

9:00AM CONVENE

**PRESENT: Steve Baldwin, Chairman; Deb Ranum, William L. Randash, Members; Lani DeBuhr, Clerk
FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

9:00AM VAULT ITEMS & ORGANIZATION

Present: DuWayne Bohle, Special Projects Worker

DuWayne Bohle gave the Commission updates on the projects he has been working on.

Rifle Range Boiler- DuWayne said a boiler certificate holder needs to be designated and identified on the Rifle Range Boiler. DuWayne said it can be any low pressure certificate holder that works for the County and Shane Bettenhausen, Rifle Range Manager, said he would consider studying for the certification. The Commission said Lynda Herbst, Inside Building Maintenance, has her low pressure license and could possibly be the designated person for the Rifle Range boiler.

Vault Items- DuWayne said he was able to retrieve the books for Larita Huether, MT Dept. of Revenue Assessor, which were inadvertently disposed of during the vault reorganization.

Community Service Help- DuWayne said Linda Kennel, Community Service Director, has sent a community service worker to help DuWayne recently but the person doesn't always show up when he is supposed to so DuWayne asked Linda to stop sending him to help. The Commission agreed with this decision.

9:15am- DuWayne Bohle left the meeting.

9:15AM COMMISSION WORK SESSION

CO-CHAIR DISCUSSION- The Commission discussed designating one of its members as Co-Chair to preside over the meetings when the Chair is absent. The Commission designated Commissioner Ranum as Co-Chair.

MINUTES APPROVAL-

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of February 1- 5, 2016. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD RESIGNATION-

Michele Gray submitted a resignation letter on February 1, 2016 stating she was resigning from the from the Planning Board effective immediately.

Commissioner Randash made the motion to accept Michele Gray's resignation from the Planning Board. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

RATE OF PAY APPROVALS-

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for Paul Christ, Landfill employee, for completing one year of employment.

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for Andy Fujimori, IT Tech, for completing six months of employment.

PURCHASE APPROVAL REQUESTS-

COMMISSION- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from Direct Electric for dimmable ballasts to be installed in the Commissioner's Office.

LIBRARY- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from Direct Electric for removing and replacing electrical boxes from the floor for the new flooring in the Library.

FAIR- The Commission reviewed and did not approve a quote from Direct Electric for adding switches and lights in the horse stall of the Big Barn at this time. They will contact the Fair Board to get more information regarding the need for this work to be done before making a decision.

PARKS- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from the Microsoft Store for a new tablet to be purchased for Scott Rabbit, Parks Director, as his tablet is no longer operable.

IT DEPT- The Commission did not approve the quote from Alien Vault for a Security System for the County at this time. The Commission said they learned of security systems other Counties use at the Mid-Winter MACo Conference and would like Andy Fujimori, IT Tech, to research these systems before making a decision.

EASTERN PLAINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. (EPEDC) CONTRIBUTION-

The Commission discussed contributing funds to the EPEDC as they have in years past and decided on a contribution of \$22,000 for the 2016 fiscal year.

9:45am- Dale Butori, Weed Supervisor, joined the meeting.

Dale Butori asked the Commission if they still approve of him purchasing a new side by side. Dale said the bids are coming in at \$13,500-\$14,500. Dale said the County will pay half of the side by side with the other half being funded by the Weed Grant he receives each year. The Commission said they still approve of this purchase and would like the older side by side this new one will replace to go to the Fairgrounds. Dale said the side by side is powerful enough that he suggests only adults at the Fairgrounds operate it and the Commission said they would pass this information on to the Fair Board.

9:55am- Dale Butori left the meeting.

10:00AM ROAD UPDATES

Present: Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman; Bobby Wiedmer, Road Supervisor; Shannon Hewson, Brosz Engineering

SHOP UPDATES- Alba Higgins gave the Commission updates on the equipment and vehicles that are being serviced or repaired this week.

10:15am- Alba Higgins left the meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES-

Kramlick Bridge- Bobby Wiedmer said Rod Kramlick contacted him and asked if additional seeding was going to be done along the Kramlick Bridge. Bobby said he talked to John Peila with Diamond J Construction and John said they will come back and do the seeding.

Upper Baker Lake Department of Natural Resources (DNRC) Construction Permit- The Commission was notified by the DNRC that the Construction Permit they gave for the Primary Spillway Rehabilitation work on the Upper Baker Lake needs to be closed out. Shannon Hewson said to close the project out he will have to update the operating and maintenance manual and turn it into the DNRC with the as-builts of the project.

Calumet Rd. Bridge- The Commission received the 404 Permit from the Army Corps of Engineers for the Calumet Rd. Bridge. Shannon said now all the permits have been received and they are just waiting on the right of way easements to come in from the landowners. Commissioner Baldwin said he will call the landowners who have not returned these easements.

Westmore and Dryfork Bridges- Shannon said the Contractors interested in submitting a bid for the construction of the Westmore and Dryfork Bridges are having a hard time finding gravel to place underneath the culverts at a reasonable price. Bobby said because of this the bid specs have been amended to take the gravel out of the bid so the County can provide it rather than paying a high price for gravel if the contractor provides it. Bobby said Fred Houzvicka has a crossing on his land and Fred said local landowners could use it to get to their homes when the Westmore Bridge construction takes place since a by-pass won't be built.

10:30AM WESTMORE AND DRYFORK BRIDGE CULVERT BID OPENINGS

Present: Bobby Wiedmer, Road Supervisor; Shannon Hewson, Brosz Engineering

Commissioner Baldwin opened the only bid submitted for the Westmore and Dryfork Bridge Culverts and it was read aloud. Forterra (formally known as Cretex) submitted a bid of \$360,668.02 for the Dryfork Bridge and a bid of \$414,680.40 for the Westmore Bridge. The bid did not require a bid bond and did not contain any addendums. Commissioner Baldwin asked if anyone had comments or wanted to discuss the bid. Shannon Hewson said the bid for both culverts is approximately \$190,000 more than was expected and 20-30% higher than the culverts cost last year. Shannon said since they were the only bidder he would like to contact them about their bid to find out why the cost came in so high and potentially negotiate the price with them.

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to postpone awarding the bid so that Shannon Hewson can contact Forterra about the bid price. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried.

10:40am- Bobby Wiedmer and Shannon Hewson left the meeting.

11:00AM BAKER CORRIDOR STUDY/MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDT) FOLLOW UP

Present: Shane Mintz, MDT District 4 District Administrator; Jim Frank, MDT District 4 Project Engineer; Steve Heidner, MDT District 4 Project Engineer; Mary Grube, Planner Administrative Assistant

The MDT Representatives came to discuss the future of the Baker Corridor Study with the Commission. The items discussed were:

- The Commission said the Keystone Pipeline was expected to be a funding resource for infrastructure such as the truck by-pass but now that the future of the Keystone is uncertain they aren't sure what the future of this plan is.
- Shane Mintz said even if the Keystone Pipeline doesn't come to the area the US12/MT7 Intersection is still going to be a big problem and suggested improving it on a short term basis with a long term solution in the future. Shane said the Intersection is currently graded at a B but in 30 years with a slow growth rate the grade would fall to an F. Shane said if a traffic light were

installed and parking spaces were removed by the corners of the intersection then the grade in 30 years would most likely stay at a B.

- The Commission and Shane reviewed the various options in the Baker Corridor Study to determine which option would be feasible. Shane said the least expensive, short term solution would be to implement Improvement Option 12b that would provide an alternative truck route on Milwaukee Avenue and its intersections with US12 and MT 7, as well as the North 3rd Street W at-grade railroad crossing.
- Commissioner Randash said an alternative truck route along Railroad Avenue would be easier to implement but Shane and Commissioner Baldwin disagreed, stating having to move power lines and widening the road as difficulties with this option.
- Shane said they could also go with Improvement Option 7 that would involve adding a narrow, striped median at all four intersection approaches and widening the road by removing on-street parking spaces near the intersection to allow for additional turning space. The Commission said this option would prove difficult with the parking being as limited along Main Street as it is.
- Improvement Option #10 along Willow Lane was discussed and everyone voiced concern with this plan because it is a private road and would require the landowner's cooperation to implement it.
- Shane suggested the Commission seriously consider Option 12b as it is the only option that would add additional capacity without having to move buildings, power poles and remove parking.
- Improvement Option #13 that would convert Montana Ave (US 12) and Railroad Avenue to a one-way couplet to improve truck circulation through downtown was discussed.
- Shane said there is Fast Act funding available through the MDT for major projects but this project would not be considered "major" and therefore not eligible for this funding.
- Shane said they do have some flexibility in using money for smaller projects and suggested the Commission choose an Improvement Option they want to implement and then the money from MDT could be used to complete the study on that specific option. Shane said in order for MDT to commit these funds for an additional study they would need the County and City's participation in funding the project and their commitment to move forward with the project once the study is complete. Shane said the project would last 5 years with design and construction.

12:15pm- Shane Mintz, Jim Frank, Steve Heidner and Mary Grube left the meeting.

12:15PM NOON RECESS

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to take a noon recess. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

1:15PM RECONVENE

**PRESENT: Steve Baldwin, Chairman; Deb Ranum, William L. Randash, Members; Lani DeBuhr, Clerk
FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

1:15PM PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Janz, Outside Maintenance Supervisor, came in for Public Comment and asked the Commission to be thinking about replacing the roof on the Library since shingles get blown off every time the wind blows. The Commission said there is funding in their Capital Improvement Plan to replace the roof and they will discuss it.

1:25pm- Joe Janz left the meeting.

1:30PM COMMISSIONER WORK SESSION CONTINUED

GENERAL JOURNAL ENTRY APPROVAL- The Commission reviewed and Commissioner Baldwin, as Chairman, signed the following Journal Entries: Journal #390-Correcting coding for Library claims; Journal #391- Moving U.S. Treasury Revenue from County Rural Fire Chief to Plevna Rural Fire Misc. Revenue.

BOARD AGENDAS/MINUTES-

The Commission reviewed Board Agendas and Minutes.

REVENUES-

The Commission reviewed revenues received during the week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/NOTICES-

The Commission reviewed Department Reports, Newsletters and Notices.

EMAILS-

The Commission reviewed emails sent to them from State agencies and other entities that required no discussion, action or decision.

2:00PM MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC. (MTI) MAINTENANCE CONTRACT DISCUSSION

Present: John Easley, MTI Service Technician; Len Pike, MTI Service Manager, Lynda Herbst, Inside Building Maintenance Supervisor

John Easley told the Commission he repaired the roof top unit in the Sheriff's Department and suggested they install a cat walk around the unit as it could be dangerous for someone to try and work on it if the roof is icy, wet or snowy. Len Pike said the roof top unit is quite complicated so he asked the Test and Balance Engineer for the Dispatch/Sheriff remodel project for a copy of the balance report on the unit and was told he couldn't find it. Len said Trent Harbaugh, Sheriff, said a number of his jail cells get cold and he suspects the roof top unit wasn't balanced after installation and this is causing it to not serve the cold areas as it should. Len said they were not a part of the remodel project but fortunately they can put an alarm control on the unit that is compatible with MTI controls, allowing them to monitor the unit from Billings as they do the Court House System. Len said this would allow them to troubleshoot and determine the problems with the unit and possibly having a local serviceman do the repairs to avoid the \$1500+ cost of having an MTI Technician travel from Billings to Baker to do the repair.

The Commission asked Len about boiler certification classes and said they are considering having the Rifle Range Manager get his boiler certification. Len said he would send them information on their upcoming classes. Len said the person would attend the classes in Billings, do 40 hours of training with Lynda Herbst and then would be able to take the exam. Len said if they didn't want to go this route, Lynda could be the designated person to take care of the Rifle Range Boiler.

2:20pm- John Easley, Len Pike and Lynda Herbst left the meeting.

2:30PM COMMISSION MINUTES PUBLISHED IN FALLON COUNTY TIMES DISCUSSION

Present: Drury Phebus, Member of the Public

Drury Phebus came to talk to the Commission about continuing to publish the Commission Minutes in the Fallon County Times (FCT) as he read it was being considered by the Commission to stop publishing them. Drury said he enjoys reading them in the newspaper and hopes they do not stop publishing them. The Commission said a final decision has not been made and the only reason they are considering it is because of the cost. Drury said he asked FCT if they could give the County a discount to help with the cost but was told they couldn't do that and the cost was only \$1,200 per month. The Commission gave Drury an expenditure report showing the cost of the minutes which is on average \$3,000 per month (\$36,000 annually) for the publishing of the abbreviated minutes and \$6,000 per month (\$72,000 annually) for the publishing of the full minutes. The Commission said they understand Drury's view point and that has been the reason they have continued to publish the minutes but now that revenues are decreasing they are having to look at ways to lower expenses. Commissioner Baldwin said he has often thought it should be treated as a "public announcement" in the newspaper but then knows the cost of it would fall to the newspaper which doesn't seem right. Drury asked if he could go discuss this further with the FCT to see if he can convince them to work with the County and the Commission gave him permission.

2:40pm- Drury Phebus left the meeting.

3:00PM MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (MACo) DENTAL/VISION PLAN UPDATES

Present: Pam Walling, MACo Health Care Trust Administration Marketing Coordinator; Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder

Pam Walling came to give the Commission updates on the MACo Dental and Vision Benefit Plan County Employees are participating in. Pam said the program is going well with good participation from the employees. Pam said the preliminary rates for the plan will be set next Wednesday and finalized Mid-March with the Dental Plan not being expected to change at all but the Vision Plan will be changing. Pam said they are planning on increasing the allowance for glasses and vision exams which will cause the rates to increase most likely from \$10 to \$12. Pam said the Commission doesn't need to do anything at this time since they signed a three year contract last year for the benefits.

The Commission asked Pam how the MACo Health Insurance Plan works. Pam said it similar to the County's self-funded plan with a few differences. Pam said a key difference is how the County rates are set with Counties who have good claim history being able to get a rate decrease up to 10% below average whereas Counties with bad claim history can have their rates increased to a maximum of a 5% increase above average. Pam said these rates are adjusted annually and pooled members can opt out of the plan at the end of the year if they aren't pleased with the rates. Pam said the average medical rate increase for last year was 0%, in 2014 it was 3%, in 2013 it was 4.2% and in 2012 it was a 6% increase. Pam said the nice thing about MACo is they send out the rate increases in February of each year to pooled members so they have time to decide if they want to stay in the plan or not.

3:30- Pam Walling and Debbie Wyrick left the meeting.

3:30PM STANHOPE/HIGH PLAINS GROUP DISCUSSION

Present: Jason Rittal, Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation Executive Director via Conference Call; Ryan Rittal, Stahly Engineering via Conference Call; Rich Menger, Sanitarian; Darcy Wassman County Attorney; Mary Grube, Planner Administrative Assistant

Jason Rittal told the Commission Forrest Sanderson, Contracted Planner, notified him that the Preliminary Plat approval given to High Plains Group for their development three years ago has expired. Forrest said a one year extension could be given since there have been some mitigating circumstances

involved but it would need to happen quickly. Jason said he notified Patrick Schumacher with High Plains Group about this and Patrick said he has no interest in moving forward with the project unless they can get a multi-year extension for the Preliminary Plat since there is a chance the plan may have to change in the future. Jason said he isn't sure if this is statutorily possible as he thinks Montana Code Annotated only authorizes a one year extension. Mary Grube said they can request a one year extension and if and when that extension expires they have the option to request another extension. Jason said Forrest mentioned this may be a possibility but if so, High Plains Group would need to put up a bond towards it for it to be extended again. Mary said if they hear back from High Plains Group and they say they want an extension before the next City Council meeting the extension could be approved at that time.

Jason said he is going to discuss this with Patrick tomorrow and will let him know the County will do what they can to assist them in extending the Preliminary Plat. The Commission asked what their options are if High Plains Group decides to not request an extension and won't sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been drafted between them and the Stanhope Water/Sewer District. Jason said if this happens he sees three options available: First, try to get an easement from them to build the line through their development. Then at the time High Plains Group wants to develop the land it would be their responsibility to build a system that can tap into the line. Jason said if they won't give the County an easement they can either build the line so it goes around their development or buy the land from them in order to build the line through the development. Darcy Wassman suggested setting a "drop dead" date that notifies them what will happen if they don't cooperate. Jason agreed and said they are still under a time crunch and need to be mindful of this. The Commission agreed and asked Jason to inquire about what they would sell the land for when speaking with Patrick since that is an option.

3:50pm- Jason Rittal, Ryan Rittal and Darcy Wassman left the meeting.

4:00pm- Mary Grube and Rich Menger left the meeting.

4:00PM WEED BOARD RESOLUTION

The Commission reviewed the final draft of the Weed Board Resolution.

Commissioner Randash made the motion to adopt the Weed Board Resolution #2016-4.

Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

4:10PM CREDIT CARD POLICY

The Commission reviewed the final draft of the Fallon County Credit Card Policy.

Commissioner Randash made the motion to adopt the Fallon County Credit Card Policy.

Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

4:15PM COUNTY'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Commission reviewed the County's Annual Report and the report is filed in the Clerk and Recorder's Office.

4:30PM SECURITY FOR FAIRGROUNDS EVENTS

Trent Harbaugh, Sheriff, was unable to attend the meeting therefore it was canceled.

4:30pm- Westmore and Dryfork Culvert Bid

Shannon Hewson with Brosz Engineering called and said he spoke with an engineer at Forterra and he said they made a mistake on their bid submittal for the Westmore and Dryfork Bridge culverts and will be submitting a revised bid later this week.

5:00PM EVENING RECESS

Commissioner Randash made the motion to take an evening recess. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016

1:00PM TOWN HALL MEETING WITH GREG GIANFORTE, GOVERNER CANDIDATE

The Commission attended the Town Hall Meeting that Greg Gianforte, Governor Candidate, held at Thee Garage.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016

9:00AM RECONVENE

**PRESENT: Steve Baldwin, Chairman; Deb Ranum, William L. Randash, Members; Lani DeBuhr, Clerk
FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

10:00AM CLOSED SESSION/PERSONNEL

11:00AM STANHOPE WATER/SEWER PROJECT DISCUSSION

This meeting was moved to occur later in the day due to the bid opening meeting not being able to be moved.

11:00AM DRYFORK AND WESTMORE BOX CULVERTS CONSTRUCTION BID OPENING

Present: Bobby Wiedmer, Road Supervisor; Shannon Hewson, Brosz Engineering; Jon Brosz, Bronsz Engineering; John Peila, Diamond J Construction; Leon Clause, Dick Anderson Construction; Jerry Krushensky, J & S Construction; David Shepherd, Shep’s Welding; Shawn Hofferber, JR Civic; Frank Pohlman, Coon Construction; Shaun Williamson, Coon Construction; Bethanie Suacina, Wanzek Construction; Grant Clingingsmith, Knife Rifer; Tyler Youderian, Youderian Construction; Justin Biehl, COP Construction, Jasen Wyrick, Wyrick Construction

Shannon Hewson opened the bids submitted for the Dryfork and Westmore Box Culverts Construction and they were read aloud. All bids had Addendum 1 and 2 with the bid bond in place. The bid amounts were:

Contractor	Base Bid Schedule I (Westmore)	Base Bid Schedule II (Dryfork)	Schedule I & II Total	Mobilization Deduction if awarded both projects	Schedule I & II Total with Deduction
Smith Contracting	\$417,295	\$305,647	\$722,942	(\$18,900)	\$704,042
Coon Construction	\$405,837	\$405,837	\$811,674	(\$2,499)	\$809,175
Nelcon Inc.	\$572,038	\$387,011.50	\$959,049.50	(\$20,000)	\$939,049.50
Diamond J Construction	\$387,442.50	\$271,630	\$659,072.50	(\$9,172.50)	\$649,000
Youderian Construction	\$299,999	\$236,377	\$536,376	(\$3,376)	\$533,000
JR Civil	\$745,255.13	\$481,304.16	\$1,226,559.29	-	\$1,226,559.29
Dick Anderson Construction	\$644,385	\$461,690	\$1,106,075	(\$35,000)	\$1,071,075
Battle Ridge Builders	\$301,532	\$198,456	\$499,988	(\$6,000)	\$493,988
Shep’s Welding	\$268,050.74	\$204,426.93	\$472,477.67	(\$14,000)	\$458,477.67
Knife River	\$392,044.75	\$263,248.50	\$655,293.25	(\$13,000)	\$642,293.25
J & S Construction	\$462,982.25	\$317,793.23	\$780,775.48	(\$16,000)	\$764,775.48
COP Construction	\$670,447	\$429,941	\$1,100,388	(\$15,000)	\$1,085,388
Wanzek Construction	\$461,555.50	\$333,332.10	\$794,887.60	(\$10,000)	\$784,887.60

Shannon recommended the Commission postpone awarding the bid to give him an opportunity to review the bids and calculations before making a recommendation to the Commission.

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to table awarding the Westmore and Dryfork Box Culvert Construction bid to give Shannon Hewson time to check the bids and calculations. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

11:30am- All present left the meeting.

11:30AM COMMISSIONER WORK SESSION CONTINUED

The Commission went to look at the exhaust fans that were installed in the Big Barn at the Fairgrounds. The Commission looked at the stall and round pen lights in the Big Barn at the Fairgrounds and said they are old and should be replaced.

PURCHASE APPROVAL REQUESTS-

PARKS- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from Kenco Security for security cameras to be installed at Iron Horse Park.

FAIR- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from Direct Electric to install switches and lights in the horse stall and round pen area of the Big Barn.

RIFLE RANGE- The Commission reviewed and approved a quote from Direct Electric to install lighting on the artillery side of the range and to move the red and green target lights and switches to the 20 yard line.

RATE OF PAY APPROVALS-

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for DeLayne Robbins, Health Department employee, for completing one year of employment.

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for Tricia Shipman, Justice of Court employee, for completing one year of employment.

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for Stacey Moore, Library Services Director, for completing one year of employment.

The Commission approved and signed the Rate of Pay Approval form for Mary Alice Havens, Senior Citizen Substitute Bus Driver, for completing one year of employment.

12:00PM NOON RECESS

Commissioner Randash made the motion to take a noon recess. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

1:15PM CLOSED SESSION CONTINUED/PERSONNEL

2:00PM STANHOPE WATER/SEWER PROJECT DISCUSSION

Present: Jason Rittal, Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation Executive Director via Conference Call; Ryan Rittal, Stahly Engineering via Conference Call; Rich Menger, Sanitarian; Darcy Wassman, County Attorney; Mary Grube, Planner Administrative Assistant

Jason Rittal called in to give everyone present updates on the conversation he had with Patrick Schumacker with High Plains Group. Jason said High Plains Group submitted a letter to the Planning Department asking for a plat extension for at least three years or as long as the statute will allow. Jason said this request will be presented to the City Council by Forrest Sanderson and Mary Grube at the February 17th City Council meeting and Chuck Davison with High Plains Group will be there as well. The Commission asked if High Plains Group would need to put up a bond if a three year extension was granted and Mary said she has been looking in statute that dictates a bond is required but cannot find any mention of it. Jason and Mary said they will talk to Forrest about it further. Jason said Patrick and Forrest will be having a conversation next week to give Forrest a chance to explain their options to Patrick that will hopefully help facilitate things moving forward. Jason said they will discuss possibly having the City of Baker issue a “will service” letter to High Plains Group that will state they will build the line to a size that will accommodate their development capacity in the future. Jason said this may not be the best option since the development of the land is so uncertain at this time but it is an option. Jason said he also asked Patrick for a sales price and Patrick said they didn’t want to take a loss on the property and would sell it at their break even number of \$500,000 to \$550,000.

Jason said with this information in hand he sees four options available:

Option 1: High Plains Group signs the original MOU with the specification they will pay \$100,000 to tie into the system when and if they develop the land. Jason said this is the ideal option if High Plains Group will agree to it.

Option 2: Build the system up Pleisner and go around the High Plains development. Ryan said this option would be less expensive due to not having to deal with the water issues under the development but Jason said it may not be the best option for future development of the High Plains land.

Option 3: Request an easement from High Plains Group to bring the line through their land without asking for the \$100,000 or renegotiate the amount.

Option 4: Purchase the land from High Plains and then the County can do what they want with the line. The Commission and Jason agreed this was the worst option as the price is high and the County isn’t interested in buying land.

Jason said he would like to table a decision until after the City Council meeting to see what happens with High Plains Group’s extension request and the Commission agreed.

3:00pm- All present left the meeting.

3:00PM ADJOURN

Commissioner Ranum made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
s/Steve Baldwin, Chairman

MINUTE TAKER:
s/Lani J. DeBuhr, Clerk

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

