

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 14, 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.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp joined the meeting to request interviews for the applicants for the Road Crew position. Carl left the meeting.

County Treasurer Jesi Pierson presented tax refund resolutions. Commissioner Tauck made the motion to approve Resolution #11142022-01 refund in the amount of \$15.00 and #11142022-02 refund in the amount of \$60.00. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The Commission reviewed and responded to email correspondence including emails regarding selecting a Public Health Officer.

Deputy Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright, County Attorney Corbit Harrington and Clerk and Recorder Pam Castleberry joined the meeting. Judy presented a phone system upgrade for the Clerk and Recorders and Commissioners office that could be purchased through Mid-Rivers Communication. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve the purchase of the phone system. There was discussion regarding when the phones were last replaced and the features offered with the new system. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk and Recorder Pam Castleberry respectfully requested approval to hire Dana Eshelman as a full time Clerk in the Clerk and Recorders Office with the option to fill the position as Deputy Clerk in January. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to hire Dana. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Senior Transportation Director / Senior Coordinator Tricia Lovec and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting. Judy requested the County purchase the 2020 Chevy Equinox. Tricia requested that the County keep "Ruby" the Red Pickup so that she may use it for food bank grocery runs.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to purchase the Equinox from A and B Auto Sales of Ekalaka, Mt. There was discussion regarding keeping "Ruby" in the fleet at the Courthouse or move it to the Road Department fleet. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion to keep Ruby in the Courthouse fleet of vehicles. There was no other public comment and the motion carried. Judy and Tricia left the meeting.

The Commission called Scott Cromwell of Slate Architecture for an update on the New Hospital building generator project. Scott will provide an update in a few weeks.

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:45 and reconvened at 1:00 pm

The commission discussed the County owned old Stenseth house. The commissioners requested information on the property boundaries and information on lease or rental agreements. Clerk and Recorder Pam Castleberry and Deputy Clerk Judy Wright will research the documents involving the Stenseth house.

Public Health Officer candidate Carrie Haar officially declined the position as Carter County Public Health Officer. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to advertise for a PHO in the Ekalaka Eagle. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The ad will run November 18th, 25th, and December 2nd. The first interviews maybe held December 08, 2022. The position will be open until filled.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve the meeting minutes for the November 7th, 2022. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The commissioners placed a call to Montana Department of Transportation Shane Mintz in support of the repair of Highway 7.

The commission also called Health Board Chairman Steve DeFord regarding the advertising for the PHO position.

The commissioners conducted the 2022 Federal General Election Canvass.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:25.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana



Rod Tauck, Vice-Chairman

Attest: 

Clerk of the Board