

Tuesday, September 2, 2008

Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Dennis Afrank and Donald Rieger, Members and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder met for a regular September session.

Bob Wiedmer, Road Foreman met to present his weekly report. Chad Follmer's cattle guard request will be held off until the Commission goes to the road law meeting and has time to set up a policy. Commissioner Ranum will let Chad know this. Leonard Beckers would like a cattle guard cleaned. The cattle get out on to the highway and could cause an accident. Commission stated they will clean the cattle guard before there is an accident. Bryant Steen wanted to know why his road was not mowed; their easements were not signed as of this time. Bob reported everyone is out mowing; Chad Follmer said Rollie did a real good job blading when he was up there. There were some signs stolen on the North Plevna Road. Bob also looked at another one on the Sandstone Road. Commissioner Rieger discussed the monument for the cattle driver, Fritz, needs some repairs as someone has vandalized it. Bob will look at it and see what he could do to repair it. The loader is being hauled to be repaired (new frame-under warranty). Road Seminar was discussed. The Commissioner's, Bob Weidmer, Dave Hall, Kit Anderson Rich Batterman and Spence Huether will plan to attend. The meeting will take place on October 20th; change mid month meeting to the 21st of October. Bob stated Arnold Pinnow would like a fence on the west side of the gravel pit; he also feels the burm needs to be moved. Bob is going to have Doug mow the weeds in that area. Ron Haar was wondering if he could get a culvert or a pipe put in the road because it is washing in front of his grain bin. Permission granted. Discussion regarding the road coming from Bergstrom Trail, located next to Byron Wolenez's. The road is not named and there are no easements. The Commission stated they should have Spence research the road.

The Commission reviewed and approved some of the monthly claims.

Noon Recess

Reconvened at 1:00 PM.

The Commission reviewed and approved the August, 2008 payroll and withholdings in the amount of \$411,640.93 and they are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

The Commission finished reviewing and approving claims. The August, 2008 claims were approved in the amount of \$252,629.93 and are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

CLOSED-LEGAL

Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director met for Ambulance reporting. Lisa stated the new phones still need to be installed in the Ambulances. Commission contacted Tim Barkley, Sheriff. Tim will contact Bob Brenner, Tab Electronics to get them installed. Shortage of ambulance attendants was discussed and is a concern to all. Lisa suggests hiring someone to be a full time EMS. They are having mechanical and other problems with the ENCORE rig. Commissioner Ranum asked if they were any closer to getting turn out gear. Lisa stated so far they have shirts; they are trying different ideas.

Turk Stark, Baker Rural Fire Department phoned to discuss the ground work for the new Fire Department building. The Fire Department will be in Tuesday, September 8, 2008 to discuss this in more detail. Turk will get a breakdown from Griffith Excavating and bring to the Commissioner meeting.

Recess

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

David Espeland and Selena Nelson met to discuss renovation of Parkview I apartments. David stated he feels the windows are okay after looking at them more closely. Commissioner Afrank wondered if we should get MDU to do an energy audit.

Commissioner Ranum stated Otto and Echo Bechtold's window has moisture between the panes. She stated she feels the windows and doors need to be updated, not the cupboards and countertops. Commissioner Afrank stated they should replace the bathroom sink faucets. David stated some of the appliances are dated. Selena suggests they do an assessment apartment by apartment. David discussed updating the wood work and painting needs completed. Commission suggested they contact Bowman Glass for the windows and doors. David will see if they are available to do an assessment. Commissioner's Afrank and Rieger discussed possibly using a different type of siding or using a bed liner for Parkview 1. David stated the boilers should be up and running full time today with the exception of the 3rd one. He further stated they are ahead of schedule. David hopes to have most of the landscaping completed next week. Sidewalks for the courtyard; David will get quotes for that work. Discussion regarding the possibility of a new Doctor coming to Baker. David stated the elevator is still on order; work will be done later. Commissioner Ranum asked what they would do with the old elevator. David stated he did not know. Commissioner Afrank explained he did not think that elevator was environmentally correct. Commissioner Rieger stated he felt all that was needed was a new sleeve. Selena explained the problem with the elevator was a parts issue. Selena stated the auditors will be at the Hospital next week if the Commission would like to meet with them. David explained the dietary heat pump system went out in the cooler and it did not switch over to the other pump so at this point they are not sure why it did not work properly. David stated the punch list is still not completed for the new project and David is still holding their money. David stated the custodians are concerned about snow removal this winter. Selena suggested they contract snow removal on an as needed basis. Discussion on possibly getting a 4-wheeler with a blade; Commission feels the contracting of snow removal may be the better idea.

Noon Recess

Kit Anderson, Planner met to discuss printing ethics of her department and Fallon County. Discussion regarding a large project the Department undertook. Commissioner Ranum was concerned about people reselling for a large profit. Kit stated before she starts the projects she takes into account items such as payroll costs, i.e. employer portions, etc. Commissioner Afrank suggested they log the items they work on. Kit stated they already do that. Commissioners suggest they find out what other companies charge for large projects like that; the Commission feels the projects are fine for them to do as long as the customer does not take advantage of the situation and they are told upfront they may have to wait until their job priorities are completed. Kit stated customers are always willing to wait for the product and have never had an issue regarding the cost of the work.

Mike Rinaldi, Sanitarian met to discuss treating the Baker Lake weed issue.

Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman met to discuss the rotation of County equipment for budgeting purposes. The loader was purchased with a three (3) year warranty and should have been purchased with the five (5) year warranty. T & E stated they would replace the loader frame, which was cracked. Alba stated we have no choice how they repair it either by welding or replacing the frame. He feels they will be replacing the frame. Permitting the trailer in North Dakota was discussed. Will discuss further and make a decision later. Alba will bring more information on pricing of equipment.

Tim Barkley, Sheriff talked to Bob Brenner about the Ambulance phones. Bob stated they were on the list but just had not gotten to them yet.

Lynda Herbst, Custodian met regarding the new handicapped restroom. She was wondering what she needed to do to get started on the restroom. Need to make sure the door is ADA compliant; Commissioner Rieger stated we will need to get a building permit before we start. Commissioner's suggested she contact someone regarding where information can be obtained for handicapped restrooms to make sure all legalities are met. They will need to check on placing of handicap bars also. Discussed how soon they should start on the restroom. Commissioner stated if she can find someone to do the work she can start now. Discussed removing the utility sink, can use the extra tile used in Dispatch and can also wallpaper the walls. Lynda needs a different hot water heater to be

compatible for the new boiler. She will save it for the Fire Department or someone in the County. Lynda stated the pipe under the sump pump in the boiler room is rusting out; permission granted to get it replaced. Lynda asked if she could have Sandi Caron paint store rooms and Lynda's Office. Commissioner's stated she should get quotes first.

Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman met to discuss budgets for vehicles.

The Commission discussed budget items.

Recess

Thursday, September 4, 2008

The Commission further reviewed the budgets.

The Commission received a letter of interest from Gary Gorder to be placed on the Rifle Range Board. Commissioner Rieger made a motion to appoint Gary to the Rifle Range Board and Commissioner Afrank seconded the motion to appoint Gary to the Rifle Range Board. All in Favor. 3 Ayes. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Jeff Gruizenga, Coneer Engineering met to update the Commission on the status of the new boiler systems. The heat is on at the Hospital; waiting for a couple of controllers for the Courthouse. They have found some bad pumps at the Hospital so they may get some change orders. Jeff stated he raised some concern for the courthouse boilers regarding the new stacks. He stated he showed them you could see daylight from the roof to the floor in the basement. Jeff asked the contractor to look into that. The new air compressor was discussed. Commissioner Rieger asked what the difference was in the new compressor verses the ones you can purchase downtown. Jeff stated the controllers are different; the smart controllers will drain water from the compressor automatically. Commissioner Afrank discussed the hot gas by-pass which has yet to be taken care of. Jeff stated you have a direct contract with MTI; do you want some help administering that and the jail from me? The Commission will discuss and may need some help at a later time. Commissioner Afrank asked if the County should do an energy audit for the Courthouse and Parkview 1. Jeff stated he feels that would be a good idea and also recommends they replace the boilers in Parkview 1 also. Commissioner Ranum asked if he knew how long they would last and an approximate cost. Jeff stated he is not positive how long they will last and feels they would cost approximately \$150,000.00. Jeff stated the hallway heat always runs in Parkview 1 because there is no thermostat. Commissioner Afrank asked if they should do a retrofit in Parkview 1. Jeff stated yes they should. Commissioner Ranum discussed windows in Parkview 1 that have broken seals. Jeff stated if you are down to the single pane you are money ahead to replace the window. If you are changing them out just to conserve energy, it does not seem to pay out for that reason alone. Jeff will visit with MTI about the hot gas by pass and jail and report back next time he is back. Commissioner Ranum asked about the efficiency of the cement block building the fire department is building. Jeff stated block stands up longer but the steel buildings are more energy efficient; soils, etc were also discussed.

Mike Rinaldi, Sanitarian stated they are approving the Meadows 1st plat; they still have to approve the drainage and the roadway.

Commission received a letter from the Montana Department of Revenue regarding the tax settlement with Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline, WBI which will change the market and taxable valuations.

Noon Recess

Commissioner Afrank will be gone for the balance of the week.

Fair Board Members Don Buerkle; Dee Geving; Pat Ehret and Wanda Pinnow; Fair Secretary, Barb Lechler met to report the Fair financials and discuss some budget items. Barb reported on the financials for the 2008 Fair. The group discussed ideas for new grandstands and the new addition to the exhibit hall. Pat discussed the carnival;

discussion on the difficulty in getting a carnival for the Fair. Discussion of moving the date of the Fair-July 30th-August 2nd are the only weekends open to move when we are not overlapping another Fair. Pat and Wanda do not want to change the Fair weekend. Dee Dee would like to move the Fair date due to the amount of help that goes to practices because our Fair runs so late in the year; there would be more help available Wanda stated this would be difficult because haying would not be finished; harvest would not be started and it would be very difficult for the 4H'ers. Commissioner Rieger is not in favor of changing the date because you would break the circuit and once you change, there is no going back. Pat stated the Thomas Carnival would come the 1st or 3rd weekend in August. Rodeo: Discussion on raising the purse. Wanda explained with the new PRCA rulings; they are making the cowboys register three (3) weeks early. They are hoping to get better or more cowboys. Commissioner Rieger does not feel it would help to up the purse. Wanda stated they are looking into a sanctioned Wild Horse Race Circuit that would involve 6 teams; \$1,000.00 per day plus buckles. Wanda is going to try to look for sponsors and look for a slot for a local team. Wanda suggested they have it before the rodeo so if people want to see it they have to buy tickets. Tractor discussion: They need a tractor with a loader, approximately 100 HP tractor; not less than 95 HP, with front wheel assist to help move the stage. They are having problems with the hydraulics on the tractor they now have. The group discussed getting a policy together for using the arena. They have had issues with gates being twisted, etc. Commissioner Rieger stated you need to tell them that there was a lot of damage and you are no longer welcome to use the arena. The group would like to look for a groundskeeper as Barb does not have time to do this and her other job duties. They would like to hire someone on a part-time status. Convention: Discussion regarding the trip to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Dee Dee stated the cost would be approximately \$250.00 per person to take the bus to Fair Convention if they can get enough people to ride the bus.

Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman met to further discuss the 7 blades. Alba discussed rolling the blades and if the cost is still \$50,000.00 before going to bid or \$75,000.00. The Commission stated, per Rich Batterman, County Attorney the amount is still \$50,000.00. Discussion regarding making sure the snow wings will work on the new style blades if we were to get CAT blades. If we go out to bid and get anything other than CAT, we will need to bid with snow wings.

Recess

Friday, September 5, 2008

ROAD EASEMENTS SIGNED:

Jerry Losing, Victoria J. Askin, Janell J. Losing-Miller, Valerie J. Peaslee and Teri Arnold-Farmstead in Section 15-8-60.

Ken and Beth Lang %Lorraine Wiseman-Farmstead and Shell Oil Road in Section 3-7-60; Shell Oil Road in Section 2-7-60.

Glen H. and Gloria A. Askin-Farmsteads and Timber Creek Road in Section 11-7-58.

Jack Leabee Family Revocable Trust-Farmstead in Sections 31-8-59; 35-8-58; 36-8-58; Tonquin Trail in Section 35-8-58.

Sharlotte M. Harkins, Shane L. Beckers, Dorothy and Leonard Beckers-Farmstead in Section 8-7-59.

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES:

ConocoPhillips-August, 2008 Oil and Gas Royalties-\$12,158.79.

Sands Oil Company-August, 2008 Oil and Gas Royalties-\$648.69.

Encore Operating, LP-August, 2008 Oil and Gas Royalties-\$7873.24.

REPORTS:

Nico Cantalupo-July & August, 2008-County Agent report: Took 4-H members from both counties to Bozeman for the Annual Montana 4-H Congress; Participated and helped organize the Tri-County Weed Tour held with Wibaux and Prairie Counties; Extension office did several Nitrate tests on small grain hay, special note: several producers from North Dakota came over this year, Nico believes it is due to their drought; Nico judged three county fair Livestock Shows and officiated one livestock judging contest/workshop, Rosebud/Treasure, Daniels, Wibaux and Harding County, South Dakota; Participated at

both Fallon and Carter County Fairs; Graded 11 lambs, 21 steers and 12 hogs combined from both counties; they have sent in several small grain samples into the state lab for germination and purity; attended both County Weed Board meetings; certified four producers for Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage in Fallon County, 3 for straw and one for hay; continued to test stock water dam's; attended the Carter County Conservation District Meeting in July.

MAIL:

The Commission received a letter of resignation from Lester Straub for the Fair Board. The Commission accepted his resignation with regrets and thanks Lester for his time and dedicated services to this board.

JOURNALS:

Journal #42-Void Deduction warrant #31811 for County Vehicle Tax Credit for August, 2008.

Journal #43-Adjusts the fund expenditure deduction Warrant #31811 that runs as a deduction automatically.

Journal #48-Reverse journal entry 5 and 40 Payroll Deduction Journal completed in error for PERS Employee Reimbursement-July and August, 2008.

Noon Recess

Jon Brosz, Brosz Engineering met to discuss the new Baker Rural Fire building site.

Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman and Bob Wiedmer, Road Foreman met to further discuss rolling or bidding the blades.

Malcom Johnson met to discuss getting services for his County road. Malcom signed the letter granting permission to get his road easements drawn up.

The Commission wrote the response letter, dated September 4, 2008, regarding the Schedule of Findings listed in the FY2007 Audit Report and that letter is on file in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Adjourned.
s/Deb Ranum, Chairperson

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