

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

**August 2, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, August 2, 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:** Commission Chair Terrill signed the Real Property Lease for MR TMA vehicle storage and South side Transportation Demand Management Facilities. Agreement with Lessee Lyn Hellegard, Chair of Mineral County Pioneer Council. All Commissioners signed Resolution # 8-2-2024,

**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- 10:10 AM Approve minutes of July 12 and July 19, 2024 and to approve claims of 8-2-24**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen.

The Minutes of July 19 were not completed, so will be approved next meeting on August 9, 2024.

**Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of July 12, 2024 with minor spelling changes. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the claims of 8-2-2024 in the amount of \$143,626.62 dollars, check numbers 19198 through 19253 and claim numbers 43676 through 43731. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**10:10 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen.

Kelly read aloud a letter about her feelings on the fair board and why she thinks they are mismanaging the fair funds. She thinks too much money is spent on the adult music entertainment and there should be more spent on families and kid entertainment activities.

**10:40 AM – 11:00 AM Resolution to Rescind/Nullify the Power Outage Emergency Declaration:  
Resolution # 8-2-2024 – ACTION ITEM**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen.

There was a severe storm that knocked out power in Missoula and Mineral Counties that was believed to be a several days long outage. The power companies and the DES Director believed it met the criteria of an emergency declaration. On 7-25-24 Mineral County passed an emergency declaration resolution, only to have the good fortune of power being restored that same afternoon. Therefore, the resolution before the Board today is one to rescind the emergency.

**Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve Resolution # 8-2-2024 that rescinds the previous week emergency. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Mullan Bench Subdivision Road surface -Request from developer to deviate and use Roto-millings instead. – Clay Jensen- POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM**

**Present:** Dorie Cook- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Andy Short-County Planner, Wally Congdon-Deputy Co. Attorney, Dave Jensen-Mullan Bench developer, Clay Jensen-Mullan Bench developer, Candis Hampton-County assistant planner, Jason McLees-County Road Foreman.

Clay explains how the original subdivision from 2007 called for the road to have either asphalt or a double shot chip seal surface. Clay said that he has been recently searching for a contractor for the project, but finds they are either too busy or very expensive. Clay is asking to deviate from those two options and add a third possibility, using roto mill off the highway projects. Andy points out that the road was required to be completed many years ago after the final phase of subdivision, and now nearly all the lots have been sold and have houses built. To change the agreement with people who purchased based on asphalt or chip seal, could hold the county liable. The road is 2,000 feet in length and costs have gone up substantially from just a few years ago, Clay would like to keep the dust down and use the roto mill contractor soon. Commissioners explained that the best route would be through the Homeowners association there, and that if they voted to allow the roto mill instead of the chip seal or asphalt, then it could be a consideration. The meeting ended with no action, except for the Jensen's to work with Homeowner association to implement any changes to the agreement on the plats.

**Meetings adjourned at 1:32 PM for the Commissioners**

**The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, August 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**

**August 9, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, August 9, 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:** Resolution # 9-9-2024 Rescinding Stage II Fire Restrictions.  
Signed letter of appreciation to Harvey Mead for years of service on planning board.

**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- 10:10 AM Approve Payroll for August 9, 2024 and correct some errors on last week's claim checks from claims of 8-2-24**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Mike Raether-citizen, Sidney Cataldo-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kim Taron- JP court, Mike Galloway-citizen.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Payroll in the amount of \$183,566.33 dollars check numbers 19438 through 19443, and electronic checks 62428 through 62359. And Liability check # 19444, and Electronic liability checks 62357 and 62358. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**And to Correct errors made on last week's claim checks:**

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to Void check numbers 19153, and 19174. And to re-issue the correct vendor and name spelling with correct check, numbers 19254 and 19256. And to approve Claim # 43732 with check # 19255 in the amount of \$2,200.00 dollars. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Neither the July 12, 2024 or July 19, 2024 minutes were ready for approval.

**10:10 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Mike Raether-citizen, Sidney Cataldo-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kim Taron- JP court, Mike Galloway-citizen.

Commissioner Terrill started the public comment period with some housekeeping responses. She said that at a previous public comment time, some statements were made that are not accurate and she wanted to make some clarifications. Terrill said that the fair has never had any issues with an independent audit of their monies, and how it is spent for entertainment or any other management of fund's problems. She also said that the fair board has transparency and the decisions made by the fair chairperson, were done so with permission by the fair board. The hiring of musical bands attracts people in to the fair and the rodeo, said Commissioner Terrill.

Ginny Tubbs- She thanked the Commissioners for appointing her to the Fair board earlier, and said she enjoys helping instill pride in the county with a successful fair. She said the fair had 44 entries in the parade this year, and that the vendors were so busy and reported doubling their income from last year. The asphalt dance floor was packed each night with parents, kids and families all dancing.

Mike Raether- said that he and eight other households live on Larch Lane which intersects with Montana Highway 135 in a dotted yellow passing zone area. When he comes off Larch Lane to enter the state highway, sometimes the lane he wants to enter is occupied by a passing car. Mike thinks this is dangerous and would like the passing zone changed to a no passing zone. Mike said that the visibility is good for cars to pass there, but wonders if the presence of the Larch Lane intersection makes it allowable to change to no passing area. Commissioner Zylawy replied that the State DOT would be the agency to speak with since Mineral County doesn't really have jurisdiction on that roadway.

Mike Galloway- said that the sidewalk on the north side of the courthouse on 3<sup>rd</sup> ave. east is needing some repair. He believes it is likely the County responsibility and not the City of Superior. He thinks that somebody will sue if they fall on the sidewalk.

**10:30 AM – 10:50 AM JP court request to make two part time positions for 32 hours a week instead of a full time and one part time. Kim Taron- POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM**

**Present:** Present: Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Mike Raether-citizen, Sidney Cataldo-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kim Taron- JP court, Mike Galloway-citizen.

Kim has a part time employee who is leaving and works less than 30 hours a week so does not receive health insurance. Kim wants to hire another part time employee, but bump hours to 32 a week so the new hire could receive health insurance. She would reduce her current full-time person from 40 hours to part time of 32 hours, so no added hours of pay would be involved. Just strictly the cost of health insurance. Kim believes it would better attract applicants.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve JP court to advertise for a part time employee at 32 hours a week at \$15.00 dollars per hour with health insurance. Contingent upon the current 40-hour week employee reduce work hours from 40 to 32 hours per week. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**10:50 AM- 11:00 AM Resolution # 8-9-2024 to Rescind Stage II Fire Restrictions- ACTION ITEM**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Mike Raether-citizen, Sidney Cataldo-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Mary Jo Lommen-Mineral County Fire Warden.

Mary Jo said that the forest service managers and the DNRC people have been analyzing the improved and wetter conditions in the forest. The Lolo Forest and others are recommending a nullification of the fire restrictions. Mary Jo Lommen said that she also agrees that it is safe to rescind the stage II restrictions and brought forward a Resolution for the Board to consider.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Resolution # 8-9-2024 rescinding the Stage II fire Restrictions in Mineral County. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**11:00 AM- 12:00 PM County Attorney's office updates on civil and criminal issues they have encountered- Wally Congdon and Debra Jackson- DISCUSSION**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Mike Raether-citizen, Sidney Cataldo-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Wally Congdon- Deputy Attorney, Debra Jackson- Mineral County Attorney, Gordon Hendrick-citizen, Bill Mitchell-citizen.

Deb and Wally presented a list of things they have been working on in their office.

- 1- Eureka Pellet Mill Taxes- State is re-assessing them after years of having missed them to bill.
- 2- Their Office has a Writ meeting on 8-26-24 as well as a hearing on 8-28-24 before a Judge.
- 3- Funke vs. Mineral County – there is Mediation on 9-11-24.
- 4- Cyr Iron Mountain road- Meeting with their lawyer moved to 9-15-24.
- 5- Bernie lane- defined and pending subdivision.
- 6- Seven-mile road- there is a question as to how much is county.
- 7- Thompson Ranch road- this is figured out on Staff reports.
- 8- Little River Motel- waiting on permits, but they do have the easements.
- 9- Coroner Inquests have been completed/satisfied for Everly and Peltier.
- 10- One Jury trial- four Bench trials have been completed this week.
- 11- Details of Security Agreements on revolving loan matter- have not yet been resolved.
- 12- Their office has a new employee working in the office as a clerk and they are happy.

The update was brief and the meetings adjourned at 11:18 AM

**The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 11:18 AM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, August 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**

**August 16, 2024**

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

**8:55 AM- 9:00 AM Pledge – Approve minutes of 8-2-2024 and claims for 8-16-2024. Signe Documents.**

**Documents signed:** MTUPP Sub-Contractor Agreement with Flathead County City-County Health Dept. and Mineral County Health Dept. FY 2025. Signed Aircraft Hangar and Ground Lease agreement with Mineral County Airport and Casey Richardson, and another agreement with Chris Walsh.

\*\* Time constraints bumped minutes and Claims approval to 1:25 PM. \*\*

**9:00 AM -9:30 AM Public Comment:** NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS PROVIDED

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly- Finance Officer.

**9:30 AM- 10:30 AM Final Budget Meeting Review- Finance Officer, Jessica Connolly-DISCUSSION**

Jessica explained how the requested 4.1% raises for elected officials and corresponding \$ 1.00 dollar raise for other employees would still require transferring PILT money to balance out the budget. The library budget includes \$20,000 more dollars than last year, primarily in the salaries for employees. But the Library board feels the salary increases are necessary.

**10:30 AM- 11:30 AM Department Fees Review- Environmental, Health and Planning office. -POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Candis Hampton-Planning Office, Andy Short-Planning Office.

Andy talked about how the fee structure needs updating to reflect the time and effort spent completing the requests. Septic tank inspections, subdivision reviews and swimming pool safety certifications all take a lot of work. And showed some of the fee structures from nearby Missoula County to illustrate how Mineral County was behind. Many land developers are accustomed to paying for the services and we should start adjusting the fees a little. Andy made some suggestions as to what areas he felt needed more scrutiny. He will work on those areas of fee reviews and bring it back later for action.

**11:30 AM- 12 Noon Debra Jackson- Discussion on County Attorney Office Budget-DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Debra Jackson-County Attorney, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer

Debra talked about her need for Wally and why he needed a raise. She also explained why her Para legal clerk was doing investigations and had obtained her Montana Private Investigators license. The Commissioners questioned why the job description seemed to be different than what they originally thought. Debra said that the hours for Wally and her investigator are not a full 40 hours a week, but sometimes they go over 32 hours a week. The budget allows each of the positions 32 hours a week. And the \$10,000 dollars Debra had for computers or IT improvements was stricken because computers come out of a different county budget fund.

**1:00 PM-1:15 PM Kim Taron- Discuss Justice Court Budget- DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Kim Taron- Justice of the Peace.

Kim mainly was asking that her budget include health insurance being provided to her part time vacancy for clerk. She felt that at 32 hours a week with health insurance, it would attract better qualified candidates. So, her current full time 40 hour a week employee would go down to 32 hours a week. And then her vacant part time 32-hour employee would be advertised and include health insurance. The Board agreed to her proposal.

**1:15 PM- 1:30 PM Kelann McLees- Discuss Clerk and Recorder Budget-DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer.

Kelann could not be present, but the main reason for revisiting her budget was to solidify the expectations of allowing her part-time position to become full time. Kelann has a vacancy and wants to advertise it as full time. Th Commissioners said they would agree to that with the understanding that the HR, agenda requests, and minutes taking would be returned to that office as it was done traditionally in the past. Commissioner Zylawy had visited with Kelann and her Deputy Kasey earlier in the week, and they both were in agreement that they understood that and had no issues with accommodating that.

**\*\* 1:25 PM Approval of Claims and the Minutes of 8-2-2024 \*\***

**Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve the minutes of 8-2-2024. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims of 8-16-2024 in the amount of \$ 152,811.04 dollars for Claim numbers 43733 through 43931 and check numbers 770001 through 770200. Including one Voided Check # of 770132 re-issued as # 770200. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### **1:30 PM- 2:00 PM Guna Chabarek- Discuss Library Budget- DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Guna Chabarek- County Librarian

The Board discussed with Guna that her budget was high in part because of the increased salaries that she and her board were requesting. The salaries were not exorbitant, but that something would need to be pared down to fit in with the mills being given to the library. Guna said that she would go back and find ways to cut in other areas for the budget to pencil out.

### **2:00 -2:30 PM Undersheriff Cashman- Discuss the Sheriff budget. -DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff. Gordon Hendrick-citizen, Jack Hughes-Deputy sheriff, Bill Mitchell-citizen.

Cashman spoke about some line-item budget items that needed an increase such as the cost going up at Garden city Funeral home for transporting a body and performing an indigent person's cremation. It went up to \$ 950.00 dollars. He also said that the Sheriff would like the shift differential and the certification pay to be rolled into the deputy's base rate instead of being paid as add on pay. The base pay going up for officers would also increase the pay for the Sheriff since the state statute has their pay correlated with each other. Commissioner Zylawy expressed concern that what would incentivize officers to do extra duties like FTO and being a firearms instructor if they no longer received the certification pay. Cashman was confident that they would still have their employees stepping up to help, even though everyone was receiving the cert pay within their standard new base pay.

### **2:30 PM- until done, Final Notes and discussion of Budget with Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Jessica Connolly-Finance Officer, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff. Gordon Hendrick-citizen, Jack Hughes-Deputy sheriff, Bill Mitchell-citizen, Amy Parks- DES Director, Andy Short- Environmental Planner.

Jessica talked about some final requests; such as \$7,000 dollars for the DES director to have a vehicle when responding to truck crashes and fire incidents. Commissioner Simons had requested from Emily Park a ARPA statement showing the obligated and non-obligated funds. But Emily was not yet able to produce one from the request via e-mail on Tuesday. Commissioners decided to go ahead and authorize the expenditure and use the ARPA fund to pay for it. Commissioners agreed to give a .75 cent raise this year which is approximately a 3.5% raise. Also: the \$ 1.00 dollar raise would be incorporated into the figures and then see if it was still affordable. Dispatch and detention would be like the deputies, and have their shift differential rolled into their base pay, and not as a add on pay for when they are working. Commissioner Zylawy wondered if there could be some sort of longevity raise for the handful of employees who have worked here for over five years. Jessica said that for every .25 cents reduced from the dollar raise- it would free up 40,000 dollars for something else. Sanders county did not authorize a 4.1% raise, they did a 3 % raise and also some longevity pay. Jessica would input the numbers and see what the budget looked like. We would discuss it more later.



The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, August 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  
August 23, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, August 23, 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:** DEQ 318 Permit for the St. Regis Levy, signed by Commissioner Zylawy. Commissioner Terrill signed the Annual school Nurse contract with Mineral County Health Department and the Alberton school. Also, the Annual Tobacco Grant MTUPP subcontractor agreement with Flathead City-County health department and Mineral County Health Department FY 2025. Terrill signed the annual Superior mini-storage agreement with Mineral County office of Environmental Planning. Milwaukee Road Haugan Vendor invoice with DNRC CARDD for \$ 41,198.39 dollars. Grant agreement # RITP-22-8904

**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- 10:10 AM Approve Payroll for August 23, 2024 and Minutes of 7-19-2024, and the Special meeting of 7-25-2024, and regular meeting of 7-26-2024**

**Present:** Diane Magone -citizen.

**Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve Payroll in the amount of \$184,344.47 dollars check numbers 19445 through 19459, and electronic checks 62285 through 62356. And Liability checks # 19459, and electronic liability checks 62283 through 62284. And to VOID check # 19448 due to a liability error. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the minutes of 7-19-2024. As well as the Special meeting minutes of 7-25-2024, and the regular meeting of 7-26-2024. All in favor. Motion carried**

**10:10 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:**

**Present:** Diane Magone-citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Brad Cederberg-DA Davidson Broker

Diane spoke in favor of the proposed Fair budget and was happy they were receiving a small increase from last year. She believes that it is the biggest event of the year in the county and brings in all types of people who attend alumni class reunions, the 4-H auctions, the rodeo and all the support for non-profits with booths there.

**10:35AM- 11:05 AM Treasurer's update with Davidson Investment and Merry Mueller- DISCUSSION**

**Present:** Diane Magone-citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Brad Cederberg-DA Davidson Broker.

Merry introduce Brad Cederberg from DA Davidson and he talked about current market conditions. He is working closely with Merry and thinks that the investments and CD's are in good shape and the best possible rates of return. His spreadsheet showed recent interest rates up to 5.1 percent rate of return.

**11:05 am-11:45 AM Discuss how to fill the vacant Airport manager position or to have two as Co-managers. And fill vacancy from a few months ago -POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM**

**Present:** Diane Magone-citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Brad Cederberg-DA Davidson Broker, Don Felstet- Airport Board, Gary Bullock-Airport board, Anna Marie and Ron White-citizen and Airport board.

Gary said that he knows of one interested person who has submitted an application to fill the vacancy of Steve Temple's position. Gary said that the man's name is Jim Silverman and he currently does mechanic work out at the airport and is interested in becoming a Board member. Ana Marie White said that she heard from Steven Delisle that he is also interested. As far as the position of Manager or possibly co-managers, the Commissioners said they would leave that process up the current airport board. Commissioners did agree that they thought a manager or co-managers should consist of membership from the board. A manager would be responsible for the day-to-day business of ordering fuel, maintaining a file with the lease agreements, Grants, and Hangar rents. Don and Gary said they would conduct interviews from the airport board to select an airport manager. Gary also mentioned that the Airport sign with its Colonel Ruthford name and designation is in need of repair. Gary wants to have it fixed and placed better in the ground. He also said he would like to formulate a thank you letter, with help from a commissioner, to Steve Temple for all his good work at the airport as well as the Lions club and other community-based organizations. Commissioner Zylawy said that he would help type up a letter of appreciation if Gary gave him some talking points to start from. Next, the decision of a replacement for the vacancy which was advertised for a few months. And with one application being received.

**Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to appoint Jim Silverman to the Mineral County Airport Board. All I favor. Motion carried.**

**12:30 PM- 2:00 PM Final Budget discussion for FY 2024-2025**

**Present:** Kelly Morrison-citizen, Ryan Funke-Sheriff, Amy Parks-DES director, Lisa Denn-Dispatcher, Diane Magone-citizen, Anna Marie and Ron White, Wayne Cashman-Undersheriff, Eric Lindauer-Deputy Sheriff, Kat Thompson-citizen, Tasha Anderson-citizen, Jessica Connolly- Finance Officer.

Jessica started out explaining how she had to erase the red ink to balance the end of year budget from Public safety by moving over \$450,000.00 dollars from PILT. And for this new budget, with the increases, she will need to use \$ 545,000.00 dollars of PILT. This will allow for the \$1.00 dollar an hour raise for all employees and also the adjustment in base pay for deputies, Detention officers and dispatch. Sheriff Funke spoke and said that if these things weren't approved in the final budget, that he would resign as Sheriff effective immediately. He said that he works many hours and can't receive overtime since he's salary. In addition, the jail has federal contracts and received over \$ 700,000 dollars over the last two years. If his requests aren't in the budget, he said he would refuse to sign any future contracts with the US Marshalls for federal inmates, thereby costing Mineral County that revenue. Furthermore, he said that his deputies are talking about possibly going on strike. Sheriff Funke wants an increase to his deputies of one dollar, and the cert pay and shift differential be rolled into their base pay. And because their pay is tied by statute to the sheriff by a percentage- the Sheriff pay will also increase by an additional 8 % to comply with that. And given that all elected officials are receiving a 4.1 % increase, his total increase in pay will be 12.1 % percent. The Commissioners will take his remarks under consideration when deciding on final adoption of the budget. A comment was made that law enforcement would benefit from running a public safety levy. Jessica said that any cuts or modifications to the budget, would need to be in to her for revision by 9-2-2024. The meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

\*\* NOTE- The full realization of the monetary requests can be seen on Salary Resolution # 9-6-2024(A)

**The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, August 30, 2024, in the Commissioners Meeting Room  
Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy**

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA  
August 30, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Friday, August 30, 2024. Present were Commissioner Dawn Terrill and Commissioner Roman Zylawy. Commissioner Duane Simons was absent.

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

**Documents signed:** Commission Chair signed the WIC Program Satellite Agreement Co-op between Sanders County and Mineral County Health departments for Women Infants and Children nutrition program.

**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- 10:10 AM Approve Claims for August 30, 2024 and minutes of 8-9-24**

**Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen, Frank and Louise McGee-citizens, Diane Magone-citizen.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to approve Claims in the amount of \$137,723.96 dollars check numbers 770201 through 770334, and claim numbers 43932 through 44065. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**\*\*Minutes were Approved later at 1:32 PM \*\***

**10:10 AM- 10:35 AM Public Comment:**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen, Frank and Louise McGee-citizens, Diane Magone-citizen.

Louise spoke about her concerns with money being asked for by some citizens to fund a pool in the park. She feels it should all go to pay lawn enforcement. A pool is not needed, but we need to start paying the deputies more than 30-35,000.00 dollars a year.

Kelly spoke about the fair board and how Commissioner Terrill said that Mary Jo Berry had permission from fair board to independently hire the bands for the fair. Kelly thinks that it is wrong to give the fair board chair unilateral decision making on entertainment without having a full vote of the board. Kelly asks, who gave her this authority? Commissioner Terrill will respond to her questions next week during housekeeping responses.

**10:30 AM – 11:00 AM Revisit Mullan Bench Subdivision Request to change road surfacing-Developer Clay Jensen-POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Andy Cadman-citizen, Frank and Louise McGee-citizens, Diane Magone-citizen, Andy Short- Environmental planner, Dave and Clay Jensen-citizens.

Clay and Andy talked about the local vote they held for the area residents in the HOA for Mullan Bench Subdivision. Andy Cadman is the president of the HOA and he clarified how he collected signatures and initials for the question on the ballot: “to deviate from the original asphalt or double-shot chip seal”.

And instead to surface the roadway in the subdivision with “re-purposed asphalt, or roto mill, material”. Andy reported that the vote came back unanimous with all in favor of the change. Some of the residents were out of the state during the vote, and they voted electronically via text. The texts will be saved and provided to Mineral County environmental planner to be a record for the change on the plat. Clay said that his desire to change to roto mill was not due to being more expensive, but that now he could not find any contractors able to perform the asphalt work. With a unanimous vote by all residents, and hearing no opposition to the proposed change to amend the phase II agreement. A motion was made.

**Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Terrill seconded to propose the amendment condition change to the expanded Mullan Bench Phase II, and to rectify the improvements agreement. And to hold a public meeting in the future regarding it. All in favor. Motion carried.**

#### **11:00 AM- 12:00 PM Suggested Policy changes to the Mineral County Policy Handbook-DISCUSSION**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Shawn Smalley-citizen, citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen.

Commissioner Terrill said she thought that p.16 should remove the line regarding County attorney and Sheriff being present at each other’s employee interview selection panels. Also p.15 regarding a commissioner being in each interview. The part regarding probationary time and when a pay increase may occur. It was talked about and the changes will be on a future Agenda for action items.

#### **Request to have the County pay for fairground fallen tree limbs/trim and removal (due to storm damage)-ACTION ITEM**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Glen Koepke-citizen, citizen, Ginny Tubbs-fair board member, Diane Magone-fair board member, Sidney Conrow-citizen.

Commissioner Terrill asked why the trees were cut down first without asking first. The fair board met on 7-2-24 and Leroy Godin trimmed the trees on 7-3-24. Diane and Ginny said that the board met, discussed the weekend storm, and decided it was best to have Leroy remove the dangerous limbs before the fair. They both said that the board went on site and observed the damage and downed limbs. Diane kept the minutes and said that: “it was decided to have Godin called to remedy the trees”. Commissioner Zylawy asked why there wasn’t a motion and a second before a vote that should happen when spending funds. Diane remarked that everyone agreed, or at least nobody spoke up in opposition. Commissioner Zylawy said that it was an action that still required a vote from a quorum of fair board board members. From the discussion, Commissioner Terrill believed that a vote today on the request would result in a stalemate vote, with Commissioner Zylawy opposed due to the incorrect process, and Commissioner Terrill being a yes vote. Because Commissioner Simons was absent on this day, his presence might be needed for next week. Commissioner Zylawy asked that the fair board notice a special meeting with the tree trimming question on the agenda, and that the full board vote on the question of calling a tree service to the grounds. By doing the action involving the correct board process,

it would help in making a decision next week. No action was taken on the issues, and the fair board will return later to revisit the request. It will be re-visited on the Commissioner's agenda on 9-6-24 .

**1:15 PM- 1:35 PM County Superintendent of Schools with Final adopted school budgets per MCA 20-9-142. For Alberton, Superior, and St. Regis schools FY 2025- Merry Mueller- ACTION ITEMS**

**Present: Present:** Bob Kroupa- citizen, Merry Mueller-County Superintendent of schools.

Merry presented all three schools' final budgets for FY 2025 as prepared by each local school district and approved by their school boards. After reviewing each budget from each school, Merry felt everything was good and ready for Commissioner approval. After reviewing the budgets, the Commissioners entertained a motion.

**Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve and adopt the school budgets for Alberton, Superior, and St. Regis FY 2025. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**1:32 PM \*\* APPROVAL OF METTING MINUTES 8-9-2024\*\*\*\***

**Commissioner Terrill moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve the minutes of 8-9-2024. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM. Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Friday, September 6, 2024, in the Commissioners Meeting Room  
Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy**