

January 1, 2019

No regular session was scheduled or held.

January 2, 2019

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in special session in the Commission Office of the Granite County Courthouse with Chairperson Bill Slaughter and Commissioners Scott Adler and Charles Hinkle attending. Also attending was Executive Assistant Mike Kahoe. The session convened with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Charles Hinkle was welcomed as the new member of the Board. Charles Hinkle had taken the oath of office on December 28, 2018 with other elected officials, and the oath was administered by current Third Judicial District Court Judge Ray J. Dayton. The Board was reorganized and Bill Slaughter was elected chairperson for 2019 on the motion of Commissioner Hinkle and second by Commissioner Adler. There was no public comment. The motion carried. Commissioner Adler stated that public comments must be confined to the subject on the agenda and not be allowed to be diverted to personal attacks.

Road and Bridge Superintendent Paul Alt was not able to meet with the Board due to an equipment breakdown which required his attention. The Board discussed that Paul Alt must return telephone calls to people who call him. John Spaeth met with the Board and made a comment regarding a letter he had sent to the Board stating his objection to Paul Alt receiving a substantial raise. Commissioner Adler asked John Spaeth if this was about Paul Alt getting a raise or is this personal? John Spaeth denied that it was personal. Commissioner Adler asked John Spaeth why he had no problem with what the Commission had offered Mark Teague, yet he has a problem with a raise for Paul Alt. Commissioner Slaughter responded that the Board is trying to keep up with the current market for road superintendents. John Spaeth commented that he did not feel that it was proper to add the Solid Waste position to the Road Superintendent position with an additional salary. Commissioner Slaughter reminded John Spaeth that it was on the agenda and considered three times; and that Paul Alt is doing it for \$15,000.00, as opposed to the previous solid waste director who made \$34,000 including benefits. Discussion was held that there are currently six vacancies for road superintendents in the state. John Spaeth commented that the Henderson Creek Road, which he drives every day, had been in better condition in the past than it is now. John Spaeth commented that some road employees are on Facebook during work hours. John Spaeth voiced his opposition to the Board giving the Road Superintendent a large increase in base pay. The Board responded that a raise is being considered to get the salary up to a median rate with road superintendents in similar size counties in Montana.

Georgetown Lake level was reported at 6,428.59 feet, according to the USGS gage and the dam tender's report. The lake is approximately 10.92 inches below full pool with an estimated 20 cfs through the power plant and an estimated 20 cfs over the weir.

Commissioner Adler moved to make no change in the outflow and Commissioner Slaughter seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended.

The Board reviewed draft minutes for December 18, 2018. The minutes were approved as revised on the motion of Commissioner Adler and second by Commissioner Hinkle. There was no Board discussion or public comment. The motion carried. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended.

The Board discussed the bid award and contractual agreement for the new Philipsburg Ambulance Garage Project. Through the complete, public bidding process, a single bid was received that was timely submitted by Doug Graybeal Construction of Hall in the amount of \$110,114.00 to complete the building project, had been opened and read aloud at the December 18, 2018 session. Doug Graybeal met with the Board and stated that he would rather not do the project in phases. Patrick Little with the Philipsburg Volunteer Ambulance attended and noted that there is \$25,500.00 this fiscal year in the Philipsburg Ambulance budget for the new ambulance garage and that he would like the building to be completed at one time, not in phases as was suggested here. Doug Graybeal noted that it is inefficient for a contractor to do a job in phases, which involves storage of materials that would obstruct proper use of the building as an ambulance garage. The Board discussed that the Philipsburg Ambulance budget would need an additional approximately \$85,000.00 to complete the building. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw noted that it is lawful to do an interfund loan to complete the project, with payments over four years; it could be done through a Resolution of the Board. Patrick Little noted that revenue should increase with more people completing the current EMT class. Commissioner Hinkle moved that the funds (\$85,114.00) be taken from the PILT Fund at no interest to complete the ambulance garage project to be repaid over the next four fiscal years with the \$25,000 being paid this current fiscal year from the Philipsburg Ambulance budget (\$25,000 paid this current fiscal year from the ambulance association's budget towards the building project and the \$85,114 paid in three additional payments over the next three years). A written Resolution would need to be adopted increasing the ambulance association's current fiscal year budget and authorizing the loan with repayment from PILT funds. Commissioner Slaughter seconded the motion. Commissioner Adler stated that he feels that the county is not a bank and he is not in favor of a loan from another fund. Patrick Little commented that there is currently not a place to consistently hold EMT trainings. There was no further public comment. The motion carried with Commissioners Slaughter and Hinkle voting in favor of the motion and Commissioner Adler voting against the motion. Commissioner Adler moved to award the bid to Doug Graybeal Construction in the amount of \$110,114.00. Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. There was no Board discussion and no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw drafted the contract between Granite County and Doug Graybeal Construction and the contract was signed today and an original copy given to Doug Graybeal and one original contract was retained by the County. Doug Graybeal was

given authorization to commence the project once his certificate of liability insurance and workers' compensation coverage was provided to the county. The performance bond obtained by Doug Graybeal construction would also be provided to the county.

The Board held the first reading of Resolution 2019-5 "A Granite County Resolution Authorizing The Lease of A 2019 International Truck From Woodpecker Truck & Equipment Inc." Commissioner Adler moved to adopt Resolution 2019-5 and Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. There was no Board discussion or public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board considered the lease documents for the 2019 International Truck to be leased from Woodpecker Truck & Equipment Inc. of Pendleton, Oregon. The lease documents were approved on the motion of Commissioner Adler and second by Commissioner Hinkle. There was no Board discussion or public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board met with Deputy Clerk and Recorder Becky Smith to discuss the PHEP (Public Health Emergency Preparedness) Coordinator position, which is currently vacant due to Becky Smith's resignation. Becky Smith, former PHEP Coordinator, reported that the grant funded position through the Montana Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is funded through the end of the current fiscal year, but that next year if there are increases in wages and health insurance, the grant amount would not be sufficient. She noted that the annual PHEP grant is \$29,000.00 and the starting wage is \$15.59/hour for the one-half time (20 hours per week) position. The Board discussed how to proceed with the position and Becky Smith indicated that it could be a work from home position and she agreed to check with DPHHS to see if this PHEP position could be a contracted position. She explained the duties and the importance of the position to new Commissioner Charles Hinkle. The Board discussed that the position would end if the grant funding ended. Becky Smith volunteered to assist during the transition to a new PHEP Coordinator. Chairperson Slaughter tabled the matter pending the receipt of further information.

Maria Stoppler, CEO/DON Granite County Hospital District, was not able to meet with the Board at the appointed time.

Public Comment: None.

Correspondence: The Board agreed to send a letter to Drummond Mayor Gail Leeper regarding some questions which she had voiced at a public meeting.

The session adjourned at 12:35 p.m.