

**February 2, 2021**

**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 Charles Hinkle, Commissioner Blanche McLure and Commissioner Scott Adler attending. Also attending were County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw and Clerk Sue Antonioli. The Board is practicing the recommended social distancing (keeping people at least 6 feet apart) in order to slow or stop the spread of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Masks were worn by many people in attendance. The session was livestreamed through the Zoom internet-based program available for the public to view the session and comment, and the public was also allowed to attend in person and provide comment. The session convened with the pledge of allegiance.**

**Elena Gagliano joined the session by Zoom.**

**Road and Bridge Superintendent/Solid Waste Paul Alt was not able to attend today's session. Paul Alt gave had given a verbal report to Commissioner Adler who conveyed a brief update. The County's rental house in Hall, Montana is almost done being professionally cleaned and this will take about two more days. Paul Alt is in the process of getting estimates from Home Depot and Lowe's for certain replacement tile and carpeting in the rental house. The Board will consider this in a public meeting in the coming weeks. Paul Alt is also following up on the 310 permits for the Stony Creek project as the application was submitted weeks ago. The crew has been doing equipment maintenance, dealing with ice, and recently installed shelves in the Drummond ambulance shed.**

**Georgetown Lake level was reported at 6,428.54 feet according to the USGS lake level gage and the dam tender's report. The lake is approximately 11.64 inches below full pool. The outflow has been set at 25 CFS in recent weeks and the lake level is holding steady. Commissioner Adler moved to keep outflow at the current level for this week. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion There was no Public comment. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Scott Sylvester, reporter with the *Philipsburg Mail* newspaper and PHEP Coordinator Dustin Muhly joined the session.**

**Dustin Muhly met with the Board to give the PHEP report. Montana cases are notably lower. Granite County has 3 active cases of Covid-19 and there have been 3 deaths in the county related to Covid-19. Vaccine rollout has been slow. Granite County has 111 residents that have received both shots. We are hoping for more vaccines for a mass clinic. The County Health Nurse will attempt to register Granite County as a separate entity for vaccine receipt purposes instead of sharing COVID-19 vaccines with Anaconda Deer Lodge County. The state is testing and monitoring for new COVID-19 variants. To date, no new strains have been found in Montana.**

**There have been no new applications for the open County Board of Health position. A member of the public on Zoom, Elena Gagliano asked the Board of Health if there have been any new directives from the Governor regarding business hours and face coverings. She**

asked if the County was following these new directives. The Board of Health answered her that they had previously concurred and their current order is directly in line with current Governor's directive dated January 13, 2021 ordering implementation of Order 2-2021 which lifted Governor Bullock's restrictions on hours of operation and also lifting capacity limitations, but did not lift the statewide face covering mandate.

Michele Puigarri was not able to join the session by Zoom as planned. The Human Resources Consultant Contract Proposal will be tabled until next week's meeting, but the proposed HR Consulting Agreement from Michele Puigarri was generally acceptable to the Commission, but would be decided upon the following week.

The Board unanimously decided to review correspondence and approve minutes and not reconvene after the county shop encroachment site visit. The public attending in-person and by Zoom was notified of this decision.

**Correspondence:** The Board reviewed an email from Georgetown Gauntlet LLC, a newly formed LLC that would like to hold a 5K, half marathon, and marathon around Georgetown Lake. They are in the information gathering stage as to what steps to take in order to hold a public event. This will be an agenda item for next week's meeting and the Commission will ask Sheriff Scott Dunkerson to attend. The Board received an email from Vince Reece, Manager of Riddick Field resigning his post from the County Airport Board. Mr. Reece's recommendations are for Ernie Faulk as Manager and Dave Sanson to fill the empty slot on the Board. Other Airport correspondence was a letter from MDOT Aeronautics Division to Manager Vince Reece informing the Airport Board that their request for Grant Aid was denied. These airport matters items will be placed on next week's agenda. The Board reviewed an email from County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw dated February 1, 2021 pertaining to a meeting he had last week with Granite County Board of Health Member Dr. William Reiter. This will be placed on next week's agenda.

Commissioner Adler moved to accept the January 26, 2021 minutes. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

The Commission visited the site of the County Shop encroachment on the school hill along with project surveyor Ken Jenkins and Hans Bohrsen, Examining Land Surveyor for Granite County. Ken Jenkins had the proposed new boundary marked on the ground and explained it to those present. After this review Commissioner Adler moved to make a counter proposal of moving the originally proposed boundary 60-feet east of the current fence corner (northwest corner fence post), the County paying up to \$1500 for surveying costs, and the County having no objection to the quiet title action as proposed. County would be conveyed fee simple ownership to approximately 0.39 acres from Jo Durgin after the quiet title action is completed; and additionally, the County would be granted a permanent easement over and across a smaller area, with all such areas to be shown on a new map (exhibit) to be prepared and provided by Ken Jenkins. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Julie Sirrs, attorney for Jo Durgin will be drafting a new

**agreement or proposal with a new survey exhibit from Ken Jenkins for review and discussion at next week's meeting.**

**The session adjourned at 11:20 a.m.**