

OCTOBER 1ST, 2024 WEDNESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Foreman Dan Davis was in to brief the Commissioners on where his crew is today. Dan is looking to get some kind of GPS system on the road equipment to keep track his employees and where equipment is for safety reasons.

The Commissioners interviewed Cameron Davis for a road operator. He was offered the job and he accepted. He will start today.

SCHOOL GENERATOR

Jerry Ghekiere was in to update the Commissioners on the generator maintenance at CJI school. He dropped of the invoice in our office. The Commissioners will not be servicing the generator at the school after this. A letter will be sent to CJI letting them know.

CLERK AND RECORDER

Clerk and Recorder Davin Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on the ballot printing company and election updates.

PUGSLEY BRIDGE

The Commissioners will have the plates for the bridge made by Gerbers by Friday.

CJI SCHOOL BOND

Treasurer Sharlys Davis was in to ask about Hill County's portion of the CJI School Bond. County Superintendent Kathy Armstrong was in to explain the Hill County portion of the tax bill that comes into Liberty County.

FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Game Warden Willie Miller was in to update the Commissioners on the hunting season that has started. He is aware that a grizzly bear has been spotted in the hills.

PAYROLL

Payroll Specialist Jordan Miller presented payroll to the Commissioners for them to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND DES

Kayla Johnson, DES, was in to update the Commissioners on the LEPC Meeting from this morning. She also updated the Commissioners on the final ORAP discussion.

Melissa Kantorowicz, PH, updated Commissioners on the BioMetrix machine they asked the Hi Line Health Foundation to purchase for them. They were awarded the machine and a \$5000.00 monetary grant to administer the new purchase.

JUSTICE COURT

Justice of the Peace Chris Case was in to update the Commissioners on what his office has going on.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____

OCTOBER 8TH, 2024 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair) and Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Undersheriff Kyle Heppner was in to update the Commissioners on the Sheriff Office.

MSU EXTENSION

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Extension Agent, was in to update the Commissioners on what he has been doing in his office. He is looking to possibly have an intern come and work in his department.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Foreman Dan Davis was in to update the Commissioners on what his crew has been doing around the county. Mowing continues, and maintenance as allowed with no moisture. There is a washout North of Joplin that the crew will be working on. One of the graders has a broken pane of glass in the door. He will order some new glass to replace it.

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

The Commissioners made a call to Chad Hedges and Tammy Pike, Hill County Water District, about getting ½ million gallons of water to the sewer lagoon in Joplin. Chad is overwhelmed with water line problems right now, so if it is possible it will not be anytime soon and the cost would be incurred through the Joplin Sewer funding, which in turn will be twice the price.

UNIVERSAL WORKER

Paula Hull was interviewed by the Commissioners for the universal worker job. The Commissioners hired her and she will be available as soon as possible.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on his office.

PUGSLEY BRIDGE

The bridge should be finished and opened by the end of the week. The bridge repair is finished and we are waiting on the inspector to come and approve the bridge. Once that is done, the state will be responsible for opening the bridge for traffic.

PUBLIC HEALTH/DES

Kayla Johnson, DES, was in to update the Commissioner on the DES grant award. The amount for \$22,000.00 matching with local county funds, so the total available will be \$44,000.00. Commissioner Woods made a motion to sign the award letter. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. Melissa Kantorowicz, PH, was awarded a Community Health Assessment and Health implementation plan grant for \$10,000.00. Melissa also discussed the new 988 crisis line and central mental health ideas floating around and getting off the ground.

PREDATORY FUND

The Commissioners signed the MOU for the sheep and cattle predatory fund. The fee remains at \$1.00 per head.

FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS

Game Warden Willie Miller was in to update the Commissioners on a bear that weighs approximately 800-1000 pounds that has been spotted on the Milk River.

SECTION LINES

Rudy Cicon was in to visit with the Commissioners request for clarification on an open section line. The Commissioners reviewed the request and it is indeed an open section line. A letter stating such was emailed to Cicon and Associates.

CLAIMS

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____

OCTOBER 15, 2024 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods.

PUGSELY BRIDGE

The Commissioners have called Stahly Engineering and let them know that the Pugsley Bridge concrete test came back approved. The next step is an inspection and release from the state to re-open the repaired bridge.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, was in to update the Commissioners on a security breach on her office computer. The Commissioners had a Teams meeting with MACO IT about the breach; it is being worked on but the recommendation is to replace a couple of computers at the Senior Center and add cloud protection.

Commissioners Wickum made a motion to put the 2010 Dodge ADA van up for sale on the governmental auction site. Commissioners Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

Glenda is still working on the fire suppression issues at the Senior Center.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Foreman Dan Davis was in to update the Commissioners on what the road crew is doing this week.

EMPLOYEE LEAVE HOURS

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve 40 hours gifted from a dispatch employee to an employee who will be going on maternity leave. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carries with all in favor.

COUNTY ATTORNY

County Attorney Robert Padmos came in to update the Commissioners on the Board of Health policy proposal language that will go before the BOH members on Monday, October 21st.

TREASURER

County Treasurer Sharlys Davis updated the Commissioners on an old warrant account that has 3 checks from a year ago that have not yet cleared. Emails have been sent to notify recipients of those checks that the account is going to be closed and how to have those checks reissued. Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the closure of the old warrant account #1001040730 on November 1st. Commissioner Wickum seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carries with all in favor.

FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Game Warden Willie Miller was in to update the Commissioners on hunting season opening up.

WEED/911 DEPARTMENT

Jim Ghekiere, Weed Dept/911, was in to update the Commissioners on what he has been up to in his offices now that spraying season is coming to an end.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____

OCTOBER 22, 2024 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on his office happenings.

CLERK AND RECORDER

Clerk and Recorder Davin Padmos was in to update the Commissioners about a disgruntled citizen over a ballot issue; that a "write-in" line was missing for one candidate. The issue was brought the Secretary of State's attention and the missing line on a write-in is actually a non-issue due to the fact that no one has filed as a write-in candidate for that particular race. Only those who file as a write-in candidate will have votes counted for them if their name is written in on their race.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Foreman Dan Davis was in to update the Commissioners on where his crew is in the county and what they are doing. Last week they hauled gravel to the Lothair Road. The county is looking into GPS locators for all the county equipment. The county experienced a theft a couple years ago, and for employee safety reasons knowing where the crew is in case of breakdowns.

CLAIMS

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Wickum seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

PUGSLEY BRIDGE

The county has official permission to open the bridge. The Commissioners confirmed the tonnage signage and moved barricades.

WEED DEPARTMENT/911

Jim Ghekiere, Weed/911, was in to update the Commissioners on his departments. He is hoping to get snow blades on his Kubotas for winter.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND RESOLUTION

Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Resolution. Second by Justin Wickum. Hearing no public comment, motion carries.

Mitigation Plan Adoption Resolution

Resolution # 24-19

**Adopting the 2023 Montana Central Region
Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Whereas, Liberty County recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, an adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency pre- and post- disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, Liberty County resides within the Planning Area, and fully participated in the mitigation planning process to prepare this Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

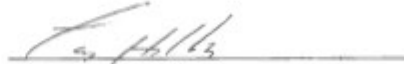
Whereas, the Montana Disaster & Emergency Services and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VIII officials have reviewed the 2023 Montana Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Liberty County Commissioners, hereby adopts the Montana Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as an official plan; and

Be it further resolved, the County of Liberty will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Montana Disaster & Emergency Services and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VIII officials to enable the Plan's final approval.

10-15-24

Date Passed



Certifying Official

JUSTICE COURT

Justice of the Peace Chris Case was in to update the Commissioners on his office happenings.

SEIDLITZ SUBDIVISION

Rory Seidlitz was in to finalize the Rory/Kim Seidlitz subdivision. After review, Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the final subdivision. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

AIRPORT GRANT

The Commissioners made a call to RPA about airport grant monies and the projects to spend them on.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____

OCTOBER 29, 2024 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair) and Justin Wickum. Joette Woods attended MACo.

PUGSLEY BRIDGE

Pugsley Bridge inspector and Stahley Engineer, Kathy Thompson, was in the county to check the bridge.

CLERK AND RECORDER

Clerk and Recorder Davin Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on the status of the upcoming general election.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on his office.

WEED DEPARTMENT/911

Jim Ghekiere, 911/ Weed Dept, was in with Sheriff Erickson to discuss the radios for the county. The meeting that was had with Hi-Line Communications was reviewed. There is an existing grant of \$82,000.00 and an extra \$40,775.00 is still needed to update the radios. This will migrate the Liberty County Fire and Ambulance radios.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Foreman Dan Davis provided updates to the Commissioners on his crew. The LHC construction crew has fulfilled their week commitment for hauling gravel on the Lothair Rd. The road crew is in fall maintenance mode, blading, mowing, and cattle guard cleaning.

HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL

The hospital at Logan Health, Chester, made a request to dispose of some of their equipment. One piece of equipment from the laboratory is a Chemistry Analyzer. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the disposal of this analyzer. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, presented the NCAAA contract for the MT Older American Act Programs. This is part of the Senior Center funding. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

JOPLIN SEWER

The Commissioners took a quick tour to Joplin to inspect sewer lagoons and check the amount of water that has been added to the lagoons. The street conditions were also looked at.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____