

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

February 2, 2024

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, February 2, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Loie Turner-citizen

Documents signed. Board Chair Commissioner Terrill signed the Haugan-Milwaukee Removal Action DNRC-CARDD Grant agreement # RITP-22-8904 Vendor amount of \$2,739.007 dollars. Also signed: MOU Extension with Montana Forest Collaboration Network, Montana watershed coordination council and Mineral County.

Admin business discussed: Emily Park and Commissioner Terrill and Simons talked about the Sheriff's office Bid packet and opening process last week for the radio console. One of the vendors is expressing concern with the way specification and instructions were given. The vendor felt their questions and concerns were not answered prior to the awarding of the bid. The Bid process seemed to be hurried. Also, Merry Mueller-(Treasurer)- discussed her feelings that the investment committee was helpful, but no longer necessary at this time. She produced the April 5, 2023 minutes where it was decided to form an investment group of people for a trial period of six months. Then after the trial period, it would be up to the Treasurer to decide whether to continue the group meetings. Merry has re-invested in different ways, and has also spoken with other treasurers across the state and now feels the investments are in a good position. The Commissioners are respecting Merry's decision and agree that the citizen group is no longer necessary. Kelly Morrison discusses the St. Regis Park board and what may have happened with her submission to be a park board member. Commissioner Simons replied that he had not heard from the Park board to see whether they were still wanting to expand the member board or leave it small.

At 10:48 a.m. Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims in the amount of \$69,336.08 dollars Check numbers 18333 through 18380 and claim numbers 42815 through 42682. And voiding check number 18341with claim number 42823 due to insufficient information justifying payment. All in favor. Motion carried.

At 10:49 A.M. Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of January 26, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried.

10: 10:05 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

1005 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Loie Turner-citizen

Housekeeping responses. The Commission Chair addressed last week's comments: Regarding the reason why the IMEG agenda topic was cancelled last week, and when was it decided to be cancelled. It was due to IMEG and a scheduling conflict, and the issue developed and was realized just that week a few days before the meeting day. Regarding the question about when cost of the Court Supervisor was answered, Commissioner Terrill stated it was on December 15 when she gave the amount of \$14,000.00 dollars to Attorney Bob Long.

Kelly Morrison asked why commissioners don't hold public meetings at night when working people can attend. Kelly wondered if the Commissioners would ever consider having night meetings to encourage more public involvement and attendance to meetings. It is very difficult for the public to get off work and attend daytime meetings. Commissioner Zylawy started to answer by saying that they have tried that in the past, but the Chair interrupted to ask that protocol be respected and to formally respond in next week's housekeeping replies.

10:35 AM – 10:45 AM New date proposed to require a burn permit by the Mineral County cooperative fire management plan. Mary Jo Lommen - POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Loie Turner-citizen

Mary Jo Lommen could not attend, but is suggesting that the on-line burn permits that are required starting May 1, be adjusted to be required on March 1. Currently open burning can happen starting March 1, but no burning permits are needed until May 1. The cooperative fire management planning group would like to make the permits required on March 1. The board had several questions about it, and called Lori Cotter from the Forest service on the phone for some clarification. Since Mary Jo Lommen is the Mineral County Fire Warden and away on vacation, it was decided to take no action until she could be present for answering concerns and questions.

10:45 AM- 10:50 AM Request to advertise and hire in Clerk and Recorder office-Kelann McLees ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Loie Turner-citizen, Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder, Stan and Luanne Clark-citizens, Mark Bellon- IMEG Engineering, Scott Cromwell-SLATE architecture co., Katie Clark- IMEG engineering

Kelann said that her part time employee will be leaving and she will need to hire for a replacement.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve advertising and hiring for a ½ time employee in the Clerk and Recorders office. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:00 AM- 12 Noon IMEG Engineering – Discuss their findings in the Field investigation of County Infrastructure- Discussion.

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Loie Turner-citizen, Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder, Stan and Luanne Clark-citizens, Mark Bellon- IMEG Engineering, Scott Cromwell-SLATE architecture co., Katie Clark- IMEG engineering, Emily Park-MSU extension and Mineral County development, Bessie Spangler-citizen.

Mark Bellon provided ten copies of his 131-page Facilities Assessment report for the public to view. The thick binders needed to be returned after the presentation. The report included every single upgrade that could be noted, and rated from low priority to high priority. The minor things start with very low priority things like LED light bulb suggestions, all the way to major issues like the Main Courthouse pillars that are upon crumbling bricks. Mark said that after the RFP and RFQ goes out and a bidder is selected, most engineers can also serve as a consultant and assist with acquiring grant money to supplement the projects. Scott with SLATE architecture went through some of the pages and addressed them specifically. He covered parts 2.4.4, 2.4.4 and 2.4.5. Commissioner Simons asked about the Jail roof and how it was prioritized. Scot said it was a very high priority and needed addressed. Scott also said that that his firm worked with DEQ and other entities on getting funding and grant opportunities and we should include that in our RFP. Any and all funding opportunities would help offset the cost to the County. The Board of Commissioners will review the assessment report and decide on how to proceed with advertising for an RFP on high priority projects. This will be a future Action Item.

Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, February 9, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

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

February 9, 2024

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, February 9, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen

Documents signed. Board signed confirmation form for Life insurance offered to employees.

Gordon Hendrick asked about the appointed boards and some of the expired positions. He feels some need to be advertised and filled. Commissioner Zylawy presented a Annual Leave request form that could be utilized by department heads doe when they anticipate taking vacation or leave.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Gross Payroll in the amount of \$171,673.93 dollars Check numbers 19286 through 19293 and electronic checks 63353 through 63286. And Liability check number 19294 and 19295, and Liability electronic checks numbered 63284 and 63285. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of February 2, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried.

10: 10:05 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

1005 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Anna Marie White- citizen.

Housekeeping responses. The Commission Chair addressed last week's comments: Regarding the reason why the meetings aren't in the evening or another time/date, on January 5 2024 the agenda item was to discuss and decide on meeting times. After some discussion it was decided that the best time for elected officials and county employees was to have it on Fridays during business hours (see Resolution # 1-8-2024). Next the chair responded to the concern about how and why it was decided not to have meetings on Zoom; that topic was discussed several times in 2022. Once in November 2022 and again in December 2022, and formally with a motion on March 31, 2023. Each time the Board's response was no. Public meetings would not be conducted via Zoom. And as to the question about when it was decided to no longer accept 'Anonymous comments at the podium. The minutes of January 12, 2024 state: "No longer can 'anonymous comments be accepted by people to speak. If an individual wants a comment made, stand behind the words and state them in person". If a person is too shy to speak in a public forum, the comments can still be received through an e-mail, phone call or personal conversation with a commissioner during courthouse hours.

Kelly Morrison approached the podium and read a prayer out loud.

Dian Magone approached and started to talk about upcoming events in St. Regis and the community. The Board chair cut her off reminding her that public comment is reserved only for topics in which pertain to county business or things under the purview of the Board.

10:40 AM- 12 Noon Mineral County and MACO Health Care Trust Renewal meeting- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Kelly Durbin-Williams-citizen, Anna Marie White- citizen, Pam Walling-MACO Health Trust, Callie Johnson-MACO Health Trust, Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder.

Callie Johnson and Pam Walling went over the details of the plans offered and the co pay and benefits. The unfortunate news of health care in the United States is that costs are increasing. The loss ratio of coverage to employees is rising and premiums will unfortunately be 18 percent more than in the past.

Life INSURANCE, Dental plans and the different high deductible plans will be considered by the Commissioners and a decision rendered later. The deadline for a choice of plans and a decision will be needed by MACO Health in mid-March.

Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, February 16, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

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

February 16, 2024

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, February 16, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Undersheriff Wayne Cashman.

The Undersheriff informed the Commissioners that the Sheriff's office credit card is limited to \$2,000 dollars a month and that they often reach that limit, especially when they purchase tires for patrol cars. The Sheriff would like to see the allowed amount raised on the limitation. Commissioner Simons asked if this was a problem for other offices also, especially when travelling out of town for trainings. It was decided to bump the limit for the Sheriffs office credit card to \$5,000.00 dollars. And to raise all other department head offices to \$3,500.00 dollars.

Kelly Morrison approached the Board and submitted her application for the Fair Board.

A member of the public suggested to Commissioner Terrill that we remove the word "recite" from the pledge of allegiance heading on our agendas. Also, not to title the word "final" on heading for the most recent agendas.

Documents signed. Board signed Resolution number 2-16-24. Intent to amend Mineral County floodplain hazardous management regulations.

At 11:16 AM Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve claims in the amount of \$48,805.01 dollars check numbers 18381 through 18443 and claim numbers 42863 through 42923 and to void check numbers 18436 and 18437 due to printer error. All in favor. Motion carried.

**** *NOTE- the amount of claims paid was amended later (2:55 p.m.) to include the hot water system for the Jail. The amended amount of \$15,000.00 dollars raised the total to \$63,806.01 dollars. *****

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of February 9, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried.

10: 10:05 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order
Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

1005 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Anna Marie White- citizen. Travis Mateer-citizen, Gordon Hendrick-citizen/sheriff's office volunteer.

Housekeeping comments by Chair Terrill; No longer will public prayers at the podium be allowed. Public comment is reserved for county business which falls under the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners.

Travis Mateer spoke about his concerns that as Sheriff can sit as a Coroner and then also be involved in the investigation of a Coroner's inquest. Officer involved shootings and jail inmate deaths should not have that conflict. He believes that medical examiners should have more resources, and that Sheriffs should not be politicians and mix Sheriff with Coroner duties. He also gave kudos to newspaper reporter Mr. Griffen, for his coverage on the Writ of Mandamus involving Lance Jasper.

Kelly Morrison spoke about an old text message that was being disseminated on Facebook from 11-3-2023. Kelly submitted the copy on paper just to "bring it to our attention".

Gordon Hendrick asked about why the tentative agenda had been changed and no longer listed the topic of Board appointments for today. Chair Terrill had not seen it listed on tentative, but said that the boards would be advertised on the website Friday February 16,2024.

10:40 AM- 11:30 AM Intent to Amend Mineral County Floodplain Hazardous Management Regulations- ACTION ITEM- Andy Short Environmental Planner

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Anna Marie White- citizen, Amy Parks-DES coordinator, Andy Short-Environmental Planner, Candis Hampton- Environmental Planner office assistant

Andy talked about the fact that floodplain regulations had not been updated since 1995. State law has changed and requires more detailed language. DNRC and Andy's office has started updating maps and so has the federal agency, FEMA. So, the process should be easier since the timing of all agencies updating maps is about the same. The new FEMA maps will need to be adopted by April of 2024, so today is our public review of the entire process. First, we will need to adopt a resolution with intent to adopt the new regulations. This will start the process of discussing the changes in a public forum, interfacing the state regulations and federal regulations, involving the DNRC and FEMA agency recommendations. This will then allow Mineral County to participate in the National Floodplain Insurance program, and obtaining Federal dollars in emergencies.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to adopt Resolution number 2-16-24. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:16 a.m. Commissioner Terrill was away and Simons and Zylawy approved Claims and the February minutes of 2-9-2024. (see admin business section above)

11:30 AM- 12 Noon Schedule A roads- review maintenance agreement with Forest service-ACTION

ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Anna Marie White- citizen, Amy Parks- DES coordinator, Mike Frawley- US Forest service

As per the original agreement dated April 8, 1965, the schedule A road maintenance agreement with the forest service requires review. This year Mike Frawley said that 3.2 miles of road have been added associated with the Redd Bull timber sale. It is on Ward creek road from I-90 to the junction with FS# 3816 road. Frawley updated on some of the other area road projects including the route of the Olympian and the trail from St. Regis Park to new parking area and trail head. Commissioner Simons asked how long the little Joe Road might be closed down this summer when the two bridges were being replace/repared. Mr. Frawley said that at mile post 7.4 the road would be closed in July for approximately one month. Mr. Frawley also mentioned that he would like to bolster things up on the maintenance side of things, but we would need Road Foreman McLees to review it first. Therefore, there was no action taken on the agreement until the Road Foreman can look at it. The subject will appear on a later agenda when ready for final action and approval.

1:00 PM- 2:00 PM Revisit the dog ordinance and a remedy of housing the animals. - Bessie Spangler

Present: Amy Parks- DES coordinator, Andy Short-Environmental Planner, Lori Stetzel-citizen, Bessie Spangler-citizen, Melanie Batt-citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Jen Dague-citizen, Alysha Boyce-citizen.

Bessie said the committee meeting they had last month believes that getting a site location is absolutely necessary before passing an enforcement dog ordinance that would require keeping and housing animals. Discussion about several possible locations mentioned the fairgrounds, a small triangle of county land near McKinley avenue, and the county road shop. Pros and cons were also discussed with the final outcome being the road shop area. Because there was already water and power there, and little noise impact to area residents. The group was thinking that the area needed would have about three to four kennels situated on it. The topic will be revisited later after more research can be done.

2:00 PM- 3:00 PM Hot water issues in the jail- Mineral County sheriff's office- ACTION ITEM

Present: Amy Parks- DES coordinator, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff, Norm Naef- Mineral County Maintenance, Scot Dodd-Mineral Energy Propane and heating co., Glen Koepke- citizen.

Scott Dodd spoke about being called to the jail to investigate the hot water heater tanks and their failure to function. The two water heat tanks were installed in 1994 when the jail was built and now parts for them are no longer available. Mineral energy was able to borrow parts from one heater tank to get the other on functioning, but predicting how long it will last is unknown. Action will need to be taken quickly because new tank heaters will take some time to arrive if and when they are ordered. The Rinnai company based in Denver Colorado has engineers who can design a on demand type system for our facility cheaper than replacing the water tank heater style of system. The on-demand system would be \$23,480.00 dollars versus \$29,320.00 dollars for new tank heaters. The \$23,320.00 dollar bid would include wiring, vents, plumbing and gas connections and the four Rinnai CU 199ip heat units. Scott says that it would also save money in the long run with the improved efficiency of on demand heating.

If Mineral energy was asked to start the job, they would need a \$15,000.00 dollar deposit for ordering things. Due to the amount being under the monetary threshold for public bidding, and due to the urgent circumstances for a functioning jail, a motion was entertained.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to accept the lower amount of \$23,480.00 dollars from Mineral Energy for the Rinnai on demand water system, and to approve a deposit check be issued in the amount of \$15,000 dollars. All in favor. Motion carried.

The previous motion added to the amount of claim checks that were approved earlier in the day at 11:16 a.m. Therefore, another motion to amend that amount was made.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to amend the amount of claims paid by an increase of \$15,000 dollars. The claim number 42924 and check number 18444 made out to Mineral Energy New total amount of claims for the period is \$63,805.01 dollars.
All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, February 23, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room
Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy**

**_PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
February 23, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, February 23, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen

Documents signed. Annual 2024 Schedule 'A agreement with the Forest service for road maintenance.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve gross payroll in the amount of \$170,228.31 dollars check # 19300 through # 19305 and electronic checks # 63216 through # 63383 as well as liability check # 19306 and # 19307 and electronic check # 63214 and 63215. All in favor. Motion carried.

This motion was made at 1:45 PM (see later minutes below)

The minutes of February 16, 2024 were not finished, and will be approved at a future meeting.

1005 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Bruce Charles-citizen, Frank Magee-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen, Bessie Spangler-citizen, Rick Miller-citizen.

Bruce Charles commented on his opinion that the ARPA funds of Mineral County should go towards new repeaters for the sheriff radios and in the canyon of I -90 west. He thinks a total of four repeaters will be needed. Two for the tactical communications and two for the Sheriff's department. He also thinks that the Sheriff needs a tactical shooting range for his deputies to train on so that less rounds are fired next time there is a shooting like in St. Regis. The range at Lozeau also needs indoor restrooms for men and women.

10:35 AM – 10:45 AM Treasurer's report- Merry Mueller

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Bruce Charles-citizen, Frank Magee-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen, Bessie Spangler-citizen, Rick Miller-citizen, Kathleen Brown-citizen, Sharon Patterson-citizen, Cheryl Crabb-citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Trish Donovan-citizen, Dave Wilcox-citizen, Wanda James-citizen, Lisa Denn-citizen.

Merry Mueller reviewed the cash report to December and included the DA Davidson statement. She discussed some CD's that had nearing maturity dates and how some of them were being called early by the banks due to the high interest rates. Merry would be re-investing them and reported that finances looked good.

10:45 AM- 11:15 AM Pool in the Park and request for ARPA funding- Trish Donovan- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Bruce Charles-citizen, Frank Magee-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen, Bessie Spangler-citizen, Rick Miller-citizen, Kathleen Brown-citizen, Sharon Patterson-citizen, Cheryl Crabb-citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Trish Donovan-citizen, Dave Wilcox-citizen, Wanda James-citizen, Lisa Denn-citizen.

Kathleen spoke on behalf of the County ARPA committee and to their recommendation to grant the Pool in the Park organization \$60,000 dollars for the planning and development stage for a Mineral County pool. The money would be used to hire an engineering firm to design, conduct meetings and to assess and communicate reports. There is approximately \$ 230,000.00 dollars left in the ARPA fund, and if the request was granted, it would leave a balance of \$ 170,000.00 dollars left. Emily Park asked MSU college about being able to do some of this engineering work as was suggested previously. She said that they could perform some of the work, but that a Preliminary Architectural Report (PAR) would still need to be completed before they can assist. Trish spoke about how seven years ago the Pool in the Park group started their fund raising. She said they now have a 501 C-3 designation and Non-Profit status in which Cheryl Crabb is the treasurer. Trish said that they have received several letters of support and some significant donations from people. Commissioner Zylawy asked for clarification about who would be taking over ownership, management and liability insurance for the pool once up and running. Zylawy had heard the reference of it being a Mineral County pool and didn't think that was a good idea. He wanted to support the pool since County residents would benefit from its use, but thought that this would become a city run pool since they are already collecting city taxes for a pool. Trish replied that

Cookie Schneider from the city could not be at the meeting today, and many people were not entirely certain of how things would work between the city, the 501 C-3 group of pool in the park, and the county. Commissioner Simons asked why the city couldn't provide the upfront money for the engineering. Trish replied that it was due to state MCA 7-16-16 that prohibited the cities capital improvement fund to go towards an engineering study, and that it could only be used for tangible and physical things like infrastructure. Simons wondered why the city's \$350,000 dollar Capital fund couldn't simply be transferred into another fund to perform the study. Furthermore, he asked why the pool in the park didn't fund their own engineering study. Trish said that the Pool in the Park group currently has a little over \$110,000 dollars, but would like to use that to leverage more funding or matching grants with it.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to table the action until more information could be obtained regarding the ownership and future management between the three entities. Then there was more discussion.

Some of the group in the audience expressed frustration with the motion, saying that they came today to obtain a yes or a no on the matter. They had other funding ideas to pursue if this ARPA money was not granted. The sentiment in the room caused some confusion and Commissioner Zylawy decided to withdraw his motion.

Commissioner Zylawy advised the Chair that he was withdrawing his motion and would like to make a new motion.

Commissioner Zylawy moved to approve the recommendation of the ARPA committee and grant the Pool in the Park 501 C-3 organization ARPA money in the amount of \$ 60,000 dollars to be used for an engineering study, but contingent upon a binding Memorandum of Understanding that if the pool did not come to fruition, the Pool in the Park group would re-imburse Mineral County the \$ 60,000 dollars back. There was a long pause, but the motion did not receive a second. A Motion dies without a second. And no call for a vote may proceed.

11:30 AM- 11:45 AM St. Regis Community Council's Request of Support for Green Power option in St. Regis and for Emergency Shelter Considerations- POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Bruce Charles-citizen, Frank Magee-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen, Kathleen Brown-citizen, Sharon Patterson-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Dave Wilcox-citizen, George Bailey-citizen, Lisa Denn-citizen, Amy Parks- citizen.

George said that the overall concept is to develop renewable energy and getting it to the community center. George said that he doesn't need anything at this time, but just wants the board aware of hydrogen fuel, solar and batteries that could one day help the county. Commissioner Simons asked if 60 acres of land are needed for a solar farm, where might that location be? George replied that there is land across the river near Denley Loge property. The last cold spell we experienced saw the need for more power. Unfortunately, on the market it was very expensive power. A hydrogen cell could fuel a generator and charge 12-hour batteries, including generating 3 phase power. The system for 3 -phase already exists across the river to the old sawmill site and could be merged together. This discussion was purely informative, and no action was taken.

Present: Wayne Cashman-Undersheriff

At 1:45 PM the payroll review was completed.

Commissioner Zylawy moved to approve Gross payroll in the amount of \$ 170,228.31 dollars check numbers 19300 through 19305 and electronic check numbers 63216 through 63283, including liability checks numbered 19306 and 19307 and liability electronic checks 63214 and 63215. All in favor. Motion carried.

2:10 PM Undersheriff Cashman made the Board aware of an employee issue. The Board reminded him to follow federal FMLA procedures.

Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, March 1, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy