

FEBRUARY 2025

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

February 6, 2025

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday, February 6, 2025. Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Shawn Smalley, and Commissioner Roman Zylawy.

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: Sick Leave donation grant form for a dispatcher, hours donated from Misty Dawn Holyoak.

Administrative: Commissioners reviewed the Levied funds Income statement of 1-25'. Commissioners noticed and discussed the large shortfall in estimated revenue in the Detention fund. The Board of Prisoners fund was expected to have revenue of \$300,000.00 dollars by June 25', and so far, the income is only \$76,000 dollars.

9:45 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

09:46 AM-10:00 AM Approve Payroll of 2-7-2025

Present: RJ Kroupa- citizen.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve payroll for February 7, 2025, in amount of \$197,251.40 dollars, check numbers 660128 through 660133 and electronic check numbers 61434 through 61501 and Liability check 660134 as well as electronic check numbers 61432 and 61433. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:00 AM- 10:30 AM New revolving Loan request for economic development-Emily Park-ACTION ITEM

Present: RJ Kroupa- citizen, Merry Mueller-Treasurer, Emily Park-Economic development, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Mary Ippisch-owner of western Montana Specialty foods, Wally Congdon-Deputy County Attorney.

Emily explained how Mary's request is to extend a new loan in the amount of \$12,000.00 dollars for an Industrial Food processor model # RG-400i. The new equipment is a special chopper that will increase her production for her relish products. She currently has an outstanding loan of \$25,000.00 dollars and asks that it be rolled together with the new loan request. This would make her monthly payments based on a total loan of \$37,760.69 dollars. Emily said that the revolving loan fund has a balance of \$85,700.00 dollars and is more than enough to extend the request to Mary.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve the new loan request in the amount of \$12,000.00 dollars to Western Montana Food Specialty Inc., and to hold the Mobile processing facility as collateral with title # AA1790959. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:30- 11:00 AM Courthouse Request for Qualifications (RFQ) -Emily Park-ACTION ITEM

Present: RJ Kroupa- citizen, Emily Park-Economic development, Ginny Tubbs-citizen.

Emily is ready to pursue the County soliciting RFQ's for a qualified Architect for a PAR on the county buildings and recommended repairs. Emily would like to have the advertisement in both the February 12 and February 19, 2025 Mineral Independent Newspaper. After she gets responses from interested firms, then we would convene for a scoring and evaluation of each company.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to move ahead with the Request for Qualifications of a Preliminary Architect report and advertise this in the newspaper for two weeks. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:30 AM – 12 NOON Public comment- * No Public comment was provided*****

1:15 PM – 1:45 PM Environmental Health and Planning Update – Andy Short- DISCUSSION

Present: Andy Short-County Environmental planner and Sanitarian

Andy briefed the Commissioners on current subdivision review, septic permits, eating establishment inspections and other business happening in his offices.

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Commissioners meet with Senator Sheehy Aide- DISCUSSION

Present: Brian Esparza-Senator Sheehy's aide.

Brian asked the Commissioners what subjects were of main concern to them. Commissioner Zylawy said that since the forest are no longer managed and sustain our sawmills and a local economy, that it is paramount that we continue to receive the Secure Rural school's money from congress. Zylawy also said that the PILT program is important as well. Commissioner Smalley said that housing issues in our area need to be addressed also. There isn't any place for teachers, deputies and other working people to buy or rent. The budget strains on Mineral County are also compounded by the law enforcement calls generated from having I-90 run through here. Brian took notes and said he would take our concerns back to Senator Sheehy.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 4:01 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 5:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 13, 2025, in the Commissioners Meeting Room

Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
February 13, 2025**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2025. Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Shawn Smalley, and Commissioner Roman Zylawy.

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: Resolution # 2-13-2025

Administrative discussions: None.

9:45 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

09:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve Claims of 2-14-2025

Present: None

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims for February 14, 2025, in amount of \$396,931.17 dollars, check numbers 771159 through 771217 and Claim numbers 44884 through 44942. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:00 AM- 11:00 AM Mineral County and MACO Health Care Trust Renewal meeting- Pam Walling of Health care trust- ACTION ITEM

Present: Pam Walling -MACO, Karli King-MACO, Joanne Romasko-MACO, Kelann McLees-County Clerk and Recorder.

Pam Walling said that she has some good news. Mineral County's claims experience has been good this year and the Health Care Trust reduced our rates this year. Instead of increasing, which is the national trend, Mineral County will receive a 9.8 % reduction in medical rates for insurance. Seven Counties in Montana will see an increase in rates, but Mineral County has had a good year and will receive the reduction in rates. The Commissioners may choose to switch to another insurance company for coverage, but if they decide to do that, they must indicate that by March 1. Commissioner Smalley asked if MACO could provide a plan that was more inclusive of families. Pam said that they could put that option forward to him for consideration. The Commissioners have until March 14 to send in the form to MACO with the selected plans that employees can choose from.

11:00 AM- 11:30 AM MACO IT services introduction- Karli King- DISCUSSION

Present: Kasey Feasel-Mineral County IT director, Karli King-MACO

Karli explained how there was a request from Counties that MACO create a computer and IT support branch to assist Counties with their IT needs. Karli said that the new service is gaining momentum and now has five Counties on board using them, and four others are interested. Karli explained their services and presented a cost list sheet for Commissioners to compare with the current IT company. Kasey thought another meeting with the current vendor and MACO would be a good way to compare apples to apples.

11:30 AM- 12:00 NOON Public Comment.

*** No Comment was Provided***

1:00 PM- 2:00 PM County Economic development Revolving Loan fund Review and current status on loans- Emily Park- DISCUSSION

*** This Meeting was Cancelled by Emily not feeling well***

2:00 PM- 2:30 PM Resolution # 2-13-2025 – Opposing Legislation limiting or prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on behalf of its members-ACTION ITEM

Present: None

In order to get ahead of some of the legislative bills being drafted, MACO suggested that all Montana Counties consider passing a resolution to make it understood how important the topic is. The topic being that some lawmakers want to prohibit lobbying activities from school districts, cities, and Counties. The fact that county commissioners can't possibly spend their entire time in Helena and monitoring bills that affect counties, and given that sometimes an attorney is needed to sift through subdivision and land planning laws, the best solution is help from a paid representative being in the halls each and every legislative day. The Commissioners feel that a resolution would be a good way to make that known.

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to adopt Resolution # 2-13-2025. All in favor. Motion carried.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 20, 2025, in the Commissioners Meeting Room
Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

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

February 20, 2025

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday, February 20, 2025. Commissioner Duane Simons, Commissioner Shawn Smalley, and Commissioner Roman Zylawy.

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: Commission Chair Zylawy signed the Vendor Invoice for Pioneer Tech on the DNRC Milwaukee road, Haugan project. Grant Agreement # RITP-22-8904 for \$11,137.62 dollars. Task # 24 for October, November, and December 2024. Commissioner Smalley signed the new Inmate Meals contract for March 2025-2026 with Riverside Soups & Sands.

Administrative discussions: None.

9:45 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

09:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve Payroll of 2-20-2025 and Minutes of February 6, and February 13, 2025

Present: R.J Kroupa-citizen.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Payroll for February 21, 2025, in amount of \$185,279.45 dollars, check numbers 660135 through 660139 and Electronic check numbers 61362 through 61431, and Liability checks #660140 and 660141, as well as Electronic Liability check # 61360 and 61361. All in favor. Motion carried.

**** To provide more time to read the minutes- they were approved later at 10:25 AM.**

10:00 AM- 10:30 AM Inmate Meal Contract Renewal and Increase- ACTION ITEM

Present: R.J Kroupa-citizen, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff, Bailey Moree-Owner of Riverside Soups & Sands.

The jail Inmate food contract is coming due in March and the owner said that the prices will need to increase a little due to inflation of eggs, milk, and meat. Baily said that the price for lunch will stay the same, but breakfast and dinner will increase by .50 cents a meal. The new rate will increase the daily rate for all three meals by one dollar, raising from 18.00 dollars a day per inmate to 19.00 dollars a day.

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the new contract with Riverside Soup & Sands for inmate meals at \$19.00 dollars a day per inmate. And to sign the new contract taking effect on March 15,2025. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:25 AM- 10:30 AM Approve Minutes-ACTION ITEM

Present: R.J Kroupa-citizen, Peggy Temple-citizen.

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the minutes of February 6, and February 13 with minor spelling change. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:30 AM- 10:45 AM Airport Board Member Appointment-ACTION ITEM

Present: R.J Kroupa-citizen, Peggy Temple-citizen.

One Board application was received from William Woodford, but Peggy Temple said she also turned one in on January 30, but we did not have it. Commissioner Smalley and Peggy went up to the Clerk and Recorder office to check on its whereabouts. Peggy said that she submitted her application there at the same time she was doing her oath of office for another board she was on. The Clerk's office was unable to find the application at this time.

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to table the appointment until a later time so as to allow for time to find the lost application and hear if there is also a recommendation from the Airport board. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:30 AM- 12 Noon Public Comment

Present: R.J Kroupa-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen, Dan Clemts-citizen.

Diane commented on the Cyr-Iron Mountain Road and wanted to know where Wally Congdon was at with filing a petition and summons to have the parties discuss the road. Wally thinks he found a very old document proving that the road was in fact a county road. Diane also informed the Board that there will be a Webinar for the Big Sky Rail Authority. She hopes many people will attend it in the Commissioner meeting room next Thursday.

Dan Clemts wondered if he needed to be placed on the agenda for the annual car show using the courthouse lawn even though they had been asking every year for 26 years now. Commissioner Zylawy said that he would not need to be on the agenda since this has been a re-occurring event without any issues resulting. So, at this point he considered it a Consent agenda subject and permission was granted by the Commissioners for June 6 and June 7, 2025. Dan would just need to do the typical communication with Norm Naef the maintenance director to ensure the sprinklers, lawn and other concerns were discussed prior to the event.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 11:57 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:00 p.m.

**The next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 27, 2025 in the Commissioners Meeting Room
Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

Thursday, February 27th, 2025

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, February 27th, 2025. Present were Commissioner Shawn Smalley, and Commissioner Duane Simons. Commissioner Roman Zylawy was absent.

Commissioner Shawn Smalley called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM.

Approval of claims

Present: no public present

Commissioner Simons moved and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve claims in the amount of 43,255.07. Check numbers 771218 through 771284, and claim numbers 44943 through 45009. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Present: no public present

Commissioner Simons moved and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve Minutes for February 21st. Motion carried unanimously.

10:30 Treasurer Update Merry Mueller.

11:30-11:55 Public comment- no public comment

11:55 adjourn Commissioner Simons moved and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 1:00 p.m.

**The next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 6, 2025 in the Commissioners Meeting Room
Minutes were taken by Shawn Smalley**

MINERAL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: _____

Kelann McLees, Clerk & Recorder

Roman Zylawy, Chairman of the Board

Duane Simons, Member

Shawn Smalley, Member