

Commission Proceedings 10-27-2022

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 27, 2022, in the Carter County Commission Board Meeting Room of the Carter County Courthouse at 214 Park Street in Ekalaka, Montana. Steve Rosencranz, Chairman; Rod Tauck, Vice Chairman; and Mike Watkins, member was present.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. There was no public comment.

County Maintenance Bob Jacobs joined the meeting to discuss water shut off at the Old Hospital building. The Town of Ekalaka maintenance and Bob have not located the shut off. Bob has placed milk house heaters in the buildings to keep the water from freezing.

Bob requested permission to purchase a propane heater for the boiler room/ shop. The commission approved the purchase of the heater.

Georgia Bruski DES Coordinator joined the meeting where she informed the commission that the County is eligible for \$428,400.00 in Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF). This is part of the Government ARPA funds. The monies must be used by the County.

County Attorney Corbit Harrington joined the meeting with the Contract for Direct Electric to install the lighting for the Carter County Museum. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve the contract with Direct Electric for the bid presented of \$205,735.75. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Deputy Treasurer/ Payroll Clerk Cecile Kuehn joined the meeting to questions regarding payroll. Guests included Road and Bridge Employee Brian Ballou, Supervisor Carl Knapp. Clerk and Recorder Pam Castleberry.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to draft a letter defining part time employment for the Road and Bridge employees including pro-rated vacation and sick leave. The employee is required to provide written notice two weeks before going to part time or terminating employment with the County. The letter will be drafted by Human Resources Officer Pam Castleberry. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Clerk and Recorder Pam Castleberry and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright attended Human Resources Training presented by Montana Association of Counties. Pam and Judy provided a hand out and a brief overview of the training that they attended. There was discussion with the Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp regarding the use of Compensatory time by County employees as well Commissioners supervisor position of the Head of the Departments.

County Maintenance Bob Jacobs joined the meeting to update the Commission on shutting off the water service at the Old Hospital building. Bob also stated that the Courthouse generator was retrofitted with a block heater and has since developed surging issues. The repair tech will return on October 31, 2022.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:00. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

Frye Gravel Pit Crushing Bid Opening guests include Rick Fike of Fike Crushing Inc. Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp, County Attorney Corbit Harrington, and Clerk and Recorder Pam Castelberry.

Fike Construction Bid 70,000 yards of gravel at \$3.25 per yard. Wyrick Construction 70,000 yards of gravel at \$2.95 per yard. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to award the bid to Wyrick

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Construction to crush 70,000 yards of gravel for the amount of \$2.95 per yard. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to place an ad in the paper for Courthouse Custodian with the person hired to work 20 hours a week. The applications will be due Nov, 18, 2022. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Greg Benjamin of Stahly Engineering called into the meeting where he presented the request for Qualification. Commissioner Tauck made the motion to approve the ad for the Request for Qualification for Engineering and Survey services and grant Services. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp joined the meeting. The commission discussed an email request for an increase in the royalties paid to the gravel pit landowners. The current payment is \$1.00 per yard of gravel. The commission agreed that the change to royalties would have a negative effect on the current budget and therefore would not be considered until the next fiscal year. Commissioner Tauck replied to the email.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve the meeting minutes for October 13th and October 17th 2022. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana



Steve Rosencranz, Chairman

Attest:



Clerk of the Board