

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting
February 10, 2016 – 2:00 p.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210
Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Presiding Officer Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner Carl Seilstad, Commissioner Ross Butcher, and Clerk and Recorder Rana Wichman. Public present: See attached sign in sheet.

CALL TO ORDER:

Presiding Officer Youngbauer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Presiding Officer Youngbauer asked if there were any alterations or corrections to the January 25, 2016 minutes. Hearing none the minutes stand approved as distributed. They will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the Fergus County Website.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

PERSONNEL:

- 1) The office manager position and part time nurse's position in the County Nurse's office have been filled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- 1) Board openings include: Weed Board (3 yr terms); (2) Port Authority (5 yr terms); City-County Planning Board (2 yr terms); County Planning Board (3 yr terms).

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) Approval of February 10, 2016 claims: Commissioner Butcher moved to approve the January 25, 2016 claims. Commissioner Seilstad seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Discussion on Trophy Ridge Water Source: Fire Warden Troy Eades and Clive Rooney with the DNRC asked for this discussion. Rooney stated that the Trophy Ridge Fire last year was the second lightning caused fire in that area in recent years. DNRC has spent about \$1 million of State money fighting fires out there. County Planner Pam Vosen said some work has been done on this project but it still isn't complete. The Fergus County Commissioners approved the rural subdivision with specific requirements that were not done. On 6/2/2008, Dave Kalina with the Roy Fire District signed off on the requirements. This makes the Roy Fire District responsible to see that they are maintained. The County had three years to make sure things were finished and it is well past that time frame. Fergus County Attorney Tom Meissner told the Commissioners that they have no authority now. At this time the Roy Fire District is the only one with the authority to see this is fixed. The cistern is there but is not functioning. All houses involved with this water source issue are within the subdivision. Vosen commented that the problems need to be mitigated. Rooney said there are many out of area owners. This leaves the risk and cost to local taxpayers for someone else's created risk. Eades asked if the cistern could be repaired and then taxed. Vosen and Commissioner Ross Butcher indicated it could not be done through the tax system. A maintenance agreement could be drawn up. Eades asked who set the boundaries of the subdivision and was told that people petitioned to be in the subdivision and then the boundaries were drawn. Commission Seilstad said it sounds like problem solving has begun.

Eades indicated he will work on setting up a meeting with the Roy Fire District and the subdivision land owners.

APPOINTMENTS:

- 1) Jennifer Pfau – Central MT Regional Tourism Board: Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Jennifer Pfau to the Central MT Regional Tourism Board to finish the unexpired term of Tony Brown. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

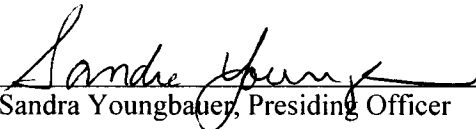
OTHER BUSINESS: Clerk & Recorder Rana Wichman asked about the status of the Grass Range TV District. Commissioner Butcher indicated to her at one point that some residents were talking about not dissolving it. Commissioner Seilstad said that at this time they would need to petition to start it again, and would need to talk to the County Attorney. Wichman stated that in talking to the Clerk & Recorder in Petroleum County they have never collected any fees for the TV District. The funds collected have all come from residents of Fergus County.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

February 17, 2016 Wednesday– 5:15 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
February 25, 2016 Thursday, 2:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
March 10, 2016 Thursday, 2:00 p.m...	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457

Reminder: Agenda items are due to the Commissioners 10 days prior to the meeting.

FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:


Sandra Youngbauer, Presiding Officer


Carl Seilstad, Commissioner

Attest:


Rana J Wichman, Clerk & Recorder


Ross Butcher, Commissioner

