

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting

June 26, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.

Fergus County Commissioners

712 W. Main St., Suite 210

Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner 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 June 9, 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 COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 1) Proposed abandonment of a section of Everson Road past the gate at Evers Ranch: Commissioner Seilstad opened the hearing on the proposed abandonment of a section of Everson Road past the gate at Evers Ranch. Gary Carlson stated that he manages the Evers Ranch for his wife's family. It was always their impression that this road ended at the cattle guard. Clive Rooney with DNRC said that this road was petitioned to be longer in 1920 but no action was taken at that time. He believes it may have been a part of Chouteau County at one time but has not had a chance to research that. His interest is to make sure no access is cut off to State lands. He currently has no objection to this abandonment as it is petitioned. Commissioner Seilstad has researched this and said there was Petition 2142 in approximately 1960 done by Ken Walton. Gary Barta stated his interest and concern with this is that if access is cut off to any private land it substantially decreases the property value. Pete McFadden with BLM stated he would like to work with Clive Rooney to make sure there are no problems with the abandonment regarding State lands. Commissioner Seilstad closed the hearing.
- 2) Proposed abandonment of Cotter Bridge Road: Commissioner Seilstad opened the hearing on the proposed abandonment of Cotter Bridge Road. Commissioner Seilstad stated that the petition forming this road is #484. Brian Larsen said the road is only used by the area residents and they would like it closed. Commissioner Seilstad closed the hearing.
- 3) Proposed abandonment of Morris Lane: Commissioner Seilstad opened the hearing on the proposed abandonment of Morris Lane. Gary Carlson said that their research showed this is not a County road. Extra traffic on it creates more erosion. Commissioner Seilstad closed the hearing.

**BID OPENINGS:** None

**PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) Deputy Sheriff - filled
- 2) DES Coordinator – close to being filled
- 3) Co Attorney Office Manager – is actually listed as a Legal Assistant
- 4) Road Department

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:** None

**DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1) June 26, 2017 claims: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to approve the June 26, 2017 claims. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Proposed abandonment of a section of Everson Road past the gate at Evers Ranch: John Anderson read the road viewers report as submitted by Commissioner Ross Butcher, County Planner Pamela Vosen, and Road Supervisor John Anderson. Their recommendation included that a new resolution be drafted for Everson Road to describe the current location and ending it at the cattle guard as requested. Commissioner Youngbauer moved to take this issue under advisement until the July 25, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Butcher seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 3) Proposed abandonment of Cotter Bridge Road: John Anderson read the road viewers report as submitted by Commissioner Sandy Youngbauer, County Planner Pamela Vosen and Road Supervisor John Anderson. Their recommendation includes leaving the road open based on fire and emergency access, evidence of it being a County road, and the fact that it has been worked on by the County. Brian Larsen stated it has been worked once in the past six years and he has a gate across it. Commissioner Seilstad questioned him on the legality of the gate. Commissioner Butcher moved to take this issue under advisement until the July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 4) Proposed abandonment of Morris Lane: John Anderson read the road viewers report as submitted by Commissioner Ross Butcher, County Planner Pamela Vosen, and Road Supervisor John Anderson. Their recommendation included that they could find no documentation that this is a County road. They recommend abandoning Morris Lane. Commissioner Butcher moved to take this issue under advisement until the July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Gary Barta suggested the County hire a title company to research these petitions to make sure nothing is missed. Commissioner Seilstad stated that when a petition is presented the County does a thorough investigation. If a title company needs to be hired, the petitioners would need to cover the costs. Passed unanimously.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

- 1) Area II Council on Aging Board: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to re-appoint Beverly Kinkelaar and Sandy Thompson to the Area II Council on Aging. Commissioner Butcher seconded. He added that they are doing a good job. Passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- 1) Commissioner Seilstad was approached regarding a study in Roy for building a new gymnasium. He was asked about possible CDBG funds so he asked Kathie Bailey to address this issue. She said the Roy Community is looking for sponsors for a planning grant. She said the County can only sponsor one candidate in each of the three categories that CDBG deals with. Commissioner Seilstad said he would recommend Roy fill out the application and then come and present their request to the Board of Commissioners.
- 2) Kathie Bailey stated that Dani Buehler is currently on the CDBG <sup>Board</sup> ~~Board~~ and would like to go off due to a change in employment. Kathie stated that Gary Barta is interest in taking her place. It was suggested he submit a board application to the Commissioners for their review.
- 3) Commissioner Butcher moved to have the Tuesday, July 25, 2017 meeting on Wednesday, July 26, 2017 so all three Commissioners would be present, and that all actions approved to be placed on the July 25, 2017 agenda be moved to July 26, 2017. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

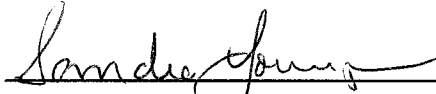
July 10, 2017 Monday, 2:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	<b>Fergus Co Complex-Basement</b> 121 8 <sup>th</sup> Ave S Lewistown, MT 59457
July 19, 2017 Wednesday, 5:15 p.m.	Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W. Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
July 26, 2017 Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	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.

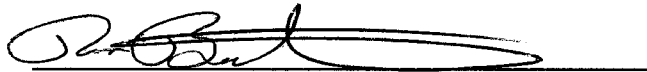
**FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**



Carl Seilstad, Presiding Officer

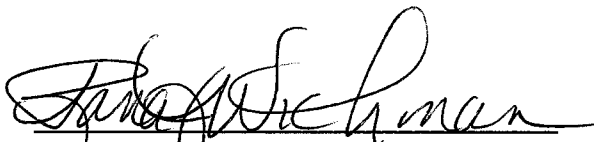


Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner



Ross Butcher, Commissioner

Attest:



Rara J. Wichman, Clerk & Recorder

