

Tuesday, September 2, 2014

9:00 AM CONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin**, Members and **Brenda Wood**, Clerk and Recorder

9:00 AM Bud Anderson, Western Energy Planning

Lease Agreement-Bud discussed the extension of the Lease Agreement between Fallon County and TransCanada for the contractor camp. Discussed roads, parking lots, RV area and other infrastructure; Bud stated the electrical will be run underground. Discussed leaving or removing the infrastructure after the contractor camp is removed or the pipeline is completed. Commissioner Randash stated the Commission would like to know where the water lines, etc. will be placed so they could be left, unless they are going to run them any which way, it would be better to have Target Logistics remove them.

Discussion-Commissioner Ranum asked where other camps are located. Bud stated Circle and Buffalo, SD to name a few. Commissioner Ranum further discussed contractors charging so much to come this far (meaning-this could possibly be used down the road for other contractors to save the County some costs). Target Logistics is obligated to remove everything installed unless asked to leave them in place. Rick Perkins, TransCanada feels the lines will run 6' deep, they all meet DEQ requirements so the lines could be reused. The Contractor Yard fence will be removed as well. Commissioner Randash feels we need to remove the lines as it was set up for RV's, but leave the fence in place. Commissioners Ranum and Baldwin feel they would like to leave all of the infrastructure or remove it all.

Motion-Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to approve the TransCanada Lease Extension Agreement. **Commissioner Randash** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously. The group decided they will make a decision regarding infrastructure at a later date.

Public Hearing-The Planning Board will have a Public Hearing September 29th which will include recommendations on what should be left or removed from the camp. Bud stated he would be attending that hearing. Recommendations will then be brought back to the commission regarding water and sewer lines, etc.

9:45 AM AUGUST, 2014 PAYROLL and TIMESHEETS

The Commission reviewed and approved the August, 2014 Timesheets; Payroll and Withholdings in the amount of \$510,926.72 and are filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

10:00 AM-Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman

New Backhoe-The new backhoe will be here next Monday.

Repairs-They are making the normal repairs.

Fuel/Field Master-Alba sent some fuel samples in and they should be back soon. They need to find out what fuel can be used for the John Deere equipment or if they can only use Premium Diesel.

Millings-The Local Agencies were unable to acquire the millings from the highway project. The Contractors that bid these projects are working them into their bids. Commissioner Baldwin spoke with Tom Roberts of the MDT regarding that as well.

Water Tank-The concrete pad under the water tank at the Fairgrounds has not been poured.

Culverts-They returned the culverts that were to be used north of the Cabin Creek Plant because they were too tall. They need a flat bottom culvert for this project due to height constraints. They also have another culvert coming for the Yellow Brick Road; this will be another large culvert. A road crew member is repairing a culvert located by Charlie Ferrel property.

Road Work-The road crew is blading roads and mowing.

11:00 AM Mary Grube, Planner Secretary

Flood Plain Regulation, FP Fees and LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) sufficiency review was completed by Traci Sears, Flood Plain Director-State of Montana. The Flood Plain Resolution was approved and signed by the Commission on August 18, 2014. The Flood Plain Regulations, Flood Plain Fees and LOMR are approved following the sufficiency review completed by the State, per Resolution 8-18-2014(1) on file in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

11:05 AM Rick Perkins, TransCanada via phone call.

Contractor camp-TransCanada bought the buildings, Target Logistics does not own them. The fence and lines are owned by Target Logistics. Rick will contact Target Logistics to get a quote on the cost to place the lines deeper.

Back to meeting with Mary Grube.

Planning and Flood Plain Management-Mary and the Commission discussed various firms that would be able to assist with Planning/Flood Plain management.

11:25 PM Joe Janz

South Sandstone Project-Pre-bid for the South Sandstone Project will be on the 9th of September at South Sandstone. **Jason Senn**, FWP will be there at 9:00 or 9:30 AM to answer questions for the Commission. Joe was not sure when the bid opening would take place.

RECESS

Commissioner Randash made the motion to recess. **Commissioner Baldwin** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Noon Recess

1:15 PM RECONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin**, Members

AUGUST, 2014 END OF MONTH CLAIMS

The Commission reviewed and approved the August, 2014 end of month claims in the amount of \$522,018.26 and filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Road Abandonment Hearing

Held in the Fallon County Commissioner's office at 3:00pm on September 2, 2014

PRESENT: Commissioner Ranum, Chairman; William L. Randash and Steven Baldwin, Members; Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder; Spencer C. Huether, Road Technician

Commissioner Ranum called the hearing to order at 3:00 PM and read Resolution 8/4/2014 aloud. Full minutes of the Hearing are on record in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Commissioner Ranum: Being there are no more letters of support or opposition or public participation we'll bring this hearing to a close at 3:10 PM.

The Commission agreed to sign Resolution 9-2-2014 (Right-of-Way Grant #K59); 9-2-2014 (1) (Right-of-Way Grant #K64); 9-2-2014 (2) (Right-of-Way Grant #K67); 9-2-2014 (3) (Right-of-Way Grant #K68); 9-2-2014 (4) (Right-of-Way Grant #K69); 9-2-2014 (5) (Right-of-Way Grant #K75); 9-2-2014 (6) (Right-of-Way Grant #K76); 9-2-2014 (7) (Right-of-Way Grant #K77); 9-2-2014 (8) (Right-of-Way Grant #K78); 9-2-2014 (9) (Right-of-Way Grant #K79); 9-2-2014 (10) (Right-of-Way Grant #K103); 9-2-2014 (11) (Right-of-Way Grant #K144); and they are recorded in the Clerk and Recorder's office and are as filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

Closed the Hearing at 3:10 PM

3:20 PM Peggy and Larry Niemerg,

The Niemerg's met to discuss Road Grant K59. The Commission stated the Road Hearing was closed but the Niemerg's are very welcome to speak for or against any road. The Niemerg's met to state they were in favor of closing Road Grant K59. The Commission explained that road was abandoned. The Niemerg's were in favor of that and left after that was explained to them.

4:00 PM Faron Henderson, via conference call.

Planning – Faron explained the owner at Territorial Landworks does not want to pursue Planning for Fallon County but Faron is very interested in pursuing planning in Fallon County. Faron stated his fees include Pre-application meetings, Planning Board Meetings, Commissioner Meetings, etc. The Commission stated his rates are more than the County charges the public. Faron figured his rates based on the amount of time it takes to complete the work. Faron would also work on an hourly basis.

TransCanada – Faron stated the TransCanada Contractor Camp has to be completed and ready to go to the Planning Board by the 29th of September. Faron felt that would take 8 to 10 hours to complete. The Commission agreed to hire Faron to work on the TransCanada Subdivision. Faron will come down tomorrow to work with **Mary Grube**, Planner Secretary on this.

RECESS

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to recess. **Commissioner Randash** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess

Wednesday, September 3, 2014

9:00 AM RECONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin** Members and **Brenda Wood**, Clerk and Recorder

9:00 AM IRS AUDIT

Commissioner Baldwin, Member signed the IRS Audit Agreement. After the agent completed the audit, no fines were imposed. The change that had to be made was for the Airport Secretary (if you are already an employee of the County, unless you can prove you are also a contractor, you cannot be both). An employee received a W2 and a 1099 in the same year, which triggered the audit. The IRS Auditor stated a fine would not be imposed, for prior years, as long as this position was made an employee position, effective September 1, 2014 and forward. The Airport Secretary would be paid as an employee for that position as well as the existing position held as an employee. The correction was made through Payroll effective September 1, 2014.

10:00 AM Construction Project-Final walk through

The Commission attended the final walk through of the Law Enforcement Remodel Project.

11:00 Jason Rittal, Executive Director of EPEDC (Eastern Plains Economic Development Corp.)

Town of Plevna Water Project-Jason presented the Commission with some preliminary figures for costs of Phase 2 of the Town of Plevna Water Project. As a reminder the Town had planned to apply for grant funds for phase 2 but the new census data indicated that the Median Household Income in Plevna had risen to \$75,000/year and that caused a severe increase in the target rates set by the grant sources. At the time that was discovered in early 2014 it was determined by the Town and confirmed with the Commissioners that to increase the rates to that level in such a short amount of time was probably too much.

Median Household Income/State Designated Target Rates-To be grant eligible the applying entity, in this case the Town of Plevna, would have to meet the new target rate by the time the project was completed. Jason stated they could conduct a survey but after much discussion with the Town council it was determined that the Median could be \$75,000.00 and if that were true conducting the survey would accomplish nothing. As it stands the target rates (water/sewer/garbage) for grant eligibility for Plevna increased from \$53.51 for water and sewer combined to \$143.75 for water and sewer combined. The Town's current rates based on an average EDU for Plevna are \$73.00/month so they would need to be nearly doubled to meet target rate.

Interstate Engineering-Jason discussed the original project plan and the PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) presented by Interstate. The reality is that the Town received the maximum grants they were eligible for. If the Town had known the true lineal feet of water main and planned for the entire project it may have saved some time but the Town would have been asking for the difference in funding either way. They developed a funding scenario in the PER. They may still have recommended phasing the

project to replace the remaining mains and the scenario would have played out the same. Either way it simply boils down to bad info and not necessarily damages because the grants were funded. Commissioner Ranum asked if the same thing could happen with Stahly Engineering as did with Interstate Engineering and cause similar issues. Jason feels they have solid numbers from Stahly and that there would be no surprises on the scope or lineal feet of pipe remaining on the project but cost estimates are only estimates and they can be off.

Developers-The group discussed that by assisting the community with upgrades for growth Fallon County will we be providing developers with water and sewer on the County's dime. Jason explained under the current conditions Plevna will not be able to expand, per DEQ regulations. If the restrictions get more constraining, expansion will never happen in Plevna. These are base upgrades to the facilities and not extensions for development.

Sewer project-Jason feels they stand a fairly good chance of getting grants for the sewer project. The Commission stated if the Citizens of Plevna would try to help themselves more, Fallon County would be more willing to help them. Jason explained the Citizens already received one increase as a result of Phase 1 and the Town has had discussions and plans to increase rates at 3% per year but may be willing to increase more than 3%.

Streets and Alleys-Discussed the conditions of the streets and alleys. Jason stated the Contractor will be held responsible to the specifications of road repair in the contract. They have to re-grade and put in new road material in the streets and alleys where they tore it up.

Maintenance-Commissioner Ranum asked who would pay to maintain the new system. Jason stated Plevna has been taking care of the existing system and feels they should be able to make it on their own with rate increases.

Sewer-Jason feels they can hold off on the sewer upgrades for a few years. Jason further stated the only way Plevna could complete the water project and meet target rates would be to take a \$70.75 water and sewer combined increase and stall the project for another 2 years, they may then qualify for grants.

Discussion-Commissioner Randash would like to complete the water project for now, wait on the sewer project, continue to increase water and sewer rates and hopefully get some good grants for that project.

Message to Town of Plevna-The Commission would like Jason to convey the message to the Town of Plevna to increase their rates. If they intend to ask for additional help on the water project and other projects from the county the Town needs to be making a good faith effort to meet eligibility requirements (target rate) for grants.

Bid projection-Jason feels they would go to bid in February or March, with a probable start time of May or June. By then they will know more about the legislature, etc.

Capital improvement Plan-The Commission and Jason discussed completing a Capital Improvement Plan for Fallon County.

RECESS

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to recess. Commissioner Randash seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Noon Recess

1:15 PM RECONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin**, Members and **Bobby Wiedmer**, Road Foreman.

1:15 PM The Commission and Bobby went to review County projects and impacted roads within Fallon County.

3:00 PM Commissioner Randash returned to attend the Department Head and Safety Team Meetings.

4:45 PM Commissioner's Ranum and Baldwin returned from checking projects.

4:50 PM Faron Henderson discussed the TransCanada Project. Faron stated that is one of the projects he will be working on, with **Mary Grube**, Planner Secretary.

RECESS

Commissioner Randash made the motion to recess. **Commissioner Baldwin** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Thursday, September 4, 2014

9:00 AM RECONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin**, Members

10:00 AM Brenda Wood, Clerk and Recorder joined

10:00 AM David Espeland, CEO and **Selena Nelson**, CFO-Fallon Medical Complex

Parkview Drainage Project-Diamond J is behind on this project. David has been overseeing the project and taking pictures. David missed some items from the specs so some items will have to be consumed and some will just not be finished. The group discussed overseeing projects and contractor responsibilities.

Patient stays-The patient stays are different due to the Affordable Healthcare Act; **they do not put patients in the Hospital unless they can guarantee they will stay at least two nights.**

Long Term Care-They are staying steady but still have low resident occupancy.

Auditors-The Auditors will be at Fallon Medical Complex the week of September 15th and would welcome the Commissioner's to be present.

11:00 AM Jon Brosz, Brosz Engineering, Inc. and **Lance Wedemeyer**, Public Works Director

Upper Lake Need an excavator to clean the front of the gate as it is silted in 6' to 10'. It was recommended they ask Diamond J if they have an excavator here, if not they will have to contact a local Contractor.

Lagoon project-This project will allow an additional 3200 users to the City of Baker. They will also need to complete some upgrades to the existing lagoons.

New tank-Lance explained they need a tank circulator for the new water tank (East of Baker) to be used during the winter months. The cost is \$18,000 for the circulator, installation and training.

Retaining wall (behind NAPA)-Jon stated they will start on the drawings next week, but will not be able to install the blocks until next Spring.

Millings-The City paid \$17.00 per yard for the millings purchased from Griffith Excavating; Griffith's purchased the millings from the Contractor for the Highway project.

Land Purchase-The group discussed purchasing more land to place a holding pond for the Golf Course Water.

RECESS

Commissioner Randash made the motion to recess. **Commissioner Baldwin** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Noon Recess

1:15 PM RECONVENE

PRESENT Deb Ranum, Chairperson; **William L. Randash** and **Steve Baldwin**, Members and **Brenda Wood**, Clerk and Recorder

1:15 PM Mary Grube, Planner Secretary

Certificate of Surveys-The Commission reviewed and approved by signing the O'Donnell Certificate of Survey and the Robert and Selena Nelson Certificate of Survey.

TransCanada-Mary reported Faron Henderson, Contract Planner took the application for TransCanada home with him.

Planning Department Report-August 18-September 2, 2014 was submitted by Mary as well.

2:00 PM PUBLIC HEARING to Adopt the Final Budget

No one appeared for Public Comment. The budget was again reviewed by the Commission. Discussed Departments that will receive cuts to their budgets; largely due to balancing the budget, the amount of projects the County has in progress already and skepticism of the upcoming Legislative Year.

3:00 PM Clayton Hornung, Mayor-City of Baker

Other City Departments-Clayton stated he would appreciate the Commission asking other City Departments to discuss purchases with the City Council or Mayor before approaching the County for funds to make purchases

City Assistance-Mayor Hornung stated the City is willing to help camera County sewer lines etc. by using the City's camera equipment.

Airport Affected Area Regulations-Clayton stated the City of Baker is concerned about how this will affect City Zoning.

Interlocal Agreement-Clayton would like to have a General Interlocal Agreement for mutual aid such as policing or assisting with other needs. Everyone agrees this would be a good tool to have. Clayton will ask **Darcy Pankratz**, City Attorney to work on this for him.

Fines-Clayton discussed fines for dog's at large, kenneling fees, long term parking on City Streets, etc. are going to be enforced more stringently.

Lobbyist-The group discussed seeking Lobbyists for the upcoming Legislative Session.

4:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

Randy Wolenetz, Public Member discussed gravel pit on his property.

FOLDER REVIEW:

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

Baker Air Service-August Aviation Fuel Sales-County Portion-\$528.75

Century-September County Land Lease-\$400.00

Continental Resources-July Oil and Gas Royalties-\$10,718.51

Denbury Resources-July Oil and Gas Royalties-\$9,786.79

Sands Oil Co-July Oil and Gas Royalties-\$220.03

JOURNALS

The Commission approved the following Journals:

#156-Reverse Journal 21 per Treasurer as accounting was already taken care of in June, 2014.

#157-Re-enter entries made from Journal 21 per Treasurer, accounting was not taken care of as earlier thought.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Commission received the following correspondence:

The Commission was informed Rich Menger was signed up for the **Registered Sanitarian Course**.

The Commission was notified the **Coral Creek Landfill was inspected** July 30, 2014 by the DEQ and no violations were noted.

REPORTS/MINUTES/FLYERS

The Commission reviewed and/or approved the following:

Sheriff Addition Field Report-August 27, 2014-as submitted from Mike Stevenson, Architect

4H Flyer-September, 2014

Safety Team Minutes-June 4, 2014

Plevna Water Project Update-August 18, 2014-Temporary water for school is on-line; Storage tank foundation and slab complete; Over-excavation of pump house addition complete; installed 280' of water main in East Alley; finish preparation for asphalt restoration in Main Street.

August 25, 2014-Finish installation of water storage tank; begin installation of water main in east alley from Callin Ave to Conser Ave; Continue to install service lines in West Alley from Railroad Avenue to Callin Ave; Pavement restoration in the second half of Main Street.

Chamber Chatter-August, 2014

Department Head Minutes-Quarterly Meeting June 4, 2014

Extension Flyer-Fall, 2014

5:00 PM Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt the FY 2015 Fallon County Budget, with amendments to balance the budget. **Commissioner Randash** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

5:10 PM Commissioner Randash made the motion to Adjourn. **Commissioner Baldwin** seconds the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

s/Deb Ranum, Chairperson

ATTEST:

s/Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder