

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting
March 10, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
712 W. Main St., Suite 210
Lewistown, MT 59457

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Presiding Officer Seilstad asked if there were any alterations or corrections to the February 24, 2017 minutes or the February 27, 2017 minutes. Hearing none the minutes will stand approved as distributed and they will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the Fergus County Website.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

BID OPENINGS: None

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Victim Witness Advocate
- 2) Clerk & Recorder Administrative Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:

- 1) There is an opening on the fair board to replace Mike Pallett who is moving.
- 2) Commissioner Seilstad reported on his NACo trip. He sits on the Human Services Committee. Part of their function is to do resolutions to give direction to the lobbyists regarding NACo's stand on different things. They support SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and reporting sexual abuse in families. There was discussion regarding the aging population in Montana and across the United States. They met with Secretary Zinke's staff at the Department of Interior. They also met with Senators Daines and Tester. Seilstad reported there will be no SRS (Secure Rural Schools) payment this year. They also discussed the air ambulance situation where they use "balance" billing which can be a huge hardship. They also met with the State Department regarding supporting the Keystone Pipeline.

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) Approval of March 17, 2017 claims: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to approve the March 10, 2017 claims as submitted. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Resolution #5-2017 – DPHHS Grant on behalf of the Montana Cancer Control Program. Commissioner Butcher moved to approve Resolution #05-2017 to receive and spend MCCC funds. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 3) Winifred Fire District Resolution – moved to the March 15, 2017 meeting.
- 4) Budget Adjustment for Fergus County Project 3MT-TSEP-CG-17-853 (Roundhouse Road Bridge and Paradise Road Bridge: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to approve the transfer of \$5,596.31 to cover additional engineering costs. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.

- 5) Coroner Suit Discussion – Closed Door Litigation Session – moved to the end of the meeting. Commissioners Seilstad, Youngbauer and Butcher were present along with County Attorney Kent Sipe.

APPOINTMENTS:

- 1) City/County Planning Board – Tom Wojtowick – 2nd Term: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to appoint Tom Wojtowick to a second term on the City/County Planning Board. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

OTHER BUSINESS: March 24 meeting changed to March 23, and May 25 meeting changed to May 24.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

March 15, 2017 Wednesday, 5:15 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
March 23, 2017 Thursday, 2:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
April 10, 2017 Monday, 2:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus Co. 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:



Carl Seilstad, Presiding Officer



Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner

Attest:



Ross Butcher, Commissioner



Rana J. Wichman, Clerk & Recorder

March 1, 2017

Ms. Valerie Short, Program Manager
Treasure State Endowment Program
Montana Dept. of Commerce
P O Box 20053
Helena, MT 59620-0053

Subject: Budget adjustments for Fergus County Project #MT-TSEP-CG-17-853
(Roundhouse Road Bridge and Paradise Road Bridge)

Dear Valerie:

Fergus County appreciates the grant funding provided by the TSEP program to complete the Roundhouse Road Bridge and Paradise Road Bridge Projects, which were awarded funding in 2015.

As you are aware, after the grant award, Fergus County decided to move the location of the Roundhouse Road Bridge downstream of the existing bridge in order to provide a safer road and bridge alignment for the traveling public. This change in bridge location required a new Environmental Checklist and advertisement period be completed, as well as coordination with the City of Lewistown and the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to obtain a road easement through land owned by said entities. The Environmental Checklist, TSEP startup conditions, and geotechnical investigation were all completed, and bridge design was in progress; however, coordination with Montana FWP was unsuccessful. Therefore, Fergus County made the decision to move forward with the project, keeping the bridge in the existing location.

In an effort to modify the bridge location, additional costs were incurred by the County for the environmental requirements, as well as bridge design that was not ultimately used for the final construction plans. The engineering estimate shown on the original budget (see attached) was \$76,028. A total of \$5,506 was moved from Professional Services to Final Engineering design in January 2017, and at this time, an additional \$5,596.31 is needed to cover the remaining expenditures in Final Engineering design.

The original construction estimate submitted with the TSEP Grant Application for Roundhouse Road Bridge was \$279,236; however, the actual bid price of the project was \$228,852, leaving an extra \$50,384 in the construction budget. Therefore, Fergus County requests funds currently in the Fergus County Construction budget be moved to cover the additional engineering costs.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Fergus County Commission Chair

Carl Seilstad

From: Kathy Thompson <KStremcha@seaeng.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Carl Seilstad; Sandy Youngbauer; Ross Butcher
Cc: Robie Culver
Subject: Roundhouse Road Bridge
Attachments: Fergus County Contingency Letter.docx

Commissioners,

As you may be aware, our attempt to relocate the Roundhouse Road Bridge to a downstream location, which did not come to fruition, has involved engineering time and tasks not accounted for in the original engineering budget. However, because the construction costs for the bridge came in considerably less than the original estimate, we have approximately \$50,384 remaining in the Fergus County construction budget that we can tap for the additional engineering.

Attached to this email is a draft letter outlining the request to use the construction amount that was in the original budget toward additional engineering costs, as well as the amount of the final engineering overrun. The use of the County's construction funds must be approved by the County Commission, in addition to getting the agency's approval. The letter attached when signed by the Commission should suffice to do both.

If you could put this issue on the agenda at your earliest convenience, we will get the request sent to TSEP.

I will call you tomorrow to discuss and answer any questions.

Thanks,
Kathy

Kathy Thompson, P.E.

Senior Engineer

Stahly Engineering & Associates, Inc

851 Bridger Drive, Suite 1 | Bozeman, MT 59715

Phone: (406) 522-8594 | Fax: (406) 522-9528

Cell: (406) 439-1662

Email: kthompson@seaeng.com

www.seaeng.com