

DECEMBER 4 - 8, 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)).

Monday, December 4, 2023

Commissioners Moody and Roe are in. Commissioner Wallace is attending the MACo board of directors meeting in Helena.

A Department Head meeting was called to order at 9:30.

County Attorney Dringman stated his office is busy but things are going well. Several trials are coming up and he has attended several trainings. The District Conservation 310 violation lawsuit is still pending, but he is hopeful they will enter into mediation.

County Extension Agent King stated he was also busy. He participated in the countywide Weed Cooperative planning session, year-end 4-H stuff and the Stock/Wool Growers annual banquet. He stated that some of the wool in the eastern wool pool had been sold. He also discussed how a cow had been donated to the FFA for dissection and skeletal reconstruction projects.

Weed Supervisor Weston discussed that the Weed Board had a meeting and she also participated in the County Weed Cooperative planning session. She discussed the upcoming sale of the excess equipment from the weed department to the general public via closed bids. She reported that she had taken possession of the new 6 wheel weed sprayer side-by-side and was waiting on the new tank. As always, she is working on the grant reports.

Financial Officer Uehling reported that the auditor will be here in two weeks. She is finalizing her reports etc.

Public Works Director Conner reported that he and his crew were working on getting equipment prepared for snow. He has been catching up on projects such as bridge guard rails. They have also been working on water mitigation above the Fleming Bridge on the Main Boulder. A spring has begun to run year-round and is currently running down the middle of the road creating a hazard.

DES/911 Coordinator Brophy commented on the strong winds that have been pounding the county. He is also busy working on the paperwork to close out the Voges/GreyBear FA bridge with FEMA. We are currently waiting on a bill from Great West. The project is complete and the FEMA deadline was December 13th.

Superintendent of Schools Rech reported on the current number of students in the rural schools. Melville has 25, Greycliff has 2 and McLeod has 7 students. She has had lots of reporting to do on grants and title reports. She also stated that the county will need to resubmit the FP-9 with the entire 95 mills per the Supreme Court Ruling.

Sheriff Ronneberg reported that calls for the month of November were down slightly, however 28% of all calls are a result of Interstate 90. He did state that they had acquired a search warrant on a local house and this had resulted in a methamphetamine case with a couple of arrests.

Justice of the Peace Connolly gave her report. She stated that she has had several trials and has been very busy. City Court new filings were down slightly. She is working on her spring court training sessions. She also commented that the new Motor Vehicle computer system/program was not working very well and that law enforcement seemed to be getting a lot of false information.

The Commissioners reported that they had also been very busy. The Writ of Mandate filed in the Supreme Court resulted in the Counties' position not being upheld and, as a result, we will probably be required to collect the full 95 mills for school equalization.

Commissioner Moody reported that the county had been assigned two Montana Highway Patrolmen for this area.

Bids were opened for the weed department equipment (Kubota, Yamaha Grizzly, the 2002 Cyco trailer and the 2010 Suretrac trailer). The high bidder on 3 of the pieces of equipment was Affordable Equipment – Yamaha - \$2,222.22, The Cyco trailer - \$333.33 and the Suretrac trailer - \$777.77. The Kubota went to Marcie Neibur for \$10,125.00.

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

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

The titles for the sold equipment have been notarized and the paperwork has been prepared for the transfer of ownership.

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Commissioner Moody is in. Commissioner Roe has been in and out. Commissioner Wallace is at a MACRs meeting in Lewistown.

Caitlin with Granite Technology phone systems called and set up a call for Thursday, December 7th to go over more phone conversion challenges.

Thursday, December 7, 2023

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

Deputy Clerk and Recorder Curry came in to prepare the agenda for the Commission for next week.

Commissioner Roe reviewed and signed the claims.

The Fraud Risk Inquiry was prepared and sent to the Auditor in preparation for the audit this month.

Caitlin R. with Granite Technology called and asked questions and discussed the phone system in great detail. At this time, she is estimating that the porting will happen sometime in January.

Friday, December 8, 2023

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

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Dawn M. Curry

Board of County Commissioners

[Signature]
Dawn M. Moody, Chairman

Date Approved: 1-18-2024

Attest: Dawn M. Curry, Clerk

[Signature]
Dawn M. Curry

