

APPROVED:


DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 5, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Sandy Porter was in to report on the Blue Ribbon Pavilion. The tin work on the vent system needs to be completed and cannot get contractor to finish the job. We will hold payment until the job is finished and send a letter to the contractor requesting the job be completed.

Ruth Koehler Disaster and Emergency Coordinator was in with 2018-2019 Emergency Management Performance Grant Funding Commitment letter. The letter is to confirm that Powell County is accepting that 50% Federal Funding \$15,878.00 and 50% county match that can be In Kind. It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Sager that we send commitment letter. Motion carried.

Ken Hosford, District #1 Road Supervisor was in to discuss personnel issues. He presented a letter that an employee was not released to go back to work.

Commissioner Sager attended the City Planning Board meeting at noon.

Julie Schroder from Powell County Chamber was in to give an update on Chamber activities. Carl Hamming, County Planner, was also in attendance. She is trying to get more partnership from outlying communities.

The Upper Clark Fork Back Country Horseman asked for a waiver of fees for the use of the Community Center for a free to the public Packing Clinic in April. By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to waive the fee.

Rick Duncan Superintendent at Powell County High School was in to discuss the County Superintendent of Schools vacancy. Commissioner Sager moved and Commissioner Mannix seconded the motion to appoint Rick Duncan as Authorized Representative for the Superintendent of Schools until an interim is appointed or by election. Motion carried. County Attorney Lewis Smith, Clerk & Recorder Jody Walker, and County Treasurer Pam Reighard were also present and available to help out when needed.

County Treasurer Pam Reighard was in to discuss back taxes on mobile homes. County Attorney Lewis Smith was also present.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

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JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 6, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Claims against the County were examined, approved and ordered paid by the Board of Commissioners for the month of January, 2018, warrant # 59986 - # 60054 were issued and a record of such is on file in the office of the Clerk and Recorder.

Sheriff Scott Howard was in and said they did a raid today and found a lot of the tools and equipment that was stolen from the Landfill shop.

County Planner Carl Hamming was in to discuss the vacancy in his office. The county will look to fill the position in the near future.

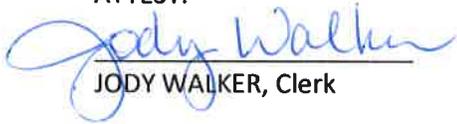
Sarah Ward was in for public comment and would like to see a memorial in honor of Jules Waber in front of the Courthouse where we took out the dead trees.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

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DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

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JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 7, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Commissioner Sager attended the job fair at the High School.

Rody Holman from Payne West was in to go over our Property & Casualty Insurance for buildings and vehicles. The Commissioners will meet with him again at the end of the month.

Matt Graveley stopped by for a visit.

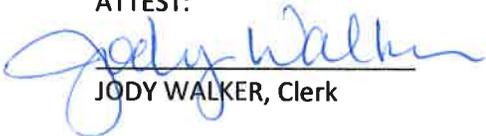
County Attorney Lewis Smith came in to discuss personnel.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVED:


DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

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JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 20, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jarita Neckels, Deputy Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Sandy Porter and Nick from Copper City Sheet Metal were in to discuss a bill. Ruth Koehler from the Fair Board was also present. Commissioners agreed to release a check for materials that we have held until job was complete. Nick said he will get job complete as soon as possible.

County Planner Carl Hamming was in to give an update on the TSEP Funds for Conley Street Bridge. The funds were cut during Special Legislative Session. There will be a conference call this afternoon with Montana Department of Transportation.

County Planner Hamming presented the Miller Minor Subdivision for signatures.

The Commissioners received notice that the American Gulch Mine Reclamation Planning Grant was not funded this year by the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. This grant was in partnership with Trout Unlimited.

The Commissioners signed a letter of support for the Council on Aging for continued funding for Powell County transit for an operating grant from the Montana Department of Transportation. It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Sager to sign the letter of support. Motion carried.

Commissioner Crachy opened the meeting for discussion on the removal of the Wilderness Study Area Classifications. Proponents of removal were members of the Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association. There were no opponents present and no written testimony from them. After deliberation, Commissioner Sager moved and Commissioner Mannix seconded the motion in favor of removing the Wilderness Study Area Classification from all areas which did not meet the criteria to be designated wilderness. Motion carried. Sheriff Scott Howard was also present.

Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers testimony:

February, 15, 2018

Powell County Commissioners

Rem Mannix
Doug Crachy
Dan Sager

RE: Senator Daine's bill: 5.2206

Dear Commissioners,

Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association is an organization representing family ranches and associated businesses in Powell, Deer Lodge, and Granite Counties. Our mission is to preserve, protect, and improve the way of life, business, and property rights including land, water, and

livestock of persons engaged in agricultural production in the State of Montana. After thoughtful analysis as residents, ranchers, and business people near the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area, RMSGA is in strong support of S.2206 for four main reasons.

First, it is important to note that these Wilderness Study Areas, or WSAs, were developed and identified in the Montana Wilderness Act of 1977. The WSAs created 40 years ago were to be "managed" by the Forest Service in Montana and reviewed with a recommendation to congress in five years. Again, it has been 40 years and time for these WSAs - that lack in wilderness character - to be removed from the WSA designation and allowed to be managed under the multiple use doctrine for the better good of Montanans.

Secondly, wildfires are another significant area of concern for our local RMSGA group. As we have seen in the past year, the threat of wildfires is real and ever-present. The non-management of a significant area of Montana public lands - especially WSAs - threatens the safety of Montanans and detrimentally affects the long-term health of Montanans. With the release of the WSAs the Forest Service faces fewer restrictions in fighting and maintaining devastating fires like we have experienced in past years.

The damage of fires to private property is a significant cost to the public as well as a threat to many individuals' livelihood who are engaged in agriculture and the utilization of natural resources. These industries represent the largest amount of income to the state of Montana and cannot be over looked.

Thirdly, not only could proper management of these public lands decrease the funding needed to fight wildfires, but the natural resources such as timber and grass on these WSAs could provide significant economic growth to some of the largest industries at both the local and state level.

Finally, we feel that the release of the WSAs within the State of Montana will allow more access for all Montanans, as well as out of state visitors. We understand the many uses of public land including but not limited to resource production, wildlife habitat, and recreation. Removing these WSAs not suitable for Wilderness Areas will ensure that the future of these diverse lands is better managed and more accessible to all.

After 40 years of pretermission, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association feels it time for congress to listen to the bottom up requests from the public, county, and state to remove these lands from a WSA designation and adjust to the current needs of Montana's landowners.

Sincerely,

Submitted on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association

Dan Conn - President
Kim Skinner - Director
Matt Graveley - Director

The Commissioners attended a conference call with Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) on Conley Bridge Project. MDT representatives Jeff, Nathan, and Jacqueline, Commissioners and County Planner Carl Hamming were on the call. It was determined that MDT will proceed with the design

of the bridge without TSEP at this point. They are looking at 2021, if the County receives TSEP funding in the future.

Justice of the Peace Melissa Gallagher was in to ask if she could have an alternate Court Room. She would like to use the old Department of Revenue office. The Commissioners agreed to let her use the office for bench trials. The District Court is using the Court Room more often and she has to cancel or reschedule.

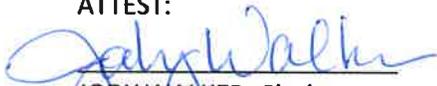
Grace Foster from Powell County Title Company brought in paper work for the transfer of Brannon Property to Powell County. National Resources Damage Program (NRDP) funds were used to purchase the property for a trail in Deer Lodge to Garrison. Commissioner Crachy signed the documents.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVED:


DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 21, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Montana Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP) and Powell County regarding Branning Land acquisition sets forth the conditions and understandings by which the State of Montana has agreed to fund this Land Acquisition using funds from the Upper Clark Fork River Basin Restoration Fund (UCFRB). The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Commissioner Crachy.

County Attorney Lewis Smith was in to ask to look at salary next year.

Tony Pfaff was in for the Land Acquisition Request for Reimbursement Project #FAA AIP 3-30-0021-014-2017, MMI 0841.008. Commissioner Crachy signed the paperwork.

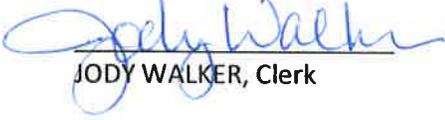
Commissioner Crachy attended the Parks Board meeting at 5:00 p.m.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

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DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 26, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

The drawing of salary warrants #22107 - #22135 for Officers, Deputies, Foremen, Clerks and Appointees from various accounts for the month of February, 2018, were approved and a record of such is on file in the office of the Clerk and Recorder.

A request from Landfill Supervisor Rod Berry was received. Rod asked that his vacation use it or lose it be waived as he has not been able to use it at this time. Commissioner Sager moved and Commissioner Mannix seconded the motion to grant an extension. Motion carried.

Claims against the County were examined, approved and ordered paid by the Board of Commissioners for the month of February, 2018, warrant # 60055 - # 60095 were issued and a record of such is on file in the office of the Clerk and Recorder.

Commissioner Sager attended Council on Aging Board meeting at noon.

The Commissioners sent a letter to Montana Department of Commerce for the request that we be included in the Governor's Budget for 2021 biennium for TSEP Funds on Conley Street Bridge.

Commissioners worked on County Board appointments.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVED:


DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 27, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Jody Walker, Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Pat Hansen stopped by to say hello.

County Attorney Lewis Smith was in with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Montana Natural Resources Damage Program (NRDP) and Powell County regarding the Branning Land Acquisition. Commissioners and County Attorney Smith reviewed the MOU, made two corrections and signed by Commissioner Crachy.

Julie Schroder from Powell County Chamber was in to give an update and possible county wide cleanup this spring.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVED:


DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


JODY WALKER, Clerk

Deer Lodge, Montana

February 28, 2018

The Board of Commissioners for Powell County, Montana, met in regular session at 10:00 o'clock A.M. Present: Presiding Officer Doug Crachy and Members Daniel G. Sager and Ralph E. Mannix, Jr.

Commissioner Sager attended the Western Montana Mental Health meeting in Butte in the morning.

Jarita Neckels, Deputy Clerk and Recorder, presented the correspondence.

Rody Holman from Payne West was in to go over our list of insured equipment.

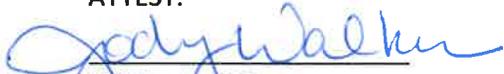
On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVED:



DOUG CRACHY, Presiding Officer

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JODY WALKER, Clerk