

August 27, 2019

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in regular 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.

Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Superintendent Paul Alt met with the Board and gave his report. The report included that sand is being hauled to the Hall Road Department from Bob Weaver's and the purchase of sand for the Philipsburg Road Department will be advertised for bid. It is noted that Bob Weaver was the successful bidder on that sand purchase in which bids were required in the local newspaper. Commissioner Hinkle moved to advertise in the local newspaper for an additional for 500 cubic yards of road sand delivered to the Philipsburg Road Department Shop. Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. The Board also agreed to advertise in the local newspaper for an additional 3,500 cubic yards of ¾" minus road mix gravel delivered to Philipsburg on the motion of Commissioner Hinkle and second by Commissioner Adler. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. Paul Alt noted that the road department is short a plow truck and a plow.

The Board reviewed the list of solid waste overages with Solid Waste Superintendent Paul Alt presented by Treasurer Vicki Harding. The Board considered a strategy that those with consistent overages may have additional solid waste units added to their tax notices. Treasurer Harding presented a list from Granite Disposal which included mostly businesses and the number of times garbage is picked up each week, which may not match to number of solid waste units assessed. The Board requested further information before any decision is made. Discussion was held on upgrading the computers at both solid waste container sites at Drummond and Philipsburg. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw and Scott Sylvester with the *Philipsburg Mail* newspaper attended.

Treasurer/County Superintendent of Schools Vicki Harding met with the Board to present school budgets and to request approval of the budgets and setting of school mill levies for School District No. 8 Hall, School District No. 1 Philipsburg K-13, School District No. 11 Drummond Elementary, and School District No. 2 Drummond High School. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended. Commissioner Hinkle moved to approve the school budgets and mill levies and Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Slaughter signed approving the budgets for the schools.

Georgetown Lake level was reported at 6,429.00 feet, according to the USGS gage and the dam tender's report. The lake is approximately 6 inches below full pool with an estimated 43.5 cfs through the power plant and an estimated 43.5 cfs over the weir below the power plant. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended. Commissioner Adler moved to make no change in the outflow today which remains at approximately 45 cfs, as such is

authorized per the current temporary modification plan in place. Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

As public comment, former Clerk and Recorder Blanche McLure met with the Board to advise that digitized county records need to be stored off site as a backup if something should happen to the records in the courthouse. The Board agreed to research off site storage with Clerk and Recorder Sarah Graham.

The Board held a budget work session for the 2019-2020 fiscal year preliminary budgets with Clerk and Recorder Sarah Graham.

Flint Creek Dam Improvements Project, Progress Report: The Board signed the Notice To Proceed dated August 26, 2019, for the project on the motion of Commissioner Hinkle and second by Commissioner Adler. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The budget work session for the 2019-2020 fiscal year preliminary budgets continued.

The Board considered the proposed Agreement for Services between Granite County and Allied Waste Services of North America LLC d/b/a Republic Services of Montana. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended and advised the Board of changes he would recommend. The agreement, with the recommended changes, was approved on the motion of Commissioner Adler and second by Commissioner Hinkle. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board considered the proposed Independent Contractor Consultant Agreement for Medical Billing, Medical Coding, Insurance Claims Submission and Education of Staff for the Granite County Public Health Office. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended and reviewed details of the agreement, which he had drafted, with the Board. Commissioner Adler moved to table this agenda item until the meeting next week to discuss it with Public Health Nurse Katie Muhly. Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed three applications for the Granite County Planning Board to fill two existing vacancies. The vacancies were advertised in four separate issues of the *Philipsburg Mail* newspaper and on the county's website. The Board considered an appointment to represent the Georgetown Lake Area. Commissioner Hinkle moved to appoint Bill West to represent the Georgetown Lake Area on the Granite County Planning Board and Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. The Board considered an appointment of Heidi Hinkle to represent the Upper Flint Creek Valley. Commissioner Hinkle recused himself from consideration of that appointment as Heidi Hinkle is his wife. Commissioner Adler moved to appoint Heidi Hinkle to represent the Upper Flint Creek Valley on the Granite County Planning Board. Commissioner Slaughter seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried, but with Commissioner Hinkle abstaining from the vote regarding the appointment of his wife, Heidi Hinkle. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended.

The Board considered the Grant Agreement through the DNRC Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) Program for Flint Creek Dam Improvement to the spillway and dam face. The amount of the grant is \$125,000.00. Commissioner Hinkle moved to accept the grant agreement and Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw had reviewed and approved the agreement.

The Board reviewed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Montana Wool Growers Association for the Predator Control Fund. The MOU states that there are 461 stock sheep on the tax rolls in Granite County and that \$461 will be allocated for the protection of sheep from destructive animals. Commissioner Hinkle moved to approve the MOU and Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Correspondence: The Board noted receipt of a letter from Elena Gagliano requesting information on the county's contribution of \$25,000.00 to Broadwater County to assist in the prosecution of Lloyd Barrus for the deliberate homicide of Broadwater County Deputy Sheriff Mason Moore, accountability for attempted homicide against two Butte-Silver Bow police officers, attempted homicide against five different officers including Granite County Sheriff Scott Dunkerson, assault upon a peace officer against ten different officers, and for illegally possessing firearms as a convicted felon. The Board agreed to consult with County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw for a response.

The Board reviewed draft minutes for August 20 and 21, 2019. The minutes were approved as presented on the motion of Commissioner Adler and second by Commissioner Hinkle. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw attended.

The session adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

August 28, 2019

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in special session in the District Courtroom of the Granite County Courthouse with Chairperson Bill Slaughter and Commissioners Scott Adler and Charles Hinkle attending. The purpose of the session was the annual inspection of the Flint Creek Dam by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Also attending was Executive Assistant Mike Kahoe. The session convened with the pledge of allegiance.

The Board met with Kelcy Adamec, engineer with the FERC Portland Regional Office, Granite County on-call engineers Jeremiah Theys and Jonathan Weaver with Great West Engineering of Helena, Granite County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw, dam tender Bill West DES/Safety Coordinator Jackie Bolster, Ben Singer and Paul Tallon with Hydrodynamics of Bozeman, Danielle Tribble with U.S. Senator Steve Daines' Office and Sonny Capece

with U.S. Congressman Greg Gianforte's office. Also attending were Jacquie Venard with the *Philipsburg Mail* newspaper, Elena Gagliano and Dick Motta. The group reviewed the 2019 Revision of the Owners Inspection Preparation Form as completed by Great West Engineering. During the review Commissioners Slaughter and Adler impressed upon the group, and Kelcy Adamec with FERC in particular, that the Flint Creek Project Fund, which is used only for maintenance and repairs on the dam, is in a precarious position financially due to over-regulation by FERC. He stated that the Commission is willing to do the safety related repairs and maintenance on the dam, but that expensive studies may need to be put on hold. Commissioner Slaughter specifically asked Kelcy Adamec to take the message back to the FERC Portland Regional Office regarding over-regulation by requiring such things as extensive scientific studies and she said she would pass the message on her to her supervisors. Further, FERC engineer Kelcy Adamec indicated that the county should be in contact with her office regarding the schedule of when required items, such as studies, need to be completed and there is a possibility that those things that are not of eminent importance for safety could be pushed back on the schedule.

The group traveled to the Flint Creek Power Plant and then to the Flint Creek Dam. At the dam they met with Project Superintendent Jake Pierson with Battle Ridge Builders, the company which is just starting the work on the spillway and dam face repairs. The engineers and project superintendent, who had the required safety vests and hard hats (Kelcy Adamec, Jeremiah Theys, Jonathan Weaver and Jake Pierson), made a detailed inspection of the dam. At the conclusion of the inspection, Kelcy Adamec gave a brief verbal report and noted that there are no serious safety issues with the dam at this time. She said that she will be submitting her complete written report to the county at a later date.

The session adjourned at the dam at 2:30 p.m.