

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020

9:30 AM CONVENE

PRESENT: Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Steve Baldwin, Member; Kelsey DuCharme, Recording Clerk

ABSENT: Roy Rost, Member

FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Pledge of Allegiance was held in the Commissioner's Office at 9:30 AM to start off the week.

PUBLIC COMMENT –AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared for public comment.

9:43 AM Robbie Christiaens, Parks Manager joined the meeting.

Parks Updates- The County boat is back from getting worked on in Dickinson. They tuned up the carburetor and changed out the part that helps cool the engine, as well as put an air valve on the gas tank. The bearings on the trailer were also changed out. Robbie is busy working on snow removal this week.

9:56 AM Robbie left the meeting.

9:58 AM Mark Sieler, Road Foreman; Alba Higgins, Shop Foreman joined the meeting.

Road Department Updates- The Commission gave approval for the Road Crew to attend Roscoe Gray's (former Road Crew Member) funeral on Friday. The other two blades that are out for bid will be opened on January 27th. They plan to do two this year and two the next fiscal year. Tractor & Equipment is doing updates on the blades this week. CAT will be at the shop this week to look at the two blades. The 2016 Chevy's have a recall on them; in which Alba is looking into further. The Kenworth is almost completely put back together. Alba held another clutch class with the Road Crew this past week. The Commission gave approval for a couple of the Road Crew members to look into an expo for new equipment, tools and lifts in Las Vegas.

10:19 AM Alba and Mark left the meeting.

10:34 AM Julie Straub, HRM; Debbie Wyrick, Deputy Clerk and Recorder; Mark Sieler, Road Foreman joined the meeting.

Former Employee Funeral- Roscoe Gray's funeral will be held this Friday. He previously worked for the Fallon County Road Department. After discussion, the Commission determined any County employee who wishes to attend the funeral from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. may do so without utilizing vacation or sick leave. If any employee is already scheduled off via sick or vacation leave for this specific day, they are not eligible for this benefit. If an employee is personally a part of the funeral, he/she should discuss leave with Julie. The Commission suggested this issue be addressed in future policy. The Commission will send out an e-mail or a memo to inform all the employees.

10:40 AM Julie, Debbie and Mark left the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVAL FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 6-10, 2020

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to approve the minutes from January 6-10, 2020, with corrections.

Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. Commissioner Ranum asked for any other discussion; being none. 2 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent (Commissioner Rost). The motion carried.

11:12 AM Michael Millward, Extension Agent joined the meeting.

3-Month Job Review for Extension Agent Position- Michael has been employed with the County since September 1st. He met with the Commission for an update of what has been going on within the Extension Office. A few of the 4-H members were interested in travel opportunities, which started up an exchange project. The kids are planning to visit Oregon next summer, in conjunction with the exchange project. The leadership training in October was well-attended in both counties. Michael gave a brief overview of the different presentations he has been doing, such as plant verification, systematics and taxonomy, and cocoa production. The sausage making workshop went well in Fallon County, however there were not as many participants in Carter County. Michael plans to take a break from providing this workshop for the next few years. Farmer's Union did a public relations program with the 4-H ambassadors and were able to get the money the kids spent during the fair refunded. The new cement pad looks like it will work great for the livestock scale. The scale will be moved and bolted into place, as well as certified before the Fair. There have been 44 people come in for nitrate testing, and only four people testing for water. Michael believes that most people now complete their own water testing. There will be an easement and right-of-way workshop in Ekalaka on February 18th at 5 PM at the Event Center. The Commission in Carter County have requested it

because they are seeing issues with handshake deals and no real documentation. Discussion followed on the need for a private space for confidential meetings. Michael will visit with Dustan Davis, IT TECH, about using a portion of the space he is in for these meetings. The Commission will help work towards more privacy. Michael is interested in bringing in wilderness survival programs, emergency preparation programs and knife making. The Farmer's Markets went well over the summer, and the committee will continue to work on the improvement areas.

12:01 PM Michael left the meeting.

12:01 PM Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to take a noon recess. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. Commissioner Ranum asked for any other discussion; being none. 2 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent (Commissioner Rost). The motion carried.

LUNCH RECESS

1:15 PM RECONVENE

PRESENT: Deb Ranum, Chairman; Kelsey DuCharme, Recording Clerk

ABSENT: Roy Rost, Member; Steve Baldwin, Member (attending a funeral)

FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PUBLIC COMMENT –AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared for public comment.

1:30 PM Commissioner Ranum and Julie Straub, HRM, completed a Safety Review Follow-Up at the Shooting Range and the Airport.

2:50 PM Commissioner Baldwin, Member joined the meeting.

3:00 PM Commissioner Ranum, Chairperson returned to the office.

3:00 PM Ken Dockweiler, Director of Land for Bridger Pipeline; Kevin Braun, Member of the Public joined the meeting.

Bridger Pipeline – South Bend – Introduction Discussion- Ken explained that he was surprised at how quickly the process has gone with the Bridger Pipeline. The pipeline will be starting in Johnson's Corner and is coming to the terminal in Baker. They are also working on a pipeline project in Wyoming, which is currently under construction. This is planned to be a 16-inch pipe. A couple of different permits may hold up the process a bit, which includes a permit for the Forest Service, as well as the Dakota Skipper Butterfly. The PSC permit that goes through North Dakota may also take a bit longer. Ken isn't expecting any troubles with these, it will just extend the time frame. They are hoping to start on the Montana side while waiting for the North Dakota permits. Commissioner Baldwin asked if they have a plan for where their workers will reside, in which Ken responded that this is also a concern of theirs. They are hoping to start this summer on the project. This pipeline will basically follow the same corridor as the ONEOK pipeline. Surveying the area needs to take place, as well as getting into the access routes. They are currently working on the crossing permits.

3:25 PM Ken and Kevin left the meeting.

3:30 PM Melissa Rost, Museum Curator joined the meeting.

Museum Updates- Melissa placed a detailed article of recent Museum activities in the Fallon County Times. She gave the Commission a report of the inventory in the gift shop. Questions arose regarding the re-model of the office part of the Metal Building to make a temporary exhibit and classroom space. Commissioner Baldwin stated that he would check the contractors list and get back to her, as an estimate is needed for this type of work. She is planning to bring back the Star Lab in April.

3:41 PM Melissa left the meeting.

COMMISSION WORK SESSION

The Commission reviewed this week's e-mails, correspondence, board minutes and agendas. They signed the Admission Application for Dale Butori to attend Training. Resolution #1029 was reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Resolution #1029 – Resolution of Intent to Sell Real Property. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. Commissioner Ranum asked for any other discussion; being none. 2 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent (Commissioner Rost). The motion carried.

4:10 PM Commissioner Ranum left the meeting.

4:30 PM Shannon Hewson, Brosz Engineering; Rich Menger, Sanitarian joined the meeting.

Waterfall Project- The waterfall project will need to be advertised for bid. The bid opening will be held on February 27th at 10:30 a.m. Shannon plans to advertise locally for the project, as well as will hold a pre-construction meeting. A pre-bid conference will be mandatory, to show the location and the pumps that will be used.

4:43 PM Rich left the meeting.

Sidewalk Improvement Project- Discussion on the amount of time it has taken Gamut Construction on the construction of the Sidewalk Improvement Project, as the timeline was under contract. This will need to be discussed with Carson Beach, Gamut Construction, as well.

Projects- Rain gutters need to be on the Iron Horse Park picnic shelter. This will need to be hired out, as well as someone to put in conduit for sprinklers to potentially be put in. The Commission will talk with Robbie regarding the sprinkler system.

Fire Hall- Shannon gave the Commission the preliminary copy of the plans for the Fire Hall project. He was able to meet with the board on Thursday night. There was a couple of proposed changes to the plans. They should still be around the \$400,00.00 budget. The permit application has been signed and Shannon will get them sent in. Once the CORPS gets back to Shannon regarding the permitting, getting the local flood plain permit will be the next step.

5:00 PM Shannon and Commissioner Baldwin left the meeting.

EVENING RECESS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020

9:30 AM RECONVENE

PRESENT: Steve Baldwin, Member; Kelsey DuCharme, Recording Clerk

ABSENT: Deb Ranum, Chairperson; Roy Rost, Member

FALLON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

9:30 AM Bobby Thielen, Member of the Public; Mark Sieler, Road Foreman; Cindy Irgens, Recording Clerk; Trent Harbaugh, Sheriff joined the meeting.

Decision on Bickle Access Road- Bobby would like to have the Bickle Access Road maintained by the County. It used to be a County Road, however in 1987 it was petitioned to be abandoned. The abandonment paperwork was never filed.

9:33 AM Commissioner Deb Ranum joined the meeting.

There is documentation, however none of it is legal because it was not filed. Commissioner Baldwin suggested calling BLM and try to see if there is an easement on this. Bobby stated he will petition for a new road because he is being denied access. Trent explained that access is not being denied, the access is still granted, it just needs maintained. Mark stated that just because there is an easement, it doesn't always mean it is a road. It was never brought to a public hearing that the road was closed. Commissioner Baldwin is going to check with BLM and former commissioners. They will have to figure out if it's a legal road or not before petitioning a new road. If it has been abandoned, the County cannot take it back, per policy.

9:57 AM Bobby left the meeting.

10:03 AM Trent, Cindy and Mark left the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared for public comment.

10:40 AM Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ranum seconded the motion. Commissioner Ranum asked for any other discussion; being none. 2 Ayes. 0 Nays. 1 Absent (Commissioner Rost). The motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ADJOURN
s/Deb Ranum, Chairman

MINUTE TAKER:
s/Kelsey DuCharme, Recording Secretary/ Clerk

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