

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting

June 10, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

Fergus County Commissioners

712 W. Main St., Suite 210

Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Ross Butcher, Commissioner Carl Seilstad, Commissioner Sandy Youngbauer and Clerk & Recorder Rana J. Wichman. Public present: See attached sheet.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Butcher asked if there were any alterations or corrections to the May 23, 2019 minutes. Hearing none he stated the minutes will stand approved as presented and will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the Fergus County Website.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**BID OPENINGS:** None

**PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) DES – Deputy – Part-time
- 2) Treasurer – Office Clerk
- 3) Airport – Manager
- 4) Road Department – Full and Part-time

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:**

The Commissioners District 6 Meeting was held in Stanford on June 7, 2019. Commissioner Youngbauer was reelected chairman. Commissioner Butcher was nominated to be vice-chair of MACo.

**DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1) June 10, 2019 Claims: Commissioner Seilstad moved to approve the June 10, 2019 claims. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Resolution #8-2019 – Burn Permits, Burn Permit Information and Controlled Burn Authorization Form: Commissioner Seilstad moved to approve Resolution #8-2019 regarding Burn Permits, Burn Permit Information and the Controlled Burn Authorization Form with an amendment to #2 changing “even” to “odd”. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. The DES Coordinator worked with a committee to go through the burn permit process. The form will start 1/1/2020 and is good for 2 years. The permit tells what can and cannot be burned. Montana Code states that there must be an established fire season, and there must be permits. Passed unanimously.
- 3) 2019 TSEP Project Startup Conditions for Forest Grove Road Bridge: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to approve the 2019 Project Startup Conditions for Forest Grove Road Bridge. Commissioner Seilstad seconded. Passed unanimously.

- 4) Resolution #9-2019 – Budgetary Authority Resolution Forest Grove Road Bridge Construction: Commissioner Seilstad moved to approve Resolution #9-2019 regarding Budgetary Authority for the Forest Grove Road Bridge Construction. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 5) Maiden Road Federal Lands Access Project: Commissioner Seilstad moved to approve the Maiden Road Federal Lands Access Project. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Commissioner Seilstad stated this project covers 9.7 miles and is not a County expense. There is a 13% match from the State.
- 6) Farm in the Dell Lease Agreement: Commissioner Youngbauer requested a conceptual plan from the Farm in the Dell group. She wants to make sure a house isn't built out in the hayfield. The County needs to maintain the integrity of the ag land. Guest Becky Jackson stated that this is all in the lease, that any permanent structures must be approved by the Commissioners. Guest Vernie Rutherford asked how detailed of a conceptual plan is needed. Guest Kaylee Patton handed out a memo regarding the results of the site visit with the sanitarian on 5/12/19. She stated that the National Farm in the Dell group recommended a 99 year lease but our County Attorney says that can't be done, that it can possibly be a 20 year lease with an option to renew. In kind and an annual lease payment were briefly discussed. Hunting rights and concerns were mentioned. Commissioner Butcher suggested starting with an aerial photo showing where things currently are. This will be on the June 25, 2019 agenda for further discussion.
- 7) DUI Task Force: Commissioner Seilstad reported that counties must approve the work plan and budget for the DUI Task Force. Currently the funds are at the City of Lewistown. This needs to be corrected by resolution in FY19-20 so it is set up per statute.
- 8) Resolution 10-2019 – Deputy Coroner Appointments: Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint by resolution William Bryon Armour, Kirby Dempster, and Federico Esquivel to be deputy coroners. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

- 1) Area II Agency on Aging Advisory Board Commissioner Representative: Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Sandy Thompson the Area II Agency on Aging Advisory Board Commissioner Representative. Commissioner Youngbauer seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 2) Area II Agency on Aging Advisory Board Consumer Representative: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to appoint Bev Kinkelaar the Area II Agency on Aging Advisory Board Consumer Representative. Commissioner Seilstad seconded. Passed unanimously.
- 3) North Fork Flatwillow Rural Fire Board: Commissioner Youngbauer moved to appoint Richard Smith to the North Fork Flatwillow Rural Fire Board. Commissioner Seilstad seconded. Passed unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT:**

Mary Mendel and Blanche Chapman presented their concerns regarding the courthouse clocks not working. The Commissioners said that Tracey Haugen is looking for ways to get it working. Some of the glass faces are broken and there are places the water leaks in. There is some money in the Central Montana Foundation for this. It is very difficult to find someone to fix it. They are also looking to possibly have it retrofitted rather than repair and/or replace the old pieces.

Clark Whitehead stated that there is work being done on the Reed & Bowles foundation site.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

June 25, 2019 Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
July 10, 2019 Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457
July 17, 2019 Wednesday, 5:15 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus Co. Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210 Lewistown, MT 59457

Reminder: Agenda items are due to the Commissioners 5 days prior to the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned.

**FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

ABSENT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ross Butcher, Presiding Officer

Sandra Youngbauer  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner

Carl Seilstad  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Seilstad, Commissioner

Attest:

Rana J. Wickman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rana J. Wickman, Clerk & Recorder

To: Heart of Montana Farm in the Dell Board  
From: Carl Patten, volunteer  
Subject: Results of site visit with Sanitarian, 05/22/2019

Barb Kingery, Sanitarian, Ray Besel, Ed Bradley and I met on site and excavated an 8' deep test pit. The results were promising in that no ground water was found but the classification of soils will require a pressure dose septic system due to soil characteristics.

A normal septic system has a septic tank to settle out solid waste and let it break down and the water is distributed to the drain field by pipes to apply to the soil. A pressure dose septic system has a large septic tank and an additional smaller tank with a pump in it, then piping to the drain field. The smaller tank contains a pump so instead of a little flow to the drain field when water is used, the pump doses a predetermined amount the drain field in a short time. This helps the water spread out more evenly and then disperse more efficiently into the soil. You can actually build a slightly smaller drain field but the extra tank, electricity and pump cost more to install and operate.

The point excavated was at latitude 47.08854 degrees, longitude -109.45651 degrees, elevation 3858 feet above MSL. This was 60 feet East of fence line east of grove of cottonwood trees near the barn and 245 feet south of gate coming from barn.

This was moved from a preliminary point about 200' from the same fence line after Sandy Youngbauer expressed not wanting to develop the farmland. Early on, I had produced a map showing two buildings East of the fence line. I was attempting to get as far from the high spot near the grove of trees to ensure groundwater was not a problem. The further from the high point south of the barn the more likely a clay layer may capture groundwater and not let it percolate down so I was hunting for the worst case place.

Excavation showed 20 inches of rooted topsoil classified as clay loam, 20 inches to four feet classified as brown silty clay, four feet to seven feet of yellow silty clay and seven to eight feet of gravely silty clay loam. I noted more predominance of clay at four feet and seven feet.

Barb's classification of mostly silty clay lead to the following: 0.3gpd/SF, and the pressure dose system. A four bedroom house would require 300 LF of 3 feet wide chamber spaced a minimum of seven feet apart and 350 gpd. An eight bedroom house would be 459 LF of 3 foot wide chambers at 450 gpd.

#### Conclusion:

At this point the investigation rules out groundwater for as far as practical to the east. This pressure dose system is a conventional drain field, though not the cheapest type to operate.

The miscommunication created with trying to show two residences on site is unfortunate. Trying to purposely find the worst spot where groundwater may have been a good idea but may have added to the miscommunication as well.

When septic system is permitted, the question can be answered whether two systems will be required or one larger tank and dose tank can serve two drain fields.

