3,500.00 sign on plus \$1,500.00 for relocation fees. Commissioner Randash asked if that was comparable to other health facilities. David stated his Board wants him to look into that also.

Lights-They still need to repair the parking lot lights and the residents would still like plug-ins for their vehicles.

Noon Recess

The Commission reconvened at 1:00 PM with all present.

Vera Abrams, Librarian asked if she could have Les Njos replace the cabinet doors in the Library. They are made of laminate, over particle board and it is chipping. The Commission asked Vera to get a quote first.

The Commission was informed there will be NOAA weather orientation training held in April.

The Commission received a quote from Bowman Glass to remove and replace the windows at the Library. The Commission granted permission to accept the quote of \$22,840.00, with no operating window. Bowman Glass will require 1/3 payment when the windows are ordered.

Jason Rittal, Executive Director of Eastern Plains Economic Development Corp met to update the Commission on the North Baker Water Sewer project. Jason reviewed and corrected the press release for the funding the North Baker Water Sewer District will be receiving from the EDA Grant. The amount is expected to be \$800,000. The project will also be receiving other funding such as TSEP, DEQ-Army Corp of Engineers-\$300,000 – which the group feels was received through the delegation of Baucus, Tester and Rehberg.

County Contribution-Jason stated the County contribution toward the North Baker Water Sewer project will be used to pay hook up costs for the individuals and to set up a capital project account for repayment.

Stanhope Addition-Commissioner Randash asked if possibly we would be able to look at something similar to the North Baker Water Sewer project, for the Stanhope Addition. Jason stated he felt as soon as this project was complete that would be a very good idea and it may be much easier to get funding for that area as it is mostly family dwellings, rather than businesses.

Specs-Jason stated the engineers are looking at the specs to send to the EDA for approval. Jason stated they hope to go to bid and be digging in June.

Qualified bills-Jason stated they will send the bills that qualify for the County contributions to Fallon County; the rest will be submitted and paid through the District.

Commissioner Randash made the motion to commit \$10,000 toward the EPEDC to be used to help fund the Development Corporation, of which Fallon County is a member. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. Commissioner Rieger called for those in favor to signify by saying aye. 3 Ayes. 0 Absent. Commissioner Rieger called for those opposed to signify by saying nay. 0 Nays and 0 Absent. The motion carried unanimously.

Jason will also ask for an additional \$1,000 from each County, which is the same amount as last year. This will be used to help keep Elizabeth, (Jason's Assistant) on board. Permission granted to turn in a claim for this also.

Commissioner Randash stated he wonders what the other Counties think of all the work and funding going to Fallon County. Jason stated we have to ignore the boundaries. This lets people know there is something that can be done for this District and this County, even if we have more funds than other counties.

Jason stated they will have a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the North Baker Water Sewer District to be announced at a later date.

The Commission approved Resolution 3-4-2010 committing funding toward the North Baker Water and Sewer District project. That resolution is filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Scott Rabbitt, City/County Park Supervisor met to discuss the new Road/Park Shop. Scott stated the building inspector came and could not pass the building because when he tried to open the doors, they were froze and would not open. When Richard Griffith, G & R Custom Metals was contacted he told Scott and Alba to install fans and this would take care of the issue. The Commission approved having the fans installed. Scott stated the building is almost finished, they have a little bit of electrical left and it should be finished next week. They will then have the Fire Inspector, Plumbing Inspector and Electrical Inspector come, inspect and sign off before the building inspector will sign off.

Library grant-It was felt the Library would not qualify for the USDA Rural Development grant after further research was completed. This grant would have been used to help pay for the new windows being installed.

Terry Sukut and Tom, JGA Architects met to discuss the possibility of new Grandstands for the Fairgrounds. After this meeting the group will go view the existing grandstands. Terry stated they spoke to Brosz Engineering to try and work the costs in as far as groundwork.

SEATING-Handicap seating was discussed and ways of getting those individuals to another seating level. Terry explained they could have indents (for handicap seating) intertwined with the regular seating. Terry explained they need to decide what they need or want downstairs, under the grandstands, before the number of seating is decided. The less seating, the less there will be available underneath the grandstands. The Commission feels 1500 seats would be adequate for our grandstands.

LIFT-Terry stated they may need a more commercial lift because the lift in Rosebud County was not very functional; possibility of ramping was discussed. They will discuss vertical transportation later.

BEER GARDEN-The Commission wondered about adding a building on the south end for the purpose of having a beer garden. Terry stated that could be accomplished.

UNDER GRANDSTANDS-Terry stated they need to see who wants to be under the grandstands. Commission stated the Fair Board had discussed a ticket booth, restrooms, extra seating to get people out of the weather, some eating facilities, and a utility room. Terry explained we will need to be careful what is under the grandstands because they may need to install fire sprinklers.

SOUND-Incorporating sound in the grandstands was discussed.

LIGHTING-Discussed various aspects of lighting such as lighting/spotlights for the acts and one of the Fair Board members discussed having lighting on the walkways, etc. Terry stated the lighting of walkways gets very costly both in installation and repairs. Discussed having a place for the people controlling the lighting/spotlights to stand; not sure how to work that because you may lose some seating by doing this, but they will look into that.

HANDRAILS-Handrails were discussed.

BACK-Discussed the need to have a back of some sort on the top row.

CODES-Stressed following all codes.

ANISOLE HOODS-The group discussed the type of food facilities you may have to limit yourself to, due to the cost of installing anisole hoods for cooking purposes, for just 3 or 4 days out of a year.

CROWD CONTROL-The group discussed various ways to control the crowds.

SEATING-The group further discussed seating such as making the seating longer and making the rows so they are not so high.

SKY BOXES-Terry wondered if there would be a need for sky boxes. The Commission felt this would not be a necessity.

CONTRACT-Terry wondered if the Commission felt they were ready to go to contract with a phase 1 (design) contract. The Commission feels they are ready to go with the phase 1 design contract.

CORE TESTING-They will need to test the four corners and a couple out in the middle or try to get to whatever area they can for testing. They will get a driller lined up and get a cost pinned down.

GRANT FUNDING-The group discussed grant funding. Probably will be hard to get grant funding for this type of project but the Commission may find someone to try anyway.

CMAR-Discussed the possibility of having a CMAR; Tom stated a CMAR might refine the costs up front and defines a better schedule. The Commission will discuss this matter further

DEMOLISION-The group discussed the demolition of the old grandstands and timeframes involved.
The group left to view the existing grandstands.

JOURNALS:

#310-Reversing Journal #188 to accommodate Auditor's adjustments for FY2009.

#311-Roll FY2009 balances forward.

#315 #318-Set up new account for PHER (Emergency Response) and moved claims from original account to new account for tracking purposes.

#319-Separate PHEP (Emergency Preparedness) and PHER (Emergency Response) revenues for tracking purposes.

#320-Move Council on Aging revenues to appropriate accounts-per Carla Brown, Council on Aging Coordinator.

#795-Auditor Adjustments for FY2009.

#796-Found an error in adjustments, reversed Journal #795.

#797-Revised Auditor Adjustments per Auditor and Josie Rieger for FY2009.

REVENUES:

Baker Air Service-February Aviation Fuel-\$148.73

Continental Resources-December, 2009-Oil and Gas Royalties-\$8199.30

ENCORE-December, 2009/January, 2010-Oil and Gas Royalties-\$3765.16

Conoco Phillips-December, 2009/January, 2010-Oil and Gas Royalties-\$4535.21

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Monthly Reports for January, 2010-Cash Report-All Funds are in good standing; County Collection Report to the State of Montana-Motor Vehicle Division-\$1,141.28 sent to the State; County Collection Report to the Department of Revenue-\$760,638.62 sent to the State; Revenues collected by A101 for January-\$690,311.06; Revenues collected by A104 for January-\$8,345.95.

Detention Center Report for February, 2010-5 prisoners held for 87 total days of which 16 were Fallon County and 71 were City of Baker; No revenues collected for the month.

Bridge Inspection reports-25 State inspected bridges for 2009 were received with the following deficiencies: 1) Cabin Creek-16 miles NW of Baker-Replacement in progress; 2) Middle Fork Cabin Creek-18 miles NW of Baker-Replacement in progress; 3) Cabin Creek-24 miles NW of Baker-Bridge closed to traffic-2 steel columns have section loss and need repaired; 4) Fork of Beaver Creek-13 miles NE of Baker-Structure rating (4)-two pilings are splitting and have loss of serviceability, ½ of each cap has rotted away and the remainder has some loss of bearing.

Ambulance Reports-July, 2009-15 Runs-\$6,265.00 charged out and \$1,299.69 payments received; August, 2009-8 Runs-\$3,675.00 charged out and \$12,286.56 payments received; September, 2009-16 runs-\$9,440.00 charged out and \$1,654.77 payments received; October, 2009-6 runs-\$7,725.00 charged out and \$4,547.50 payments received; November, 2009-23 runs-\$13,995.00 charged out and \$6,441.49 payments received; \$2,848.51 sent to collection.

Fallon Medical Complex-December, 2009 Financial Report was received and showed a distinct cash flow improvement.

Fallon County Weed Board approved minutes from November, 2009-Minutes were reviewed and approved by the Commission and are filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Commission received a letter from the Montana Tax Appeal Board regarding reimbursement for CTAB secretarial services. They State of Montana Tax Appeal Board is putting the counties on notice that they have limited funds to reimburse counties for secretarial costs and are unable to pay overtime costs for any employee at this time and thus includes reimbursement for any secretarial costs.

Carla Brown phoned regarding storage of the old Plevna Bus. Since they have the new van, new bus and the Baker Bus there will not be enough room to house the old Plevna Bus. Permission granted to store the Plevna Bus in Plevna at this time and possibly prepare for the County's Public Auction.

The Commission agreed to accept \$9.60 per square foot starting July 1, 2010 from the State of Montana for the DPHHS office lease agreement which is 20% reduction from current rate of \$12.00 per

square foot. This will be \$9.60 for the first two years and the third year the lease rate will be \$12.48 per square foot.

The Commission was notified the State of Montana, Department of Commerce, Board of Investments, INTERCAP Revolving Loan Program's new variable loan rate is 1.950%. This rate is valid from February 16, 2010 to February 15, 2011.

Adjourned.

s/Donald Rieger, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder