

Monday, September 8, 2008

Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Donald Rieger, Member and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder met for a regular Monday Session. Dennis Afrank, Member was excused for the day.

Bob Wiedmer, Road Foreman met to present his weekly report. The Commission stated they made the decision to have the cattle guard cleaned at the Leonard Becker's for safety purposes. Bob stated the belt for the crusher needs to be replaced; the Road crew will do that work. New pickup for the Road Foreman was discussed. Bob will shop around. Commissioner Ranum asked if there was a color preference. Commissioner Rieger preferred we keep the County pickups white, like the rest. Bob reported the crew is busy mowing and blading in all of the Districts.

BUSINESS AS OR IF NEEDED AND/OR PUBLIC COMMENT:

EASEMENTS SIGNED AND APPROVED:

Eugene T. and Winona G. Moser-Farmstead in Plevna Road North-Section 19-8-58

Noon

Patty Patterson, MT DOT came to make sure the commissioner's agreed with the drainage easement and agreement for the Highway 7 project slated to start in 2009.

Turk Stark, Dave Meccage, Dick Chester, Randy Hoenke and Robert Singer met as the Baker Rural Fire District Board. The group stated the contracts have not been signed but the contracts were awarded. Site work includes-dirt work, boring, utilities, cement work, aprons, curb and gutters. In addition to that will be the paving, which will not be completed until the building is finished. Does not include foundations as that is included in the building. Site work is to be finished the end of October so they can start building next spring. They would like to get the supplies ordered now. The group discussed the CMAR and his profit. Turk explained his ceiling to be made in profits is \$20,000.00. If the costs come in under the bid amount that amount gets split between the CMAR and the Fire Department; this is over and above what he makes on the overall project. CMAR advantages are, we do not have to take the low bid and we can start purchasing products now. Commissioner Rieger questioned why the local cement company was not contacted? Fisher will go out to bid for the cement work; not sure who it would be. Turk stated we are going to get the very best building as cheap as we can and we do not have to take the low bid. Schedule of values for the site work or everything not pertaining to the building was discussed. Brosz was the engineer that put the specs out. Commissioner Rieger wants to know if the Commission can get a copy of what went out to the contractors. Dave Meccage stated that is what they are concerned about also; all the bids going out and we do not know who all is getting the bids as the subcontractors. Randy felt that Fisher would get the concrete work on the building. Commissioner Rieger went back to the building and the size. Turk stated that is the same dimension and has not changed. Commissioner Rieger compared the City/County building in Bowman. Commissioner Rieger wanted to know what makes your building any better or stronger than anyone else's. Turk asked why is the Courthouse or the Schools not tin and your new building project is brick. Commissioner Rieger asked if they were using block or brick. Turk stated it will be cinder block filled with cement and the projected cost for the building will be \$3.3 million to \$3.5 million. Commissioner Rieger asked if the City was purchasing a new fire truck and asked if they can use them for rural fires. Randy stated they are not sure they will be getting the new truck. Randy further stated they need to upgrade their trucks to keep their ISO rating up for the City. Commissioner Rieger asked what type roof the new building would have. Turk stated it will have a steel roof with steel rafters. Commissioner Rieger commented a steel building would be cheaper. Turk stated we want something that will stand up. Turk stated a block building would have a 50 year life. Commissioner Rieger stated you are not willing to look at an alternative building. Turk called and got Jim on the phone. Commissioner Rieger asked if the concrete work was bid. Jim, CMAR stated, the first time, it was bid with the complete site packages. Commissioner Rieger asked if the Commission could get a copy of that information mailed to them. Jim stated he could get

a copy of the bid sent to them. Jim further explained four (4) bids came in the first time for the site preparation; 2 bids were from Baker, two from out of town. They felt the bids came in too high, so the engineer eliminated some things, revised the dirt work and re-bid the site work. They had one (1) concrete person, from Belfry, that submitted a bid the first time around. Dirt contractors do not always submit the bid for the cement work. Turk asked Jim, did you advertise? Jim stated we called people up, he did not know if this was advertised in the Baker paper because it was just for the site contractors and they just contacted them by phone. They also invited by fax, the local community in Billings. Commissioner Rieger stated so you did not publicly advertise this. Turk stated they are questioning the best type of building to build verses the block building we are trying to put up; how do we resolve that. Jim stated, best means different things to different people; lower cost building or longer lasting are two different things. Cinderblock costs more but the maintenance is lower; currently the building has been designed around masonry. Masonry may not be the best or cheapest, but, since the plans are done, bid it as drawn and see if we can get the figure to fit. If the bids exceed the funds then we should regroup and try another building. Commissioner Ranum asked if the bid could be itemized to make the building cheaper. Jim stated we always itemize the bid once it is done; they will look for ways to save money or postpone interior finishes also. Commissioner Rieger asked if this was the same size and design as the fire department building in Powell. Turk asked would it be best to meet with everyone or wait until the bids go out. Jim stated bidding out what we have plans for seems to be the most logical way to go. Commissioner Ranum asked if we could go out to bid in other states. Jim stated we put it out to builder exchanges in Montana and a couple in North Dakota such as Williston and Dickinson and that is the extent of their reaching out. Wyoming is too busy; Montana goes down to Wyoming to help. Commissioner Ranum asked can we ask you to put it out to North and South Dakota. Commissioner Ranum stated she wants things to be very detailed. Commissioner Ranum asked will we pay more due to our location in the State. Jim stated yes you will due to gas, lodging and subsistence pay, it does drive the price up. Commissioner Rieger stated he is not sure they did the bidding process fairly. A copy of specifications was given to the Commission by Randy; we are asking for the liability, proof of workmen's compensation and bonding also. The Commission stated the site work is a go. Discussion on putting the building out to bid; Commissioner Rieger stated yes, provided they use the rest of the department funding and then the rest of the money will come from next year's budget. Turk does not want them to be strapped incase they need those funds next year. Turk stated they feel they offered it fairly, keep it as it is, bid the cement separately, or bid it with the building. All cement will come from the local plant. Turk stated they typically send the bids out to the people that are big enough to do the work. The cement will be 8" thick and 50' all the way around the building. The City of Baker needs a letter from Baker Rural Fire Department asking to be annexed into the City of Baker. They are also asking to be annexed to the City and are trying to get the \$1,000.00 hook up fee waived. Final decisions from this meeting: Dirt work-proceed; Cement work-re-bid the cement work; Building-proceed with the building bid as a block building and see what the costs come in as.

The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from August 18, August 25 and September 2-5, 2008.

Adjourned.
s/Deb Ranum, Chairperson

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