

Monday, January 28, 2013

PRESENT

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

CONVENED

10:00 AM-Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder met regarding the Health Insurance.

Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman and **Alba Higgins**, Shop Foreman also joined the conversation. Alba is also on the Insurance Committee.

Discussion-Currently an employee can only be added to the County's Health insurance if the process is completed within 30 days of hire. There is currently an employee (Part-Time) moving to a (Full-Time) position; this is not considered a change in status qualifying the employee to be placed on the Health Insurance, however Fallon County has a self-funded insurance and the Commission has the authority to change this and add this as an option.

Commissioner Baldwin asked if this would be as an addendum to the policy. Debbie stated yes this would be an amendment and explained this would be for an employee that is moving up to 36 hours per week.

Debbie explained the Health Insurance Plan "eligibility hours" correction was omitted when the new plan book was sent out. Debbie asked for permission to update this as well so both changes are made at the same time.

Motion-Commissioner Randash made a motion for an amendment to be made to the Health Insurance Policy. This would allow an employee moving from Part-Time to increased hours and/or Full-Time status, after the 30-day hire "grace-period" to be added to the Health Insurance. Commissioner Baldwin seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Debbie left the meeting.

10:10 AM-Steve Stanhope, Fidelity E & P, Inc. joined the discussion. Steve stated he needs to visit with the Commission at their convenience on the DeGrand/Vassar Bridges. The Commission asked Steve to return at 4:30 PM today. Steve will do so and left the meeting.

10:15 AM-Road/Shop Report with Bobby and Alba.

Landfill Specifications-The group reviewed the Waste Handler/Dozer specifications for the Landfill. Some typing errors were made and heating and air were added to specs as well.

Road Laborer-New Road Crew Laborer, Clint Dietz was hired and started work today.

Road Assistant-The Commission agreed to allow Bobby and Alba to hire Brittanie Larson. Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to hire Brittanie Larson as the New Road Assistant at the County Shop. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Bobby will call her and find out when she can start work.

Scraper-Waiting on parts for the scraper.

Questions-Commissioner Ranum stated there has been a couch in the ditch, in the County's right of way. Bobby stated they would take care of it.

Cattle guard-Commissioner Baldwin stated Nick O'Connor needs a cattle guard placed. Nick will purchase it if the County will help install it. Bobby will have to find out where Nick wants the cattle guard placed as it may not be on a County Road.

Alba left at 10:50 AM.

Anticline Road-Two years ago the crew placed new gravel up to the Monarch cut-across. Bobby stated from that point to the North Plevna Road needs some surfacing. There is no gravel in this area, only scoria which Bobby feels could be used as a base and add gravel at a later date, possibly from the Fish Pit (North Dakota). Commissioner Ranum asked if they would be pulling the shoulders on this road. Bobby said they would at some point in time.

Fish pit-Discussed the possibility of hiring someone to help the County haul from that pit and dump on the road.

Mining-John Beach feels he has gravel for mine purposes; Medearis gravel-Bobby has spoken with him, other possible prospects were discussed.

Road Surfacing-Angela DeGrand would like some scoria placed on the road, to her home place, so they are able to get to their property. They only have a building set, no house set as of this time. Angela wondered if they could have the gravel hauled in now, if they wait until spring, it will be too muddy. The decision was to proceed with the gravel hauling as soon as the Road Department can get to it.

Snow-Commissioner Ranum asked Bobby to find out who dumped snow in the Baker Lake; it is near the Bank of Baker. Alba left the meeting.

MINUTES-Commission did not have enough time to read the minutes, will approve later if time allows.

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11:15 AM-Spencer Huether, Road Technician and **Bobby-Met** to discuss the **Landfill Spur Road**. This road was not taken as a County road and the County would need an easement from Pinnow's and BLM if the Commission plans to place signs and maintain the road. Wanda Pinnow stated it is a widely used road for hay hauling. Bobby feels it is used mostly by the Oilfield and would also need to replace two cattle guards. Bobby stated Fallon County has one end of this road, feels it does not make much sense to have only one end of this road be a County road and not the rest of the road. No decision at this time. Bobby and Spencer left the meeting.

11:15 AM Rich Batterman, County Attorney joined the discussion.

Pits-Rich is working on the agreements for various pits.

Thunderbird Pipeline-Commissioner Ranum spoke to Tom Sparks who stated they are working with Debra Bell. Rich stated he has also spoken to their Attorney.

Conference Call-Commissioner Ranum phoned Sean, ThyssenKrupp as he did not call in when scheduled. Commissioner Ranum left a message for Sean to call back. Rich left the discussion.

Tri-County Alcohol and Addictive Disease Board-Commissioner Ranum stated she spoke to several Commissioners' and other Board Members and no one seems to know of the existence of this Board.

County Leases-Commissioner Ranum reported she sent lease packet information to Lessee's.

Lobbyist-Commissioner Ranum reported Ron Devlin of Terry, MT would be interested in the lobbyist position for Fallon County. Commissioner Ranum told Mr. Devlin the County normally paid \$5,000.00 per session and he agreed to be paid ½ of that upfront and ½ at the end of the session.

Man camp resolution-Commissioner Ranum reported McCone County is still considering the resolution presented by Mike Rinaldi, Sanitarian. McCone County pays Mike Rinaldi \$1,800.00 per month for Sanitarian services.

MBOGC Board-Commissioner Ranum reported the new members on the Montana Board of Oil, Gas and Coal are from Blaine County-Frank DePriest, Rosebud County-Doug Martens and McCone County-Janet Wolff. The members of this Board do not plan to fill the Executive Director position until June and the Board Members plan to do their own lobbying.

11:45 AM-Tom Muckle, County Rural Fire Chief-Wanted to stop and welcome the new Commissioner on-board and recap past fires. 2012 was a really busy year and with the way the new year is starting it is looking as though this will be another busy fire season.

Pre-planning meeting-Next month Tom and Dick Fredricks, Slope County Fire Chief are going to spearhead a meeting to pre-plan for the fire season and hopefully they can assist and be assisted by other Counties with mutual-aid. Tom would like to include Gary Thielen, Plevna Fire Chief, Randy Hoenke, Baker Fire Chief, along with other Fire Chiefs and their Assistant Fire Chiefs from other bordering Counties and States such as North and South Dakota.

County Assistance-Tom appreciated the help the County gave during the fire season last year and so did everyone else.

Haz-Mat Training-This training took place this past weekend; it was a very good training and brought a lot of awareness to the entire group.

Train derailment training-Commissioner Ranum wondered if Tom or Randy would want to Co-ordinate this training; Roy Harper trains on train derailments. Tom recommends Randy Hoenke and Gary Thielen help co-ordinate this.

Ambulance Meeting-Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director phoned in to state she will not be here for the meeting this afternoon as she is going on a transfer to Billings. Lisa wanted to inform the Commission she is working with State of Montana to receive a waiver on their licensure. With this waiver the Ambulance would be able to leave the garage with a First Responder and a driver. The waiver would be conditional with documentation on patient care, what First Responders can and cannot do, and proof of what skills they each have. This would increase personnel from 4 to 9 people. Lisa feels this could be in place as soon as she gets everything sent in (one paper). Lisa stated there were no other EMT's to make this transfer as they all wanted to attend the meeting today in the Commissioner's office. Discussed possibly cancelling the meeting until Lisa is able to attend. Commissioner Ranum will try to contact the County Attorney since he is the person that set up the meeting. If not, the meeting will go on as scheduled with those that are able, present.

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12:10 PM-Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder contacted Selena Nelson, FMC-CFO about the Health Insurance amendment discussed earlier today, as FMC's member of the Insurance Committee.

Debbie spoke to EBMS and they stated self funded plans can make one-time exceptions; in 2014 this could be changed to a mandatory open enrollment plan.

For now the Commission would like to make the one-time exception and could then change the plan document later with any amendments. EBMS will draft the letter for the Commission to sign. Commission approved the one-time exception.

12:12 PM-Commissioner Baldwin made a motion to recess for lunch; Commissioner Randash seconded. Motion carried.

Lunch at Fallon Medical Complex to meet a Doctor prospect.

1:10 PM-Reconvened with Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Steve Baldwin and William L. Randash, Members and Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder present.

1:15 PM-Wanda Pinnow, Pat Ehret, Don Buerkle, Members and Barb Lechler, Fair Secretary met to report updates to the Commission.

Sweeper-Don stated they did not have enough price information yet. This would be used in front of the grandstands, front parking lot, back area behind the Exhibit Hall, etc. Wanda stated they are trying to cut down the man hours in this area and put the employees time to better use.

Populous-They are still waiting on Populous to respond.

Secretary Position-Discussed moving Barb to a year-round/full-time position during their last meeting with the Commission and were told to bring a detailed job description. The Board did so and presented it to the Commission for review. Don feels the responsibilities of Barb's position have increased. Barb has to supervise more due to the caliber of help. There is plenty of budget to increase Barb's hours.

Motion-Commissioner Baldwin made a motion to increase Barb's hours to full-time hours/year-round. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tree planting-Planting trees was discussed. Wanda stated she ordered one large tree to start off with.

Fuel costs-Fair Board agreed to split the cost of fuel for snow removal. Wanda added the Board is grateful to have Scott Rabbitt removing the snow for them.

Old Exhibit Hall-Discussed the poor condition of the building and the fact the cement is unlevel in the building. For safety purposes, during the Fair they paint the various levels and cracks in the cement and it is difficult for a wheelchair to get around in that building. Commissioner Baldwin suggests everyone get together to view the building.

Dance-Wanda stated the 4H approached the Fair Board to have a band play, in the barn, Saturday night of the Fair for the youth. The Fair board feels a lot of money is spent on other things such as the (midway) etc and want the youth to take advantage of that. They also have the Dance near beer garden after the night show which they feel everyone now enjoys.

4H Kitchen window-The kitchen window is so low due to handicap accessibility, the 4H would like to see the window changed. Wanda explained the Sanitarian was the person that told the Board how the window needed to be designed; this is a specialty window, therefore the Fair Board said they told the 4H the window would stay as is. Just wanted the Commission to be aware.

Air Show-Roger Meggers approached the Fair Board about holding the air show in conjunction with the Fair. It was felt this would now take place during the 4th of July celebration.

Garbage cans-Barb would like permission to purchase garbage cans for the Grandstands in hopes the public would be respectful and throw their trash in the garbage cans; this would also save them a lot of man hours. The total cost for these would be approximately \$1,600.00. Permission granted to proceed with the purchase.

Bird netting-The netting is falling down; Bobby Wiedmer, Road Foreman has been asked by the Fair Board to view it and give an opinion. Don Buerkle stated he would also view it; it was felt cable placed under the netting would help hold the netting in place.

1:50 PM-Mary Lou Ryden and Rod Chaska, Ambulance members joined the Commission for their meeting. Later **Wayde Mitchell, Dale Butori and Darold Brown**, Ambulance members joined the discussion.

2:03 PM-Rich Batterman, County Attorney and **Tim Barkley**, Sheriff joined the discussion.

DISCUSSION

Rich started the meeting off by stating his office has received a stack of at least 6 incident reports where law enforcement has been brought in when no Ambulance was available. Rich explained, by law, Law Enforcement cannot transport.

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Commissioner Ranum spoke on behalf of Lisa Mitchell, Ambulance Director. Lisa phoned in and stated she is working with the State of Montana for a waiver on licensure. This would allow a First Responder and a Driver to leave the Garage on a call.

Firemen-Rich stated he has spoken to the Fireman about driving. Dale stated all they have to do is to sound the tones and a fireman will come to drive. Dale stated he has explained this to the Ambulance Members at their meetings as well.

Law Enforcement-Discussed those that are not EMT's are put in bad situations. Darold asked if Law Enforcement members are First Responders. Tim stated they are not.

Lisa Mitchell phoned in-Was placed on speaker phone but unfortunately drove out of range.

2:10 PM-Steve Schweigert, Ambulance Member joined.

Waiver-The group discussed the waiver; Steve stated he felt the waiver would be in effect until they could get their numbers up.

Responders-They currently have five (5) First Responder A's.

Scheduling-There is a schedule at the Garage for the Attendants now and there is still coverage problems.

Course-Steve S will be running a First Responder course to get the individuals their endorsements. Steve further explained they will be changing the First Responder and EMT eligibility requirements so it will be easier for the course takers. EMT Course is now 180 hours; First Responder Course is now 80 hours plus other hours. Dale asked if there was any interest shown in the course. Steve stated so far he has had 6 or 7 people contact him.

Solving issue-It is felt once they get the waiver, they will be able to respond with First Responder and a Driver; Tim added Law Enforcement would attend when they were able. In the interim they will get some Interlocal Agreements in place such as with Marmarth, Ekalaka and Wibaux; this may help them out as well.

Farmers/Ranchers-Commissioner Ranum discussed training ranchers as first responders and giving them a jump kit to go to a call until the Ambulance arrives. Tim B stated there are some areas that do that now.

Paramedic-Rich talked about bringing a Paramedic on board. This was discussed further.

Volunteers-Volunteerism is a thing of the past.

First Responders-Wayde asked about Law Enforcement training as First Responders. Tim stated he would not require his employees to be First Responders but they are welcome to become First Responders. Dale discussed this with the Firemen also and they are not interested.

Perfect world-In a perfect world it was asked what the number of EMT's and First Responders needed would be-Steve S. felt 10 EMT's and 10 First Responders would cover the shifts and allow everyone some much needed time off.

Decision-Get the Waiver from the State; put Mutual aid agreements in place and see what evolves from Steve's class.

On call pay discussed-This changes their status from volunteers to employees, some feel it may help; others feel it is not about the money.

Agreements-Rich will work with Lisa Mitchell and the local Ambulance Services to get the agreements together.

Plevna-Commissioner Ranum suggested getting individuals from Plevna involved and placing an Ambulance there.

Driver Qualifications-Mary Lou-would like to know the qualifications to be a driver. It was felt those that drive need current drivers licenses and are covered on the County's Insurance. All individuals left the meeting.

3:30 PM-Jason Rittal, Executive Director-EPEDC-**Jean Rost**, Fallon County Water and Sewer Member; **Mona Madler**, SMART Director, **Laurie Pankratz**, Fallon County Water and Sewer Member met to update the Commission on the Fallon County Water and Sewer project updates.

Lift Station-Jason is working with developers to build a lift station to standards that will allow Stanhope Addition to hook on also. The County stated several months ago they would donate approximately \$145,000 to this project and the District's share would be \$100,000.00. Jason explained \$85,000 would be the District's share of the pipe/lift station and extra \$15,000 for permitting, mobilization and demobilization. The District would pay extra if the cost would exceed \$115,000. Jason and Rich Batterman, County Attorney worked together on this today, it just needs to be put on paper.

Risk-The risk may be that they may never get a sewer line out there. Laurie explained the reason being they have to go through the grant process. Commissioner Ranum asked what the soonest would be. Jason stated best case scenario would be 5 years. The Commission will do what they can to assist. The group left the meeting.

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3:30 PM-Richard Griffith, Griffith Steel and **Tom Kachel**, Landfill Manager met to discuss a quote received from Richard for a **new building** for the Landfill. The group reviewed the drawings for an 80' x 125' building, 18' high.

Separate work area from cold storage-Commissioner Randash suggested placing a wall to separate a portion of the building from cold storage so they don't have to heat the entire building.

Sewer and water was discussed/possible placement of a septic tank, etc. The group discussed putting up gutters and using it for a water collection system; they could then use the water to clean equipment, etc.

Floor heat was discussed as an option, twice as costly upfront but may be an option that would pay off in the long run.

Budget-This project will have to go to bid and there is funding to move forward with this project.

Motion-Commissioner Baldwin made a motion to move forward on the Landfill building project, placing it on County property. The motion died for lack of a second.

Location of new building-Commissioner Randash stated we need to be sure where we are placing the building because we have other buildings that will need to be placed on County property, as will the scale. Tom will contact Barry Damschen about this project.

Discussed **specs for the building** to include placement of windows, an exhaust fan for the welding room, insulation and lined walls as well. Richard agreed to put some specs together for the Commission. Richard left the meeting.

Log form and rate sheet-Tom brought a log form he devised for the container site and the rate sheet for the Landfill for the Commission to view.

Tire rates-The group further discussed the new rate for cut tires. Tom explained it takes the Landfill staff a long time to cut the large tires. Tom feels if anyone wants to bring them pre-cut tires that saves them time and money, they deserve a reduced rate. Tom feels the rate for cut tires should be half of the regular rate or \$83.00. To get this rate tires need to be quartered. All Commissioners' agreed to the new rate. Tom left the discussion.

4:25PM-Lobbyist decision-The Commission agreed that Ron Devlin, Terry Montana would be called to be the Lobbyist for Fallon County.

4:30 PM-Steve Stanhope, Fidelity and **Bobby Wiedmer**, Road Foreman met to discuss various bridges. Steve stated they need rip/rap for the **Vassar Bridge** and discussed how to repair the washing. **DeGrand Bridge**-The County received the Dowdall's easement but have not received the DeGrand easement. Bobby feels (3)-6' culverts will handle the water. Steve S. would like to leave one side of the planking in place for stabilization. Bobby is not sure if the culverts will fit without both sides of planking being removed.

Steve S would like a plan of how to proceed so he can show it to David Shepherd (Contractor) for Fidelity. The County would have some trucks available to haul dirt/gravel for packing and surface cover. Brosz will bring the plan on how to proceed.

Commissioner Baldwin asked if the County has culverts available. Bobby stated not right now, he will have to order some.

Steve S. would like to start work on the DeGrand Bridge by June and July or August for Vassar Bridge. The old bridge will be removed from the Vassar property and Mr. Vassar will be able to do with it what he wants.

Steve S. will talk to the group next week regarding updates and his approval from the Denver office.

5:10 PM-Tim Barkley, Sheriff stated Lynda Herbst, Custodian came to let them know they will be testing fire alarms tomorrow and everyone is supposed to leave the building. Due to the weather, etc Tim does not have any place for the prisoners. Permission granted to leave the prisoners in jail; the Dispatchers will also stay in the building to take emergency calls.

APPROVAL OF MINTUES

5:20 PM-Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to approve the January 22nd Commissioner Minutes with spelling, grammar corrections. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD MINUTES

The Commission reviewed and approved the following Board Minutes:

December 19, 2012 – Fair Board Minutes

January 22, 2013-Wellness Champion Minutes

October 9, 2012-Library Board Minutes

January 3, 2013-Baker Rural Fire Minutes-Warrants were issued in the amount of \$8,985.85.

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November 7, 2012-Baker Municipal Airport Commission Minutes
January 17, 2013-Planning Board Minutes

JOURNAL

#326-Reversing Journal #77-Solid Waste Balance Forward to FY2013
#689-Posting Solid Waste Closure Adjustments, per Jim Wosepka, Auditor.
#327-Re-roll balances forward to FY2013.

REVENUES

Continental Resources-Oil and Gas Royalties-\$8,647.32

EASEMENT

The Commission signed the Easement for Noreen Dowdall for Hidden Water Trail in Section 8-5-61.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Commission signed the Insurance Directive provided by EMBS to enroll employee to the County's Health Insurance, per Commissioner approval.

Commissioner Ranum and Clayton Hornung signed the Baker Municipal Airport Capital Improvement Program for FY2013-2018. This summarized the planned FAA (5-year) funded projects at this Airport. A copy is filed in the Clerk and Recorder's office.

ADJOURN

5:25PM-Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Randash seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn
s/Deb Ranum, Chairperson

ATTEST:

s/Brenda J. Wood, Clerk and Recorder