

JULY 10 - 14, 2023  
COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

Sweet Grass County Commissioner meetings are held in the office of the county commissioners in the Sweet Grass County Annex in Big Timber, Montana, unless otherwise noted in the minutes. The first Monday of each month a department head staff meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. Claims will be reviewed and approved for payment every Thursday unless a conflict arises. At least one commissioner will be in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily unless they are at a conference or a meeting requiring them to be out of the office.

**NOTICE: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)).**

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**Monday, July 10, 2023**

All Commissioners are in today.

A department head meeting was held with Pat Dringman, Barb Swanson, Connie Weston, Cory Conner, Vera Pederson, Vicki Uehling, Cliff Brophy, Alan Ronneberg, Jessie Connolly, and Callie Rech present.

County Attorney Dringman said he has a Conservation District meeting tonight to update them on the Mirro violation, he did not attend his annual conference this year and has seen an increase in the number of trials this year.

Justice of the Peace Connolly reported the numbers for the month and reiterated what the county attorney said about the number of trials. She met with the Commissioners and Vicki last month for her budget meeting and attended the commission on courts of limited jurisdiction meeting.

Clerk of District Court Swanson reported the numbers for the month and said the trial at the fairgrounds went smoothly.

Weed Coordinator Weston said they have started spraying, some inspections, working on RAC and BLM grants.

Finance Officer Uehling said she has been busy with budget meetings and working on end of year.

Sheriff Ronneberg reported the numbers for the month and said the boat float went well.

DES/911 Coordinator Brophy said the radios he ordered over a year ago should be in this week and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan meeting is today.

Public Works Director Conner said June was wet, but the roads held up well. They are working on mag chloriding Otter Creek and Howie Road this week and Boulder Road soon and the 26<sup>th</sup> they will replace the East Boulder bridge.

Clerk and Recorder Pederson said they are starting the NVRA processing to clean up the voter rolls, Seanna will be doing payroll training, she is busy planning her convention for next month.

Superintendent of Schools Rech said May was the rural school graduations, end of school year reporting, there is a teacher vacancy in Melville and aide in McLeod, transportation meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and E-grants training next Monday.

The Commissioners discussed the Department of Revenue tax assessments and the impacts for all the taxpayers and departments.

Commissioner Roe said the KLJ Engineering reviewed bids for the airport apron project, the new server is installed and will be transitioning over, they attended the MACo district meeting, she attended the Area II on Aging meeting, Senior Center and met with the Army Corps of Engineers on the Boulder bridge.

Commissioner Wallace added that he attended the PMC board meeting and MACo board meeting.

Commissioner Moody attended the fair board meeting, HRDC meeting and met with Saluting Branches on a project at the Mountain View Cemetery.

All Commissioners attended the MT Department of Revenue informational meeting on how appraisal/assessment is done.

Commissioner Roe attended the Soil Conservation District meeting. Commissioners Moody and Wallace attended the second session of the MT Dept of Revenue informational meeting

### **Tuesday, July 11, 2023**

Commissioner Wallace participated by video conference in the MT Natural Resource Coalition briefing survey for the Conservation and Landscape Health Rule (BLM lands). Sweet Grass County is an active member of the Coalition.

City Councilman Ferguson stopped in to inquire about the city budget worksheet for tomorrow's meeting.

Senator Esp stopped by to visit about taxes and the increase in market valuation. He was going to check on the floating mills left on the table to see if they can be carried forward beyond one year or if they are lost if not used.

### **Wednesday, July 12, 2023**

All Commissioners are in.

Commissioner Chairman Moody called the City/County Budget meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Mayor Greg DeBoer and City Clerk Hope Mosness; City Councilmembers Ferguson, Brunkhorst, Woehler and Rockman; Jessie Connolly, Justice of the Peace and Vicki Uehling, Finance Officer were present. Also present were Barbara and Jacque from the library, and library board members Terri Ellett and Negel O'Conner. Chairman Moody stated that the purpose of the meeting was to review the City's contribution to the County Budget including Law Enforcement & training, City Court & Court Compliance, Sanitarian, Planning, Alcohol/Mental Health programs, County Attorney & his software, and the Crime Victim Advocate. He stated the Fire Admin budget and the library budget contributions from the county to the city would not be discussed at this meeting.

The 23/24 contribution total from City to the County will be \$353,954.00.

City Commissioner Ferguson inquired about the County's appetite to establish a new non-voted levy fund for Parks & Recreation. Chairman Moody stated the county already had various services that support activities that are used by both and at this time the county wasn't in a position to fund a new levy.

The use of the Animal Control person by the county will need to be addressed by the development of a policy outlining duties and a process for submitting invoices from the city to the county to be paid.

Cindy Selensky called to ask about the exhibit building siding and whether we should go ahead and pay the contractor the balance due.

Claims were presented for processing.

All Commissioners attended the Forest Service/MT DEQ informational meeting at the library on the SSMC East Boulder Mine amendment (004). If the permit is not amended, the mine will be required to shut down in 2025 due to lack of waste storage.

**Thursday, July 13, 2023**

Commissioners Wallace and Roe are in. Commissioner Moody is out.

A county resident called to complain about Republic Services. He was referred to the city to get a phone number as individuals contract with Republic privately.

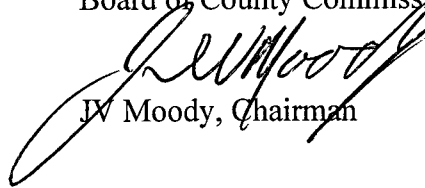
**Friday, July 14, 2023**

Commissioners Wallace and Roe are in. Commissioner Moody is out.

Randy Rembold stopped in to talk about the status of the heating system, including boiler, stack, and pipes, at the Court House.


Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Vera Pederson

Board of County Commissioners



J.W. Moody, Chairman

Date Approved: October 31, 2023



Attest: Vera Pederson, Clerk

