

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
May 3, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, May 3, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents signed: Commissioners signed Resolution from April 19, 2024. Resolution # 4-19-24.

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

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

10:05 AM- 10:15 AM Approve minutes of April 26, 2024 as well as the Special Joint Meeting with Sanders County on April 29, 2024. And to approve Payroll for May 3, 2024

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve the minutes of April 26, 2024, and of Special Joint Meeting with Sanders County on April 29, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve gross payroll in the amount of \$174,441.09 dollars check numbers 19353 through 19358 and electronic checks 62863 through 68932. And liability check number 19359. Also, including electronic liability checks 62861 and 62862. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:15 AM- 10:45 AM Public Comment: No Public Comment was heard

10:45 AM- 10:55 AM Request to use courthouse lawn for Old School Rock Car Show- Dan Clemts - ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Mike Curtin-Car show organizer

Mike explained that Dan Clemts could not be here, so he would be making the request for the lawn. He said that in the past they have had 90 to 128 cars that participate in the car show, and that this year they will have three full blocks of space to show cars. From the courthouse down to the Old School and the Trail West bank lots between them. The dates this year for the car show with the Happy Campers is

scheduled for the weekend of May 31 through June 2, 2024. Mike is asking for permission to use the County courthouse lawn for showing cars and campers. The Commissioners asked that upon permission being granted, he contact Norm from County Maintenance to ensure underground sprinklers are avoided.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the request for Old School Rock to use the Courthouse lawn on the weekend of May 31,2024 through June 2,2024. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:00 AM- 11:15 AM Request to advertise and hire Deputy Sheriff- Undersheriff Wayne Cashman- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff.

Wayne explained how a Deputy needed to resign to help care for a family member and had given the two weeks' notice that he would be leaving. The Sheriff's office needed to advertise right away to help fill the position and was hoping to also obtain permission to advertise for the recent announcement of a Detention officer leaving also.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the request to advertise and fill both the upcoming vacancy for Deputy Sheriff, as well as for Detention Officer. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:15 AM- 11:30 AM Election Judge appointments and Designate Polling places for each Precinct- Elections Administrator Kelann McLees- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder/Elections administrator.

Kelann provided a list of the names of people that had just completed Election's training and were approved by her to be election judges for the upcoming elections. These election judges will now be valid and recognized as judges until the year 2026. The list of proposed Precinct polling locations and the names of Election Judges are as follows:

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the list of people and appoint them as Election Judges and also approve the list for Polling places in Minerals County. All in favor. Motion carried.

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM Proposed amendments of covenants for Lozeau Outlook subdivision- CANCELLED.

****Cancelled until further review by the Planning office ****

1:45 PM- 2:15 PM Request from DNRC for Cancellation of 2018-2023 Taxes for Alberton Ridge Runners on the Sportsman’s Club arena land improvements (MCA 77-2-314) Deputy Treasurer Claudia Boyer- ACTION ITEM

Present: Claudia Boyer- Mineral County Deputy Treasurer

Claudia explained how the State land managed by DNRC was being leased to the Alberton Ridge Runners saddle club for Omak sees and riding events up until 2004. At this time the club stopped paying taxes on the land improvements and it ended the lease agreement with DNRC. However, there was poor communication with the County and State Department of revenue because the taxes were continually being assessed and without payment. Liz Mullins from DNRC land use requests a cancellation for State lease # 3061234 and says that DNRC is willing to pay the Taxes from 2004 to 2017 in the amount of \$10,305.50 dollars, but wants the years of 2018 to 2023 to be cancelled in the amount of \$3,564.67 dollars. Deputy Treasurer Boyer feels that the DNRC is being reasonable by agreeing to paying the larger amount and that cancelling the smaller portion is fair. Especially given the circumstances and the number of years that the agencies involved had not maintained communication records on the topic. And as per MCA 77-20314, DNRC may negotiate in instances like this.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to Cancel the tax years of 2018 to 2024 in the amount of \$3,564.50 dollars for State Lease # 3061234 with the Alberton Ridge Runners on the Sportsman’s arena land, but to accept the offer from DNRC to pay the amount of \$10,305.50 dollars on the tax years of 2004 through 2017. All in favor. Motion carried.

Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, May 10, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
May 10, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, May 3, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Roman Zylawy, and Commissioner Dawn Terrill.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents signed: Commissioners signed the Letter of Appointment of Nominee to Senate District 7 seat. And sent on to the Secretary of State. Commission Chair Terrill signed the Milwaukee/Haugan Reclamation Vendor Invoice # 21308 for \$1,211.17 dollars. (Pioneer Technical Services Task # 24)

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

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

10:05 AM- 10:15 AM Approve minutes of May 3, 2024, and to approve Claims for May 10, 2024

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve the minutes of May 3, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried

NOTE : Commissioner Zylawy said that there was a question on two of the claims and the County Attorney was looking into them. Therefore, the Claims were not approved until later **at 1:58 PM**

10:15 AM -10:45 AM Public Comment:

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Bob Kroupa-citizen

Bob Kroupa asked about some road issues in Superior. He was advised to bring the issues up with the Superior Town council since the roads were not in the County, but in the city limits of Superior.

Commissioner Simons used the extra time to state his appreciation for the Mineral County Sheriffs office and their response to the recent St. Regis call regarding a possible kidnapping. Commissioner Zylawy used the time to correct some misconceptions about the Local Government study review subject that will appear on the ballot. Some people are of the belief that the money for the study is already set aside in the budget, and Commissioner Zylawy explained that was incorrect information. And in fact, the very reason that it is on the ballot is so that the public can decide whether one is needed, and whether to fund it with two mills (which today is approximately \$28,000.00 dollars). Commissioner Terrill said that a woman had told her that changing from a General Powers form of Government to a Charter Form, would be aligned with four other Counties that are Charter form, such as Ravalli County. Commissioner Zylawy said that is also not correct information, and that there is only one County that is a Charter form of government in Montana, and that is Fergus County.

10:45 AM- 11:10 AM Forest Service Update – 9-Mile Ranger Chris Gauger and Acting Superior Ranger Alex Wickham- DISCUSSION

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Bob Kroupa-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Chris Gauger- 9-mile Ranger, Alex Wickham-Acting Superior Ranger, Chris Lane-Shyrock manager, Thomas and Tricia Wagner-citizens, Any Short- Land Planner, Wally Congdon- Deputy Co. Attorney, Candis Hampton- Land Planning assistant.

Chris talked about planned prescribed burns in his district and the new employee program designed to retain employees. He talked about the timber and road projects up Petty creek and Fish creek using the funds from the Great American Outdoor Act (GAOA). South fork Petty creek, Bills creek, and Printers creek. Stone ridge construction from Pocatello Idaho has the road work up Petty creek, and local contractor, Darren Haskins has the Fish creek work. Chris said that all the horse and mule stock has been discharged from Huson and back out to their work stations for the summer. There will be some public meetings coming up in May for the Lolo Forest plan revision, one in Seeley Lake, Sanders County and Alberton. Alex Wickham spoke next about the Superior district and the planned work on the little joe road. He said that the road will be closed starting 7-8-24 until 9-1-24 as they repair bridges and culverts. Also, there are some hazard trees growing and needing removed, so they will open the Trout creek campground up to firewood cutters on May 17 and 18 to cut your own wood. Alex said that the Redd Bull II decision will create 7 to 9 timber sales each up to 40 acres per sale area. He also has 1100 acres slated for prescribed burns. June 8 2024 will be kids fishing day at Savennac in Haugan,

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM Shyrock Phase II for a material change to phase II subdivision application- Andy Short- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelly Morison- citizen, Bob Kroupa-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Chris Lane-Shyrock manager, Thomas and Tricia Wagner-citizens, Any Short- Land Planner, Wally Congdon- Deputy Co. Attorney, Candis Hampton- Land Planning assistant, Claudia Boyer-Deputy Co. Treasurer, Deb Fauser-citizen, Jen Dague-citizen, Jake Zimmerman-406 Engineering, John Heltan-citizen, Mik McGuirk-citizen.

The public hearing for the phase II of Shyrock was started out with Jake Zimmerman talking about the DEQ requirements that changed the economics of the original public waste system for phase two to connect with. Now, the economic way seems to be for individual and shared septic systems for the 47 units there. The groundwater issues now are steering phase II to use 25 1,000-gallon septic tanks for system hook ups. Mik McGuirk spoke in favor of the material change and commented on how all the people moving into Shyrock have a great love of the community and area, and that 90 percent of them are residents here in the county. The Mineral County planning board has reviewed the proposed changes and approve of it with just one recommendation: to add a condition stating that the HOA will operate and maintain the systems. Based on their approval, a motion was heard.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the Material change to Shyrock phase II subdivision application, and ad a 42nd condition to the addendums to state “HOA will operate and maintain the systems”. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:45 AM – 12:10 PM Commissioners met with Deputy County Attorney for a emergency meeting to discuss legal strategy for an ongoing lawsuit case. No open-door requirement for Legal strategic meetings.

1:58 -2:00 PM Approval of the Claims

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve claims in the amount of \$190,030.07 dollars. Claims numbers 43250 through 43314 and check numbers 18770 through 18834 and liability checks 19360 through 19364. And to: disallow claim numbers 43286 and 43309. Voided checks numbered 18806 and 18829. All in favor. Motion carried.

Present: Andy Short- Land Planner, Candis Hampton-Planner assistant, Rick and Kathy Underwood-citizens.

2:00 PM- 3:00 PM Petition to Vacate alleyway located in lots 1-7 of Block 5 and lots 1-5 of Block 8 of the Crow’s Nest townsite, Haugan, MT.- Andy Short POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Present: Andy Short- Land Planner, Candis Hampton-Planner assistant, Rick and Kathy Underwood-citizens.

The Crows nest townsite in Haugan was platted in 1908 by Michael and Maggie Hayes wit streets, alleys and public squares. The entirety of Blocks 5 and 8 are owned by Richard and Kathleen Underwood and they have petitioned pursuant to MCA 76-3-305 and 7-14-2616 to request that the alleyways be abandoned after 116 years. The subject matter was advertised and there has not been any comment received from the public. At this time there is not a final decision or action being required. The only action being sought is to gauge a leaning from Commissioner’s about how they might decide. At this time Commissioners are being asked to provide intent of whether they might agree to vacate the lot. Commissioner Zylawy indicated that since they own all of the land in which the alleyways are, and since there is not any public opposition, he is inclined to approve the request to vacate. Commissioner Simons and Terrill also both agree.

Regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, May 17, 2024 in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

May 17, 2024

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, May 17, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons and Commissioner Dawn Terrill. Commissioner Roman Zylawy was absent.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents signed: No documents

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

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

10:05 AM- 10:15 AM Approve minutes of May 10, 2024 and to approve Payroll for May 17, 2024

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve the minutes of May 10, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve gross payroll for \$172,386.82 with check numbers 19365 through 19372 and electronic checks 62860 through 62792. And liability check numbers 19373 and 19374. And electronic liability checks 62791 and 62790. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:15 AM- 10:30 AM Public Comment: No Public Comment was heard

10:30 AM- 11:30 AM Lower Meadows Subdivision Improvements Agreement change discussion and subdivision condition amendment discussion with property developer, Dave Levinson of TR Development Corp. Andy Short Environmental Planner.

Present: Bob Krupa- citizen, Bill VanCanagan- attorney, Monte Peters-citizen, Dave Levinson- subdivision developer, Andy Short – Environmental Health and Planning Director, Candis Hampton- Environmental Health and Planning Assistant, Wally Congdon- Deputy County Attorney

Andy Short opened the meeting stating a process to finish the subdivision change is in place and will need to be completed.

Questions ensued from Bill VanCanagan and the Developer Dave Levinson until clarification regarding protocol and procedures were understood and accepted by all present.

Attorney Bill VanCanagan will follow up with Andy Short regarding the steps required to be ready for a Public hearing during an open meeting with the changes being heard by the commissioners.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, May 24, 2024, in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Dawn Terrill

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
May 24, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, May 24, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Dawn Terrill and Commissioner Roman Zylawy.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents signed: Board Chair Terrill signed the Schedule A' Road maintenance- Camels Hump Road 2148 Bid award to Haskins Excavating. Board Chair Terrill signed the Strom and Associates CPA Audit Proposal for fiscal years June 2024, June 2025 and June 2026 audit work. \$31,600.00 dollars per annum

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

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

10:05 AM- 10:15 AM Approve minutes of May 17, 2024 and to approve Claims for May 24, 2024

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Kat Thompson- citizen, Arlene Jacovelli-citizen, Ginny Tubbs- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Jason McLees- Road Foreman, Mike Frawley- Forest Service.

Note: Minutes were approved later at 11:59 AM.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims in the amount of \$250,068.01 dollars with check numbers 18835 through 18892 and Claim numbers 43315 through 43372. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:15 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Kat Thompson- citizen, Arlene Jacovelli-citizen, Ginny Tubbs- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Jason McLees- Road Foreman, Mike Frawley- Forest Service.

Mary Murphy-Kellis spoke about living in the Superior Commons apartment complex and noticing short term visitors and traffic coming in and out and possibly dealing drugs. Many cars come in and stay for only 20 minutes and then leave with a package. She has obtained license plate numbers and specific vehicle descriptions and would like stronger presence from law enforcement. One night at 10:30 pm. She could smell chemicals cooking and found blood filled syringe needles on the apartment premises in front of building 'D.

Arlene talked about watching the special Sanders County meeting in which Flathead, Lake and Mineral helped decide a replacement for the vacant Senate seat of Bob Brown. Arlene said it was very inappropriate for Commissioner Simons to be wearing a ball cap supporting a House district 90 candidate while appearing in a political meeting for a replacement senate seat. Arlene also began to talk about a chamber of commerce meeting that Commissioner Terrill was at and was talking about civility. The Commission chair ended her complaint since it was not a subject under the purview or relating to the County or its oversight.

Ginny spoke about hearing of feral cats in the county and some people wanting a county animal control position created. Ginny feels that better education on spaying and neutering is more in order as opposed to asking government to make new departments to address the issue.

Commissioner Terrill commented on the railroad crossing at cedar creek road and wondered who was responsible for repairing the old wooden crossing that is starting to splinter. The county plows and maintains the road, but the actual crossing over the tracks is maintained by the BNSF railroad. Any concerns need to be directed to them.

10:35 AM – 10:40 AM Treasurer’s Update- Merry Mueller. DISCUSSION

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Kat Thompson- citizen, Arlene Jacovelli-citizen, Ginny Tubbs- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Jason McLees- Road Foreman, Mike Frawley- Forest Service, Merry Mueller- Treasurer.

Merry spoke about the May taxes and how the payments were coming in regularly. Even the mobile home taxes were being collected on time. Starting in November, there will be a program out to in which people can make their tax payments in seven intervals. There are seven months between November and May, so people could make seven equal payments over that period of time instead of lump sum amount. The only requirement is that the person not have a mortgage. Otherwise, the mortgage company pays the taxes in November and May. Also; there is a property tax assistance program available for veterans and low-income people that can reduce their property taxes. Merry also explained how the State department of revenue plans to improve recognizing new builds and additions for property tax assessments. Electrical permits and septic permits are flagged by DOR and triggers either an on-site inspection or a zoom in on google earth cameras. The state department of revenue has received big cuts to their budget from the legislature, and they no longer have the staff or local office in St. Regis. Now the state assessors operate from the office in Thompson Falls. Merry said that anyone who believes a property is being missed on the tax rolls can give her the information and she will forward it on to the State. In the early 1990’s , the state of Montana took the authority away from Counties to have a County tax assessor and wanted to perform the job duties at the state level. So that is why the issue of properly collecting the taxes in Mineral County is misunderstood. Merry said everything is going smooth in her office and she is proud of her hard-working staff.

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM Schedule A’ Road Maintenance- Camels Hump Rd. 2148- Bid opening and award. Jason McLees- ACTION ITEM

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Kat Thompson- citizen, Arlene Jacovelli-citizen, Ginny Tubbs- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Jason McLees- Road Foreman, Mike Frawley- Forest Service.

Road Foreman McLees talked about the need for clearing away sloughing debris between the mountain cut and the guardrails on Camels hump road. Because it is a Forest service road (#2148) and part of the County Schedule A’ road agreement, the bids are going through the county. Mike Frawley from the Forest Service said that the works calls for 27,060 lineal feet of pulling debris and slough along the road. Mineral County received three bids from local contractors and Foreman McLees opened each sealed bid. The bids are as follows:

Meadow Creek Contracting = \$38,100.00 dollars
Haskins Excavating = \$11,908.00 dollars
Burnham Excavating = \$ 18,720.00 dollars

The road Foreman recommended to award it to the lowest bidder based on the cost disparity as well as the contractor having completed good work in the past.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to award the bid to Haskins Excavating for the Camels Hump Road #2148 Schedule A' maintenance in the amount of \$11,908.00 dollars. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:59 AM – 12:01 PM Approval of May 17, 2024 Minutes

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of May 17, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, May 31, 2024, in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
May 31, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, May 31, 2024. Present were Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Dawn Terrill and Commissioner Roman Zylawy.

9:00 AM- 10 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents signed: Board Chair Terrill signed the Schedule A' Road maintenance Modification of Grant Agreement for Mineral County blading agreement # 22-RO-11011600-020. The modification added funding from the Forest Service to the project in the amount of \$393,171.30 for the Fish Creek Road. All Commissioners signed the 2024 Mineral County DUI task force plan. Commission Chair signed the Bid Award sheet giving Burnham Excavating the Parking lot project for St. Regis Park.

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

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Terrill

10:05 AM- 10:15 AM Approve minutes of May 24, 2024 and to approve Payroll for May 31, 2024

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Diane Magone- citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Deborah Lewis-citizen.

Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the minutes of May 24, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve gross payroll in the amount of \$146,591.51 dollars with check numbers 19375 through 19382 and electronic checks 62720 through 62789. And liability check numbers 19383 through 19385. And electronic liability checks 62719 and 62720. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:15 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Diane Magone- citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Deborah Lewis-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen.

Diane Magone announced the opening of the Rail to Trails project connecting the trail west of Crystal Springs to Tarkio. The ceremony will be on Sunday June 2, 2024 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The Fish and game will have a speaker there and there will be cake served.

Glen Koepke talked about the St. Regis Park improvements. They have installed two new Vault toilets on the Forest service leased side of the park (to avoid conflict with St. Regis sewer boundaries). Also, they have had issues with the water not passing potable water tests and are working to resolve the issue. It could have something to do with the Artesian wells or possibly their pressure tanks.

Denley Loge reminded everyone about the upcoming meeting and open house in Frenchtown about the Pulp mill clean-up plans. It will be on June 6, 2024 at the Frenchtown Firehall. Denley also said that finally some action is happening with the State line boundary issue with Idaho. He said that in the legislature he was able to appropriate money for the Department of Revenue to perform the survey and clear up the question of ownership and taxes to the correct state and county. A drone will fly over it and help initiate the survey.

10:35 AM – 10:40 AM Appoint new Library Board member. - ACTION ITEM

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Diane Magone- citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Deborah Lewis-citizen, Denley Loge-citizen, Mike Frawley- Forest Service, Jason McLees – County Road Foreman.

Mineral County has one vacancy on the Library Board, and received just one lone application. Deborah Lewis of the Tarkio area submitted her application including her vast experience working in Libraries.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to appoint Deborah Lewis to the Mineral County Library Board. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM St. Regis Park project to expand the Parking lot area- Bid Opening and Awarding of bid- Jason McLees - ACTION ITEM

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Mike Frawley- Forest Service, Jason McLees – County Road Foreman

The St. Regis Park is in need of an expanded parking lot and the bids were out for advertising. Mineral County received two bids for the project, and the Road Foreman opened the bids. They are as follows:

Haskins Excavating = \$43,570.00 dollars

Burnham Excavating = \$ 37,024.00 dollars

The recommendation from the Road Foreman is to award the bid to Burnham Excavating.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to award the bid to Burnham excavating in amount of \$ 37,024.00 dollars for the St Regis Park project to expand the Parking lot. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM Approve a Post-election audit committee- Election Administrator Kelann McLees- ACTION ITEM

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, Kelann McLees-Mineral County Election Administrator, Ginny Tubbs-citizen.

Kelann explained the purpose of a post-election audit committee and its function. It is basically an added security measure to ensure proper vote counting in the elections. The Secretary of State will randomly select three races for the committee to hand count as well as two precincts in the County. The five-member committee that Kelann has selected for this is as follows: Jaime Talbot, Julie Kelly, Jen Dague, Eva Heintz, and Merry Mueller. Three people are what is needed, but Kelann selects five in case of illness or other absences.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to appoint Jaime Talbot, Julie Kelly, Jen Dague, Eva Heintz, and Merry Mueller to the Mineral County Post-Election Audit Committee. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:15 AM 11:30 AM Request to purchase access to threat notification system through Courthouse security Committee-Commissioner Simons- ACTION ITEM

Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Mary Murphy-Kellis – citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, , Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jaime Talbot-District Court Clerk, Amy Parks-DES Coordinator, Curtis Cochran -citizen.

Commissioner Simons sits on the Courthouse Security committee and says that the need for a panic button, or threat notification system is being suggested by employees in the courthouse. Amy Parks said that there is an App from a company called Emergent 3 that can be on the computer and the cell phones for employees to use. When a threat exists in the County buildings, the App alerts employees where it is and where to go for safe refuge. Amy said that it costs \$1,500 for the set-up fee, and \$2,500 per year for the subscription. If Mineral County moves ahead with this proposal, Amy feels confident she can obtain a grant to continue the funding of the annual subscription fee.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to use ARPA funds in the amount of \$6,500.00 dollars for the Emergent 3 App and provide the threat notification system at Mineral County. All in favor. Motion carried

12:00 PM- 1:30 PM MACAO Property and Casualty Trust Insurance renewal meeting- ACTION ITEM

Present: No one present except Kruiiz Siewing of Payne West insurance on Zoom.

Kruiiz explained how the costs on average across the state have been increasing and nearly all Counties are seeing a average of 15 % percent more on their premiums. Mineral County is an exception and will be receiving a decrease of 2.19 % from last years cost. There is an adjustment from the Blue status to Gold because we have seen an uptick in Workers Comp Claims. But overall, the rates for Mineral County are looking better than the averages for others.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to Renew the Property and Casualty Insurance plan with MACO and managed by Payne West. All in favor. Motion carried.

2:00-2:45 PM Discuss and possibly adopt an updated Vicious dog Resolution and Ordinance to provide authority for ticketing and holding dog owners accountable-POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Present: Bessie Spangler-citizen, Wally Congdon-Deputy County Attorney, Glen Koepke-citizen, Amy Parks-Mineral County health department, Melanie Batt-Mineral County health department.

Commissioner Terrill explained the purpose of the meeting and that it would be strictly addressing a vicious dog, and not try to address the broader issue of leash laws or dog at large rules. Just to arrive at acceptable language in an ordinance to address the vicious dog topic. And that at this point in time there is no real action, it is only a discussion. Amy Parks said that as a communicable disease specialist, she has studied other ordinances from other counties, and she believes she has drafted one that will work for Mineral County. A resolution of intent to adopt a vicious dog ordinance is required along with two public hearings. Then after the hearings, a ordinance may be adopted. A resolution of intent to adopt will be drawn up and placed on Friday June 7 , 2024 agenda.

2:45 PM- 3:00 PM Mineral County Health Dept. is seeking approval to accept \$ 5,000.00 dollars in funding from University of Montana to do a Medicaid mini-grant project- ACTION ITEM- Jessica Schaak

Present: Jessica Schaak- Mineral County health dept., April Quinlan-Mineral County Health dept. , Peyton Milendar- Mineral County Health dept.

April explained how the University of Montana center for child development has a Medicaid mini-grant project that can provide \$5,000 dollars for Mineral County to enroll people in Medicaid through the summer until September 2024. All that is needed from the commissioners is the approval to accept the funding. There is no match, money or in-kind contribution required.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the request from the Mineral County Health Department to accept the \$5,000.00 dollars in funding from the University of Montana Child development center for the mini-grant project. All in favor. Motion carried.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, June 7, 2024, in the Commissioners Meeting Room Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy