

COMMISSIONER MEETING
416 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644
October 5, 2020

Commissioner Darrel Folkvord called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., Commissioner Mike Delger was also present. Commissioner Laura Obert attended via phone.

Public comment is the opinion of citizens and does not necessarily reflect accurately on Broadwater County actions, operations, policy, practice or processes.

Public comment: None.

Commissioner Delger moved to approve minutes dated 9/28/2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Obert and carried.

Communications received: MT Board of Investments annual confirmation for Short Term Investment Pool (STIP) account; receipt for Fleiner restitution; Secretary of State brochure, MACo 110th Conference minutes, September 2019. Communications are on file in the Commissioners' office as deemed necessary and are available for review.

Commissioner Delger moved to pay approved claims dated 10/1/20 for \$43,907.72, and to approve payroll for pay date 0/30/20 in the amount of \$183,623.57. Motions seconded by Commissioner Obert and carried.

Commissioner update: Commissioners attended the virtual MACo conference last week. Most board meetings have been suspended lately. Commissioner Delger stated the census count has been extended to October 31.

Bernadette Swenson, Schaubert Surveying, reported the county engineer and the engineer for Lake Vista Lot 5 Subdivision have agreed to a change in the road profile. When confirmation of the change is received, final approval will be placed on the agenda.

Cory Swanson, County Attorney, spoke in favor of the resolution authorizing Broadwater County to intervene with Meagher County regarding the Black Butte Copper Project. Commissioner Obert stated the resolution should have a public hearing, per county policy. Cory stated not all resolutions have to have a public hearing. Cory also stated there have been two opportunities for public discussion and providing a public hearing would not afford more opportunities for the public to participate or provide additional comments than had already been presented. After more discussion, Commissioner Obert stated she was leaving the meeting as protest for not

following policy and will send a statement for the minutes. Via e-mail, she stated “I am leaving this meeting to protest violations of County Policy, regarding Commission meetings. Broadwater County Public Process Policy, adopted January 6, 2020, states Commissioner agendas will be the product of the commission – that’s three commissioners (Part III of the Broadwater County Public Process Policy). the same policy states Resolutions SHALL have public hearings (Part VIII of the same). The policy came from MSU’s Local Government Center and is the result of multiple MACo and LGC training—Open Meetings Laws are to maximize the public’s ability to know and participate in their local government. We should strive to reach the highest level of disclosure.” After more discussion, Commissioner Delger moved to adopt said resolution. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord. Comments from Tim Ravndal. Motion carried.

Commissioner Delger moved to appoint J. J. Conner to a two- year non-voting position on the Board of Health. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord and carried.

Commissioner Delger moved to fund the Sanitarian position with Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant funds in the task order adopted last week, available to October 2022. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord. Comments from Tim Ravndal. Motion carried.

Wynn Meehan, Sheriff, requested permission to purchase three patrol cars. There is \$40,000 I CIP funds, and \$125,000 more revenue than anticipated in the budget. Commissioner Delger moved to authorize purchase of three vehicles for \$102,756. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord and carried.

The Solid Waste fund deficit of \$280,000 is an issue with the auditors. The Hospital District loan has been repaid. Commissioners and Cory discussed a loan of \$280,000.00 to the Solid Waste Department. Josh Obert, Public Works, can meet a defined repayment. Terms would be 1.5% interest for six years. Commissioner Delger moved to move forward with the loan process. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord and carried.

Commissioner Delger moved to pay the \$145,932.00 BOI loan for the Bank building purchase. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord and carried.

Commissioner Delger moved to pay off the \$15,755.00 balance for the Silos boat docks purchase. Motion seconded by Commissioner Folkvord and carried

There is \$39,000.00 remaining to invest in STIP.

Commissioners Delger reiterated the importance of everyone completing the census.

Ross Johnson, Shirley Wilson, Debi Randolph, Tim Pool, Shawn Roland, Brittney Willis and Leona Holman were also present.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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Darrel Folkvord, Chair

Attest:
Ann Rauser Deputy Clerk and Recorder