

**Commission Proceedings**  
**01-03-2023**

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 03, 2023, in the Carter County Commission Board Meeting Room of the Carter County Courthouse at 214 Park Street in Ekalaka, Montana. Rod Tauck, Chairman; Mike Watkins, Vice Chairman; and Pamela Castleberry, member was present.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM at which time commissioners recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright stepped into the meeting to request the Commissioners approval to replace the lights on the pre-lite Christmas tree or replace the tree. The Commission agreed to replace the tree.

Judy also presented an invoice from Slate Architecture in the amount of \$4842.00 which is 90% of the invoice for the hospital generator feasibility study.

Commissioner Castleberry made the motion to unanimously set Rod Tauck as the Board Chair and Mike Watkins as the Vice Chair. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Resolution 01032023-01 to set the Commissioner meeting dates as the 1<sup>st</sup> three Mondays, The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays and the last working day of the month. The meeting hours where set for 9 am to whenever all agenda items have been for the day have been addressed. This Resolution sets the public notice for meetings as well as office hours. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve Resolution 01032023-01. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Resolution 01032023-02 Travel reimbursement for 2023 for the actual cost of lodging and meals reimbursed at \$13.00 for the morning meal, \$14.00 for the midday meal and \$23.00 for the evening meal. All expenses for meals and lodging must be documented by an appropriate receipt. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve Resolution 01032023-02. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Attorney Harrington and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting.

Commissioner Castleberry made the motion to approve the appointment of Dana Eshelman as Deputy Clerk and Recorder, with the requirement that she continue with 6 months' probation. There was some discussion that Dana completes the 6 months' probation as a Clerk before being appointed as Deputy Clerk and Recorder. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Judy left the meeting.

Commissioner Tauck asked if Commissioner Castleberry would be willing to recuse herself from discussion on contracts between Dahl Memorial Healthcare and Carter County Commission as her husband is on the DMHC Board and her daughter works for DMHC. Commissioner Castleberry has no intention of recusing herself from discussions of contracts for DMHC. There was a brief discussion pertaining to laws regarding nepotism.

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Commissioner Castleberry gave a brief report from the December 13, Weed Board meeting, that she attended as the Human Resources representative for Carter County.

Dahl Memorial employees CEO Ryan Tooke, Jalynn Dyke, Carla Dowdy and DMHA Board member Georgia Bruski joined the meeting. The group presented reports on electrical use of the facility based on information from Southeast Electric and the generator reports from the last year. They do not see a discernible difference in the number of kilowatts used on days when the CT was used frequently and days when it had not been used. The average number of CT scans per month in the last year was 17.

The Commissioners and Dahl Memorial agreed that they would like to have the capability to run the whole facility on auxiliary power. There will be a generator test forthcoming from Scott Cromwell of slate architecture.

CEO Ryan Tooke also gave an update on the heating situation in the new facility. John Neisner of Skull Construction was at the facility last week where they proceeded to take out the vents in the ceiling so that the heat could be distributed more evenly. This seems to have help to correct the problem of the residents' room being too cold.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

**Board of County Commissioners**

**Carter County, Montana**

  
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**Rod Tauck, Chairman**

Attest:   
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**Clerk of the Board**