

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA**

January 6, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, January 6, 2023. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:15 Update on Cooperator Status- Wally Congdon

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sherriff, Ken Verley – citizen, Kathy Verley- citizen, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney, Diane Magone- citizen, and arriving late was Mike Galloway- citizen.

Wally Congdon presented a draft of a letter of cooperation to the USFS. Had two attachments and a memo with letter. Thinks that the Commissioners should sign letter and not County Attorney.

9:30 AM Policy Manual Update with MCA 7-4-2203 and MCA 7-4-2110 – Wally Congdon

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder, Kasey Feasel- Deputy Clerk and Recorder, Jaime Talbot – Clerk of District Court, and Merry Mueller- Treasurer

Wally gave an update on policies MCA 7-4-2203 and MCA7-4-2010 and explained those policies; stated a part was deleted that needs to be put back in. Wally explained how to get compliance against policy.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to amend Mineral County policy to include MCA 7-4-2203 and MCA 7-4-2110 effective January 6, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

9:45 Adopt annual Resolutions for the Boards and operations

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward-citizen, and Andy Short- Environmental Health and Planning Director, Ken Verley- citizen, Kathy Verly- citizen, and Wally Congdon- County Deputy Attorney

Commissioner Simons nominated Commissioner Terrill to be presiding Chair.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to appoint Commissioner Terrill as presiding chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Zylawy read aloud Resolution 1-6-2023 (a), Resolution 1-6-2023 (b) Resolution 1-6-2023 (d) to establish travel, meals and lodging rates and Resolution 1-6-2023 (e) to set holidays.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to adopt Resolution 1-6-2023a. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded Resolution 1-6-20230 b. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to accept Resolution 1-6-2023 d Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to accept resolution 1-6-2023 e. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 1-6-2023 C will be on the agenda next week. Resolution will name the amount charged for each inmate

Commissioner Terrill asked about room placement for videotaping and a resolution. Wally said to put it in meeting and public comment resolution. Commissioner Zylawy says that it can be proposed as an amendment and adopted into 1-6-2023b.

10:00AM Questions regarding the agenda, Mineral County road policy, building applications, website, garbage costs, taxes, cooperators status- Ken Verley

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sherriff, Ken Verley – citizen, Kathy Verley- citizen, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney, Diane Magone- citizen, Mike Galloway- citizen, Jason McLees- Road Foreman, Ryan Funke- citizen, and Willy Peck- citizen

Ken stated that he is throwing ideas out to help. Likes what is happening with professionalism with meetings. Stated that he sent copies to Commissioner Terrill of how other counties are running meetings. Ken asked about Schedule A forest development cooperative agreement. Said we have been missing out on a lot of money for years. Suggested it would be a good job for Willy Peck to oversee. Ken stated that the county is doing work for USFS and not being compensated for it. Said we have the right to negotiate projects every year. Willy Peck stated that this falls right in line with his job.

Ken asked for a website update. Commissioner Terrill stated that we were using Rebel River Creative.

Ken asked about taxes, asked about when the department of revenue could visit with us. Commissioner Zylawy stated that they were open to attend our meetings if we reached out.

Ken talked about billing application. Stated that some people are not paying taxes on new houses built. Need to find ways to make people accountable.

11:00 AM Mineral County Rails to Trails – Request Mineral County to sign on as a co-applicant for a multi-county RAISE Planning Grant- Diane Magone and Carol Young

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Diane Magone- Montana rails to Trails, Carol Young- Montana Rails to Trails, Ken Verley- citizen, Kathy Verley, and Mike Galloway

Diane Magone explained that there were other counties to be involved with the grant for funding. \$2500 will be Mineral counties share to pay. No money will come out of County budget. Diane stated that Mineral County Rails to Trails will raise funds for the grant. Resource coalition has pledged to cover \$2000. Commissioner Terrill would like to pursue other options for funds and not use county money. Diane stated she would pay the money herself if need be. Resource coalition says the grant will be beneficial but must have county approval.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to sign the agreement proposed for Mineral County to be co applicants for a multi-county RAISE planning grant providing there is no cost for the county. Motion carried unanimously.

11:30 AM Public Comment

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sherriff, Ken Verley – citizen, Kathy Verley- citizen, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney, Diane Magone- citizen, Marlys Schwaderer- citizen

Ryan Funke stated that he noticed a disparaging smell coming from the Sheriff Office. Suggested Norm use mask when working in there. Ryan stated that he has been meeting with other Sheriffs and gave an update on the Sheriff's Office. Ryan stated that if anything happens in the sheriff's office he wants to be involved. Ryan stated that ex Sheriff Toth locked everything and some things deleted. Nothing was passed on for a smooth transition.

Transparency is a comment heard

Black mold suggestions from a citizen was heard; Norm Naef, maintenance, explained his process in working and cleaning the Sheriff's office issues according to guidelines provided by MSU

Comments for videotaping were heard

Administrative Business

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney, Diane Magone- citizen

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve claims paid on January 6, 2023, for the amount of \$53,496.86 with check numbers 16573 through 16606 and claim numbers 41057 through 41090. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

The next regular meeting will be Friday, January 13, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Minutes were taken by

Darin Castor

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA**

January 13, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, January 13, 2023. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons and Commissioner Dawn Terrill. Commissioner Roman Zylawy was absent.

9:00AM Administrative Business

Present: Julie Miller – citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen

Commissioner Simons moved, and commissioner Terrill seconded to approve payroll paid on January 13, 2023, for the amount of \$169,359.53 with check numbers 18894 through 18906 and electronic deposit numbers 65327 through 65252. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approved minutes for December 24,2022 and with said changes for December 30,2022

Documents signed:

Shift Ticket for each day FS used the airport- Commissioner Simons

MOU between Mineral County Montana and USDA Forrest

Agreement between Mineral County and Mineral County MT Rales to Trails- Commissioner Terrill

10:00 AM

Meeting called to order.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

10:00 AM- USFS Update, Superior and Ninemile district

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Chris Grauger- Ninemile District Ranger, Abby Lane- Superior District Ranger, William Woodford- citizen, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-Mineral County MT Rails to Trails

Chris Gauger gave an update on the Forest plan

Abby Lane gave an update on the land exchange for the forest service.

10:35 AM – Request to have commissioner sign an addendum to the multi county agreement that was signed on 01/06/23 that stipulates that Mineral County, Montana Rails to trails will be the point of contact for the RAISE planning grant application process and will be responsible for the raising funds to cover the Mineral County contribution

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen ,Clayton Ward- citizen, Chris Grauger- Ninemile District Ranger, Abby Lane- Superior District Ranger, William Woodford- citizen, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-citizen

Diane Magone asked the commissioners to sign an addendum to the multi county agreement that was signed on 1/6/2023.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to sign the addendum. Motion carried unanimously.

10:45 AM Request to Receive in addition to the base salary (1)(f) \$2000 per year. MCA 7-4-2503(2)(f)- Merry Mueller- County Treasurer

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, - Superior District Ranger, William Woodford- Public, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-citizen, Merry Mueller- County Treasurer, Kim Taron- Justice of the piece

Merry Mueller made the request to receive the \$ 2000 added to her base salary. Commissioner Terrill would like to see a lesser amount and receive the full amount as Merry progresses with her job.

Commissioner Terrill would like to discuss this further at a later time, so they can gather more information on past practices.

10:50 AM Request to Receive in addition to the base salary (1)(f) \$2000 per year and also a mineral County Credit Card. MCA 7-4-2503(2)(f) and 03/10/207

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, William Woodford- citizen, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-citizen, Merry Mueller- County Treasurer, Kim Taron- Justice of the Peace

Kim Taron Requested to receive \$2000 added to base salary. Commissioner Terrill asked if they could meet at a later time to discuss further; she believes there's a misunderstanding regarding Justice of the Peace salary being the same as Clerk of District Court Kim Taron and using the base salary verses the salary with add-ons and longevity.

Kim also requested a Mineral County Credit Card

11:00 AM Request to advertise and fill one full time Sheriff Deputy and one half time Sheriff Deputy and speak about the Detective/Investigator position discussed at the December 30, meeting- Ryan Funke- Sheriff

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, - Superior District Ranger, William Woodford- citizen, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-citizen, Bessie Spangler- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sheriff, Mark Testa-citizen

Ryan Funke spoke about raising the cost to one hundred dollars for holding inmate in the detention center and staying with the twenty-five dollar 1st time booking fee. He stated that the one hundred dollars is increased by twenty- one dollars from the previous change.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to increase the fee for detention center to one-hundred dollars. Motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Funke asked the commissioners to fill one full time Deputy Sheriff position and one half time Deputy position. Ryan stated that having temporary person would be helpful, mentioned Joe Bettis would be good because he already is in a reserve position. Asking for half time help until we fill one full time position. Ryan suggested that we could have a stipend for Joe Bettis to resolve half time position. The cost would be one hundred ten dollars per shift for Joe Bettis.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to fill one Full time Deputy Sheriff position. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to allow Sheriff Funke to pay a 110-dollar stipend per shift to Reserve Joey Bettis and be paid from our reserves.

Ryan Funke asked to be included in all aspects of the Sheriff's office. /Response: The Sheriff should check the agenda for items that might pertain to him- typically, he will know when his office is scheduled on the agenda.

11:30 AM Public Comment

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Superior District Ranger, William Woodford- citizen, Monte Turner- Mineral Independent, Diane Magone-citizen, Bessie Spangler- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sheriff, Mark Testa-citizen

Ryan Funke- stated that he has worked many hours. He also said that he would like to publicly thank everyone who was involved with helping with the incident on 1/13/23. Ryan also gave an update on the Sheriff's office.

Citizen voiced support for the \$2000.00 add on

Citizen would like hunters perspective as far as public access to MKH.

1:00 PM Request to advertise part time Clerk position for the Clerk and recorders office. Kelann McLees County Clerk and Recorder

Present : Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder
Kelan asked to hire a part time clerk for the Clerk and Records office

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to fill part -time position for Clerk and Recorder's office. Motion carried unanimously.

1:10 PM Request to advertise and fill Administrative Assistant position for the MSU Extension Office- Dave Brink

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve advertising and filling a full-time position for MSU Extension Office. Motion carried unanimously.

1:15 PM Request to re-appoint Debra Regan for Mineral County Weed Board-Dave Brink

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to re- appoint Debra Regan for Mineral County Weed Board. Motion carried unanimously

1:20 PM Request to appoint Nikki Moyer and AnnaMarie White for the Mineral County Fair Board

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to appoint Nikki Moyer

And Anna Marie White for the Mineral County Fair Board. Motions carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

The next regular meeting will be Friday, January 20, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Minutes were taken by

Darin Castor

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA**

January 20, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, January 20, 2023. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy. Commissioner Dawn Terrill was absent.

9:00AM Administrative Business

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sherriff, Ken Verley- citizen, Willy Peck- citizen, Merry Mueller- Treasurer

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve claims paid on January 20, 2023, for the amount of \$139,060.28 with check numbers 16607 through 16650 and claim numbers 41091 through 41134. Motion carried unanimously.

Ken and Willy had discussion with commissioners and Merry Mueller regarding the budget and interest rates from the bank.

Documents signed:

Received from the County Library Board rate Change forms for Library Employees Heather Miles, Mellissa Pendley and Debbie Kelsey. Signed by Commissioner Zylawy and Darin Castor -Human Resources.

10:05 AM

Meeting called to order.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Simons

10:05 AM- Road update and Water Compact Update- Wally Congdon, County Attorney

Present: Juliet Miller-citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ryan Funke- Sherriff, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney

Wally Congdon gave road and water compact update. Presented letter of cooperative status, from the USFS to commissioners. Forest service wanted Wally to sign letter but said that he thought that commissioners should sign because they were in charge of County.

10:30 AM- Request for a letter of support on behalf of Rails and Trails- Diane Magone

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Diane Magone- Rails to Trails, and Ryan Funke- Sherriff

Diane Magone- President of Mineral County Montana Rails to trails, gave a description of their plan for the grant. Requested a letter of support from the commissioners and stated that she would like Willy Peck to write it, also mentioned she would write it if she had to. There was no action taken until commissioners see letter.

11:30 AM Public Comment

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward – citizen, Ryan Funke- Sheriff, Patti Curtin-CVA, Diane Magone- citizen

Patti Curtin spoke to the commissioners about renewing the VOCA grant since County Attorney Deb Jackson is not renewing the grant. Urgency was stated in getting signatures
Action cannot be taken for Public Comment

It was stated that the sheriff's office is willing to be a part of applying for the VOCA Grant and would agree for the position to be part of the sheriff's office.

A request that agenda items be posted on website was heard

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

The next regular meeting will be Friday, January 27, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Minutes were taken by

Darin Castor

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

January 27, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, January 27, 2023. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy. Commissioner Dawn Terrill was absent.

9:00AM Administrative Business

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ken Verley- citizen, Woody Woodford- citizen, Jason McClees- Road department, Mike Galloway- citizen, Monte Turner- citizen, Glenn Koepke- citizen

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve payroll paid on January 27, 2023, for the amount of \$127711.98 with check numbers 18907 through 18922 and direct deposit numbers 65185 through 65250. Motion carried unanimously. Reviewed Journal vouchers of 10-22-22, 11,22,22 and 12-22-22.

Documents signed:

Letter of Support on behalf Mineral county Rails to Trails application for FWP Trail Stewardship Grant for project near Tarkio (DNRC and Austin Lands)

10:05 AM-11:05 AM- Ken Verley / Willy Peck- Forest Development, Road Department Agreement, Designated person to manage- proposed road plan for 1st quarter 2023, List roads to maintain as well as map (resolution 4-8-93), Property taxes investment rate (avg) , Update of billing for Schedule A, Website update, Equipment for recording County meetings.

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ken Verley- citizen, Woody citizen, Jason McClees- Road Department, Mike Galloway- citizen, Monte Turner- citizen, Glenn Koepke- citizen, Merry Mueller- Treasurer

Ken asked why the County was spending a million dollars on eight tenths of a mile of the St Joe road. He stated that the job was awarded to a contractor outside of the county, and that it is not benefiting our county. Says County needs to be part of the decision making.

Commissioner Zylawy stated that the one million dollars would be reimbursed by USFS. Ken Verley proposed that commissioners take a close look at resolutions and read documents to know whether it benefits Mineral County. Commissioner Zylawy stated that there were benefits to having road improved.

Ken Verley asked the commissioners about resolution 4-8-93 if they were getting together quarterly with the Road Foreman and talking about work that needs to be done, also that that there should be a map posted and how that they are being maintained.

Merry Mueller gave an update on the investment rates. Said she is still researching many things.

Update on billing for schedule A. Jason McLees stated that everything was billed through December.

Commissioner Simons stated that there won't be a lot of movement on the website until Commissioner Terrill is back.

Ken Verley suggested that we move on the website and equipment for recording.

Juliet Miller gave information to commissioners for recording.

Commissioner Simons asked why we have to store recorded info. Wally Congdon answered because it is a public meeting and Montana has a right to observe.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to have road scoping management a part of Willy Pecks job duties. Motion carried unanimously.

11:10AM- Diane Magone- Request for signature on letter of support on behalf of Mineral County Rails to Trails application for FWP Trail stewardship Grant for project near Tarkio (DNRC and Austin Lands)

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ken Verley- citizen, Woody Woodford- citizen, Jason McClees- Road department, Mike Galloway- citizen, Monte Turner- citizen, Glenn Koepke- citizen, Diane Magone- Presedent of Mineral County Rails to Trails

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to sign Mineral County Rails to Trails letter of support. Motion carried unanimously.

11:15 AM Candis Hampton- Michelle Farnsworth has submitted a Road Name Change form for a portion of Iron Mountain Heights Rd. Need commissioners to grant approval of the request to change the name of a portion of Iron Mountain Heights to El Shaddai Ln

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ken Verley- citizen, Woody Woodford- citizen, Mike Galloway- citizen, Monte Turner- citizen, Glenn Koepke- citizen, Michelle Farnsworth- citizen

Candis Hampton- explained what section of the roads name was going to change.

Michelle Farnsworth- added some additional info describing which part were to change.

Michelle explained the significance of the name change to the commissioners

Commissioners asked if she knew that the address would change and if she was ok with the change.

Commissioners announced to her responsibilities for having the name change.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to grant approval for a section of Iron Mountain Heights Rd to be changed to El Shaddai Ln. Motion carried unanimously.

11:30 AM Public Comment

Present: Juliet Miller- citizen, Clayton Ward- citizen, Ken Verley- citizen, Woody Woodford- citizen, Mike Galloway- citizen, Monte Turner- citizen, Glenn Koepke- citizen, Dan Clemts- President old school rock car club

Old School Rock Car Club President asked if they could use the courthouse lawn like they have the last few years for the June car show. /Response- yes

It was reported that George Gupton said that he would be willing to do fill in for DES as an emergency lead. /Response- Amy Lomen, Health Department, has been designated emergency DES

Concerns were voiced regarding absenteeism for MACo attendance

Citizens voiced concern with a potential mold situation.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

The next regular meeting will be Friday, February 3, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Minutes were taken by

Darin Castor