

Monday, July 21, 2008

Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Dennis Afrank and Donald Rieger, Members and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder met for the July mid-month meeting.

Scott Rabbitt, Park Supervisor met to get permission to have the inside of the gazebo sprayed by Atlas Windshield. Permission granted.

Bob Weidmer, Road Foreman and Dave Hall, Acting Road Foreman met to present the Road Report. Commissioner Ranum discussed the culvert on the road going passed Conoco-Philips; they may need to relocate the phone line when the culvert is raised.

Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman wanted to know if the Landfill would be borrowing the scraper from the Road Department so he could get it ready to go. The Commission stated this was approved.

A culvert on Orchard Lane will need to be replaced with 24' x 30' culvert. Chad Follmer would also like to place some cattle guards. Commissioner Ranum told him he would need to pay for the cattle guards. Dave stated this is located on a dirt road. Dave stated we also have the bridge located just down the road; that will need replaced or put in a culvert. Jack O'Connor cattle guard issue was discussed; Commissioner Rieger will go look at it. Dave would like to start crushing scoria at the Wenz Pit as time allows. Dave discussed mowing; do we mow all of the roads or only the ones with easements? Doug is still keeping road easement map updated. Commissioner Afrank stated he feels Bob needs to keep this up to date from now on. The Commission made the decision not to mow where there are no easements. Sharon Ferrel asked about the approach for the Joyce Straub property. The County does not have anything yet that would allow them to place an approach on the property.

Spence Huether, Road Technician was brought in to discuss the Subdivision roads. The Commission made the decision not to maintain the Subdivision roads. Commissioner Ranum asked about replacing the Pennel Bridge and if there would be a need to get an environmental assessment. Spence stated they would not if the County stays within the 60 foot easement.

Discussion regarding Chuck Lee placing another building on the south repeater. Commissioner Rieger stated the contractor constructing the building should be doing the work. Commissioner Rieger stated Chuck should not have asked the Road Department to do the work.

Kit Anderson, Planner joined the discussion regarding the Joyce Straub property. The decision was made to wait to build the approach until the Commission receives proper documentation of the property ownership and legalities.

Commissioner Rieger explained to Bob, the cattle guards are an ongoing issue; always come to the Commission First.

Chad Follmer issue; Commissioner Rieger stated if there is a fence; they do not need cattle guards.

Cattle guard for Bob Thielen; Commission stated they should go ahead and put it in. They are also placing a cattle guard in the Wiley Butte Road for Delbert Schweigert.

Discussion regarding keeping the tender, located at the County Shop, full of water through fire season. Bob stated Dave Hall stated it is always full in the summer time.

Turk Stark, Baker Rural Fire Department discussed the costs for site preparation for the new Fire Department building, by phone. They plan to cut the cost for the site prep for the new construction. The cost of curb and gutter from the State of Montana is \$30.00 per linear foot. Turk was wondering if the Commission had any contacts with DOT to cut the curb and gutter down, to cut the cost to the building. Commissioner Rieger stated we could probably get hold of Ray Mengel and see what they could do for them. They (DOT) have given them 2 permits for approaches, not allowing full access. The site work is expensive, especially due to the cost of fill material. They are planning to revamp the bid and re-release the bid to the local contractors to come up with a cheaper alternative. The Commission will try to call Ray today. Commissioner Rieger wondered if the Fire Department wanted full access. Turk stated, yes we do still want full access.

Lynda Herbst, Custodian and Len with MTI met regarding quotes for work on the jail area. Len stated the work should not exceed \$18,839.63, at the worst case scenario. Commissioner Rieger stated he feels we need to move forward, Commissioner Afrank agrees. Lynda and Len stated Tim Barkley, Sheriff is concerned about the heating/cooling issues in the jail. A lot of the air ducts are collapsed because of the duct work used and from people stepping on them. MTI feels they should put foam insulation in the attic. There is a lot of cold air return but by the time it travels from one end to the other, with the heat in the attic it warms the air up. Power vents and insulation are items they do not have included in their bid. Len stated it needs to be engineered properly; they can start on this project in a couple of weeks. Air Compressors-the old one that is running is the oldest; the other one that locked up was one that Johnson Controls installed and they were running it through an air dryer. They have an option to replace the one that locked up or all new system; 3 phase, lead-lag system with auto blow down system for \$8,667.67. Just to replace the air compressor would cost \$3,229.00. The Commission gave permission to go ahead with the new air compressor system. Commissioner Rieger made the motion to replace the air compressor. Commissioner Afrank seconded the motion. All in favor. 3 Aye. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Commissioner Afrank stated this does not cover the insulation of the rafters. Commissioner Ranum asked if they should get rid of the blown in insulation. Len stated he recommends they need to put more insulation in and then put some decking on. Commissioner Afrank asked if MTI would do a balance to the entire courthouse if possibly that would solve the problem. Len felt they could definitely look into that. Lynda wondered if she could have Sandi clean and paint behind the area where the boilers were. Permission granted. Commissioner Ranum stated they need to make sure they use concrete paint. Commissioner Rieger stated Lynda should get a price quote from her. Commissioner Afrank asked how she will clean it; Lynda stated Sandi has found something to use. Commissioner Afrank discussed the hot gas by pass on the new air conditioner. Len will check with Rich Rose to see if he gave a quote to the Commission on that issue also.

Reinhard Barth, Outside Maintenance met to discuss the zero turn (riding mower.) The largest one he can find is a 34" mower for \$5700.00. Commissioner Afrank asked Reinhard to keep looking around; could also check with John Deere.

Kit Anderson, Planner met regarding the letters she wrote for the Commission. Copies regarding the air space issue and drought relief are on file in the Clerk and Recorder's office. Kit also presented her monthly report for June, 2008.

Jamie Helm, Department of Family Services asked about using the old Health Nurse building for meetings, etc. The Commission stated they are tearing the building down and it is now not acceptable for use as there are no toilets, etc.

The Commission approved mid-month claims in the amount of \$212,084.71 and they are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

#### Noon Recess

Vera Abrams, Safety Supervisor met for her quarterly report. Vera gave info on lost time, recordable and non recordable incidents. There will be trainings held August 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and August 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Fallon Medical Complex. Vera invited the Commission to attend the meetings and has asked that a Supervisor or another designated individual from each office attend the sessions. August 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be an OSHA training session in Billings. Commissioner Rieger asked Vera to check on the cost to have Fallon Medical Complex complete the hearing conservation tests. Vera will check and report back. It is \$16.00 per person to have the other person that comes around with their equipped van to complete them. Commissioner Ranum suggested having Misti Breitbart speak regarding the cold and flu season. The last safety meeting Vera had 43 County employees and 17 City employees attend. Vera expressed the Commissioner's need to show up at the safety meetings also. They are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month for one hour. Near misses were discussed; should all summer hires wear hard hats and if so, does the County need to purchase some and then get them back at the end of the season. The Commission will discuss this further. Commissioner Afrank suggested Vera ask the trainers about the hard hats when

she attends the OSHA training. Commissioner Afrank suggests asking the opinion of the employee, do they need to wear boots and hard hats. Vera will look up and find out information regarding the hard hat issue. She will report back the first week in August.

Ken Griffith, NBWS District Board Member stated they are getting fairly close to the bid process. Ken was wondering how the budgets were looking. Ken was also wondering about getting a manager who would be in charge to do the paper work for the NBWS District. Commissioner Afrank thought Dan Brosz, Brosz Engineering was going to have someone on board to do that. Ken meant for the paper work or the grants; this is something Brosz does not have time and can not do. Commissioner Afrank wondered if it would be something that SMART could do. Commissioner Ranum wondered if Dennis Bishop was planning on helping with the grants. The board feels they should get someone hired.

Ken is working with the Fire Department on the dirt work, etc for the new building.

Commissioner Ranum asked about the work on the Pennel Creek Bridge and if Dan Brosz is working on the culvert size. Ken stated, yes, because the engineer has to tell you what size culvert you need before you can get a 303 permit. Ken does not think they can stay within the 60 foot easement on the Pennel Creek Bridge on the BLM section. The Commission suggested Ken talk to Spence Huether, Road Technician because we may have to complete an Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

Jon Brosz, Brosz Engineering and Kit Anderson, Planner met to discuss issues regarding the new Baker Rural Fire Department building site. Buerkle Subdivision-Jon stated Luke Anderson was contacted regarding the approach. Jon stated he can move the approach where ever the Commission would like. Commission would like it to come in off of the Highway Right of Way as a 50' approach. Jon would like approval to remove the existing approach 50 feet to the East and give access off of the gravel road. They would like the approach in the Subdivision moved down away from the MVD area so it does not interfere with the Subdivision and the MVD area; Brosz also has placed a ditch block. The Commission agreed to this. Jon has to send the approach application and permit to the State and needs one Commissioner signature. Jon will also need a copy of the minutes when they are typed up. Jon also discussed the issues with water drainage in North Baker Water Sewer. There was further discussion on where the lift station will sit. Pennel Creek Bridge on the BLM Section- Discussion on taking the bridge out and placing a culvert instead. The Commission will need to have Brosz do a stream flow check; the location of this section is 15-9-58. Jon stated they may need to go with more height and less pipe. Jon stated if we do it the other way, they will have to go out further. Hydrology on the bridge by the City Shop was also discussed. Commissioner Afrank asked if the hydrology would allow a culvert to be placed there. Jon stated he already has the hydrology completed for that area due to the Fire Department construction site.

Kit left the conversation.

Commissioner Ranum asked about administering grant money and loan money for a manager for the North Baker Water Sewer Project; she wondered if Brosz should be doing that. Jon stated no they only complete the engineering. Jon stated they will need a separate checking account to pay the bills for the amount of money that is coming in and things will have to be completed in a timely manner. There is money built into have someone take care of this (managing the project). Commissioner Rieger asked Jon, are you pretty sure about the funding coming in? Jon stated, yes, he was not at first, but he is now. Brosz does not want to go out to bid until September 12 and wants to put it out for bid in three (3) weeks or so.

The Commissioner's District Meeting is August 12<sup>th</sup> in Sidney.

Dale Butori, Weed Supervisor stated Brittany Straub is in the office working this week. Road weed spray bill is quite costly already, do you want him to cap it somewhere or keep spraying? Permission granted to keep spraying. Chemical is here for the lake; he will not be able to spray it tomorrow morning but probably the next day.

Michael Myers and Caroline Bennett, Experience Works, which is a non profit, locally based organization. They are a training organization for adults 55 years and older; the program encourages them to sharpen their skills. They can work for a 501(3)c or City, County or State government. They want to develop a program in this Community. They are a Natural Resource based organization. They work from grants, contributions and some federal monies. Commissioner Rieger asked how their program differs from Action for Eastern Montana. Caroline stated Action is not a training organization. This program is for low income individuals that are physically able and have a good attitude. Commissioner Rieger asked if they screen them. Caroline stated, yes, she is very forward about this. They pay the individuals minimum wage and the County provides the training. They work 20 hours per week, no benefits and workmen's compensation is provided. The individuals could work a few days or work until they get hired by the employer. Caroline does an assessment; she has to justify they are still in training. They have to assess the individual at least two (2) times per year. They can move them to another job, exit them from the program or hire them to the employer. They have not had luck recruiting in the area but they have had in Billings because the people do not have the confidence to apply on their own. They have a program to cost share or job share with an individual if another individual does not know how to do everything.

Vera Abrams, Safety Supervisor met regarding the Road Crew hearing tests. The Road crew has to get the hearing tests; Commissioner Afrank feels the landfill should also have their hearing tested. The Hospital will complete the testing for \$35.00 per person and would have to be done at the Hospital; could not be done at the Courthouse. The Commissioners granted permission to have the other people complete the testing for \$16.00 per person.

Lynda Herbst, Custodian met to discuss the quote from Sandi Caron for the boiler room in the amount of \$2,232.50. The Commissioners do not think it will work to paint the boiler room right now. Lynda stated they are not setting the boilers until Monday. Permission granted to proceed with painting.

Discussion regarding the cell phone bill. Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder left a note stating Anna Straub; JP had been in to visit with her about getting a cell phone for the Community Service Director. Permission granted for her to receive a cell phone. In looking at the billing Debbie noticed we had charges for going over our minutes. Debbie received information from Shelley at Mid-Rivers for a proposal of 3000 minutes for \$279.95 per month and 4000 minutes for \$315.95 per month. The Commission feels they should up the minutes to 4000 minutes. Debbie stated this may not take affect until the next billing cycle.

Commissioner Ranum signed Encroachment Permit #495 for Joyce Straub to bore under the County Road in Section 12-7-59 to place a water and sewer line for Joyce Straub. A \$150.00 fee was collected.

Commissioner Afrank signed Encroachment Permit #496 for Conoco Phillips to bore under the County Road in Section 30-7-61 to install a 4 ½" fiberglass line across the County Road for the purpose of transporting produced water to a disposal well. A \$150.00 fee was collected.

The Commission signed the following Road Easements:  
Patrick O'Donnell and Brenda S. O'Donnell – Shell Oil Road in Sections 3 & 4-7-60; Farmstead in Section 4-7-60.

## **CLOSED-LEGAL**

The Commission received a letter from the MT DEQ regarding a review of permit #08-0130 for work completed at the Airport for the Underground Storage Tanks.

The Commissioners received a letter from Drury G. Phebus regarding the American Legion issues. The Board of Directors of the Club would like to be informed of any further concerns regarding the American Legion. They operate through a club manager

but all actions and directions come from the Board of Directors. They would like the Commission to please bring any concerns to the Board.

The Commission received a letter from the Joint Powers Trust, showing their appreciation for renewing our stop loss coverage with them.

The Commission reviewed and approved the June, 2008 Plevna Rural Fire Report with warrants paid in the amount of \$22,717.97.

The Commission published the findings of fact from the audit report for Fiscal Year ended June, 2007 in the Fallon County Times.

The Commission received the June, 2008 Landfill report from Tom Barth.

The Commission received the Eastern Region Juvenile Detention Services Board cost for services for Fiscal Year 2009 for Fallon County in the amount of \$53.18.

Adjourned.  
s/Deb Ranum, Chairperson

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