

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting
May 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 April 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:

- 1) Abandonment of County Road – Beginning at the Barnes King Mill in the NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 32, Township 18 North, Range 18 East; thence follow the most practicable route to the mill site in the NE1/4NW1/4 of Section 29, Township 18 North, Range 18 East. Presiding Officer Youngbauer opened the public hearing. Commissioner Seilstad said the road at issue is Road 1063. Kris Birdwell asked the Commissioners if they have questions for him. Birdwell stated he met with the BLM about a year ago and they didn't object at that time. He stated it concerns him a lot as a land owner that this road gives people access to an open pit. He said it is a safety hazard. Retired BLM Geologist Jim Mitchell said in 1995 or 1996 an exchange of small parcels that totaled maybe 20 acres was done between the BLM and Kendall Mine inside the permit boundary. This gave two claim groups to BLM, and access was one of the main points at that time. Mitchell said at the very minimum this exchange needs to be looked at as that would change the access to BLM lands issue. He said one of the pieces that was traded is now owned by Shammels and they need access. Birdwell said this road does not get you to Shammel's piece of land. Thompson urged the Commissioners not to approve the abandonment petition. Kris Birdwell stated the 1995 proposed easement was never completed. He said he has a copy of it but it is not signed and was never recorded with the Clerk & Recorder. County Attorney Kent Sipe recommended closing the public hearing at this point and allowing written comment for a week. Bruce Reid, a forester with BLM, stated there is going to be good public access to the BLM land. Right now the road is bad but it will be improved in the near future. There is some fencing that needs done prior to fixing the road. Presiding Officer Youngbauer closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

BID OPENINGS: None

PERSONNEL:

- 1) There are office positions open for the road & weed departments, Clerk & Recorder's office, and County Planning office.
- 2) Kent Sipe has been hired as the new County Attorney.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- 1) There are various board openings that still need filled, including two (2) on the Port Authority.
- 2) The repairs on the Denton pool were awarded to B&B.

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DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) Approval of May 10, 2016 claims: Commissioner Butcher moved to approve the claims as submitted. Commissioner Seilstad seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Abandonment of County Road – Beginning at the Barnes King Mill in the NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 32, Township 18 North, Range 18 East; thence follow the most practicable route to the mill site in the NE1/4NW1/4 of Section 29, Township 18 North, Range 18 East. Commissioner Seilstad asked Jim Mitchell if he wants to do more research on this issue, and Thompson stated that he does. Commissioner Seilstad said that the issue at hand is only Road 1063. Commissioner Seilstad moved to allow written testimony on this road abandonment until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2016, and to have the abandonment on the May 25, 2016 agenda. . Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS: None

PUBLIC INPUT: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

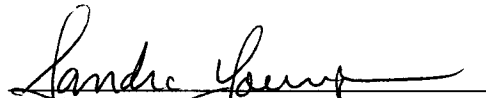
Lewis Harrell commented that when a road is going to be closed for repair the County needs to let people that travel that road know about it. He also commented on the placement of culverts on his road. He also asked about flushing them out rather than replacing them.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

May 10, 2016 Monday, 2:00 p.m...	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
May 18, 2016 Wednesday– 5:15 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
May 25, 2016 Wednesday, 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


Ross Butcher, Commissioner

Attest:


Rana J Wichman, Clerk & Recorder

