

Monday, November 17, 2008

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

Bob Wiedmer, Road Foreman met to present his weekly report. Missy Thielen called and would like scoria placed from Sandstone to Reservoir Trail. No decision will be made until Commissioner Rieger is available. Bob stated he was taking the new pickup to Miles City to get the first oil change. Alba felt he would like the first oil change to be completed by the dealership and then the County shop will do all the rest of the oil changes. Bob stated he and Gary Napton went to look at the Pennel Creek Bridge. Bob stated it is a sound bridge and has sound endwalls but the sidewalls are in poor shape. Bob wondered if we could replace the wings and leave the bridge there. Commissioner Afrank asked if he had received a report from Brosz on that bridge. Bob stated he will call and get his opinion. The scales are on the loaders, are operational and working quite well.

Mike Carl, Fallon Medical Complex Custodian had an issue with a refrigerator in Parkview I. The Commission granted permission to replace the refrigerator.

Cole Buergi, Leonard & Finco Public Relations, Inc. representing Pathfinder Pipeline called stating they need to find out the impact of an influx of people in Fallon County while the pipeline is being placed. Steve Graver also asked a few questions to get feed back from the Commission. Has Fallon County ever experienced a large influx of people? We have oilfield people here all the time. Steve stated there will be an average of 170 people in the work force and at peak, a work force of 100. The employees would first seek out lodging in Bowman, Baker or Dickinson on the I94 corridor. Commissioner Afrank asked if they would be coming through Havre or the South tip. Steve stated they would be coming through the South tip. Commissioner Ranum stated she feels we would have sufficient eating establishments but motels would be the issue, unless the oilfield slows down. Commissioner Afrank explained you would have to call ahead; there are a few RV parks and a few motels and unfortunately those individuals will probably be forced to drive. Steve feels the short term housing will force the people to make long drives to the area south of Baker. Steve feels they will have to stay in Wibaux or Bowman or somewhere on the I94 corridor. Commissioner Afrank asked about a start date. Steve stated they should be starting in the Spring of 2010 and completed in the fall of 2010. Commissioner Afrank stated unfortunately we could not tell you what the oilfield is going to do. Steve stated he feels the economics will come into play. Commissioner Afrank stated they may find adequate housing in a year and one half. Steve asked how many motels we had in Fallon County. Commissioner Ranum and Afrank stated we have three motels. Steve asked if the Commission felt any other County facilities would be impacted. Commissioner Afrank does not feel it would impact us much other than the roads, possibly. Cole stated there will be heavy equipment and pipe coming in. Commissioner Afrank reminded them that they will have to buy permits in the State of Montana. Steve asked what types of permits. Commissioner Afrank stated they would need to license their vehicles and pay personal property tax on their equipment. Commissioner Afrank stated they should talk to the Treasurer. Steve stated that was good to know and asked what other tax, etc would be involved in this. Commissioner Ranum gave the Treasurer's information to them. Commissioner Afrank stated in Carter County, those fees will be applicable also. Steve stated that was the limit of his questions and asked if the Commissioner's had any other questions. Commissioner Ranum stated she did not. Commissioner Afrank stated we are used to all types of people coming in; we just hope you have a good clean group and everyone enjoys their stay. Steve stated he has worked closely as a contractor with Trans Canada and they have a real good crew. Commissioner Ranum asked if Cole was our contact person. Cole stated it would be either he or Beth.

Carla Brown, Council on Aging Coordinator called stating her board is wondering if she could use a county car for medical trips for three (3) people that need to go out of town. The Council feels it is not feasible to take the bus for only three (3) people. Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder has called the insurance to check on this and the insurance stated there is coverage. Debbie wondered if she would possibly consider a

mini van or the van used by Nico and the road crew. Carla questioned the van may be hard for them to get into. Commissioner Afrank feels they should not go then. Debbie asked that the Commissioner's call Carla and let her know that.

The Commission reviewed and approved the November, 2008 mid-month claims in the amount of \$247,476.66 and they are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

CLOSED HIPAA

Noon Recess

Reconvened at 1:00 PM

CLOSED-HIPAA

Vera Abrams, Safety Supervisor met to discuss the safety program. Vera stated at the safety team meeting they researched mandatory trainings and could not find any place in the policy manual where it states the meetings are mandatory. Vera spoke to Rich Batterman, County Attorney and he stated the Commission will need to make a resolution. Vera further reported we had an accident with the road department; not a loss time accident. Vera discussed the OSHA training sessions. They are having trouble getting them completed so everyone gets a chance to attend. The Safety Team wondered if they split them into two sessions if this would help. Vera stated then if you did not attend May's session then you do have to go to the November session; but if you do go to May, you will not have to go to the November session. After further discussion they agreed to hold the training sessions the first Wednesday in June and the first Wednesday in November. The Commission feels that will work just fine. We completed our 1 year safe, without a lost time accident on October 29, 2008. January Vera plans to have the basic first aid training. Winter sidewalk safety was discussed. The Commission will discuss further with Reinhard Barth, Outside Building Maintenance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Allison Wyrick met to state she is managing the O' Fallon Apartments while J. C. Stanhope is gone. They received a letter from the USDA stating the owner is not complying with the laws and paperwork involved for the program and as of the end of December, 12 families and/or 12 people will have no place to go. Allison explained Prairie Manor is full and there is no place to rent and she was wondering if the Commission had some ideas of what they could do. Commissioner Ranum stated J C came in last year regarding the same issue. Allison stated yes and then he got his paperwork, etc in order and started to comply and now he is back at it again. Allison stated the USDA will foreclose on him. Commissioner Afrank asked what happens to the renters. Allison stated they are just out. People will have to pay him whatever he wants for rent. Allison wondered if there were some ideas from the Commission because she feels there is a need. Everyone agrees there is a need. Commissioner Afrank suggested she get hold of the congressman; get a letter to them-Rehberg, Baucus and Testor since it is a governmental program. Allison is worried if USDA will honor the leases if the owner gets foreclosed on.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

Commissioner Ranum stated she would like to discuss the cattle guard policy and get the policy completed; she would also like to further discuss the consolidation of the Sheriff Department and the Police Department.

The Commission signed the following road easements:

- Kevin R. & Michelle L. Skogas-Farmstead in Section 22-7-58.
- Kelly & Phyllis DuCharme-Farmstead in Section 22-7-58.

The Commission signed the Pre Application Data Sheet for the Baker Municipal Airport Runway Extension Project and wrote a letter to John Styba, FAA regarding the proposal to start design for the future extension of the Baker Airport. The Commission has approved the local cost share for the project as presented and requested approval of

the project for FAA grant funding under the non-primary entitlements in 2009 for the project.

The Commission received a copy of the letter sent to Governor Brian Schweitzer by the USDA, Secretary from Washington, DC regarding the request for a disaster designation for several Montana Counties, inclusive of Fallon County. The Department of Agriculture reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports, along with additional information submitted by the State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency. Based on the review, USDA determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial natural disaster designation. Twelve Montana Counties were named as primary natural disaster areas and additional areas of the State were named as contiguous disaster counties.

The Commission reviewed and approved the reports for the following:

Baker Rural Fire District-October, 2008-Warrants total - \$1,548.76

Plevna Rural Fire District-October, 2008-Warrants total - \$4,955.98

Fallon County Detention Report-September, 2008-74 total days of which 40 days were Fallon County and 34 days were for the City of Baker. No income for September, 2008.

Fallon County Detention Report-October, 2008-57 total days of which 47 days were Fallon County and 16 days were for the City of Baker. No income for October, 2008.

Recess

Tuesday, December 18, 2008

Reconvened at 10:00 AM with Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Dennis Afrank and Donald Rieger, Members and Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder Present.

CLOSED-HIPAA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS DUE TO ALL OF THE CLOSED SESSIONS

Commissioner Ranum stated Jason Dulin was offered the position as the Recreation Director. Scott Rabbitt's extra room will be used for Jason's office. While at that meeting Rod Morris, City Council Member and Clayton Hornung-Mayor-City of Baker discussed thoughts of combining the Sheriff Department and the Baker Police Department. Discussion combining the City and County law enforcement agencies: Commissioner Afrank felt combining the two law enforcement departments would have to go before the public. Commissioner Rieger did not think it would but stated this was already brought to the Commission in years past.

Tom Barth, Landfill Manager called in and stated the compactor needs to be repaired and they (Alba Higgins-Shop Foreman and Tom) would like to know if they can bring it in to the shop to be repaired. Tom was also wondering if they could take the D7 out to the landfill. Commissioner Afrank stated Tom has a D6 out there. Commissioner Rieger agreed, why does he need the D7. The Commission put Tom Barth on speaker phone. Commissioner Rieger asked Tom if he could get by with the D6. Tom stated it has no heat. Commissioner Rieger asked how long the compactor will be down. Alba and Tom stated it depends upon what they have to do to it. Alba wants to get it done now while the weather is good. Alba had Tom call because the D7 is being hauled in from the Wenz Pit. Commission granted permission for the D7 to be used at the landfill.

The Commission stated Carla Brown, Council on Aging Coordinator needs to use the bus to take the seniors to Miles City; if the bus won't justify the cost, do not go. The Commission suggests she get a grant to get a car or a small bus.

The old extension pickup has a cracked windshield. The Commission stated someone should be contacted to repair it.

CLOSED-PERSONNEL

The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from November 3 & 5-7, 2008 and November 10, 2008.

Adjourned at 12:00 PM Noon.

Deb Ranum, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder