

FEBRUARY 12 – FEBRUARY 16, 2024  
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, February 12, 2024**

All Commissioners are in.

Tetra-Tech, the Boulder River Watershed Consultant, gave a review on the condition of the water in the Boulder River from the headwaters on the very upper Boulder near the wilderness boundary to the confluence of the Boulder and Yellowstone. Beau Downing gave a two-year comparison and stated that the water was very clean both above the confluence of the East Boulder River and the Main Boulder, as well as below. This study was funded by BRWS, SMC, the City of Big Timber and Sweet Grass County.

Commissioner Roe attended the monthly board meeting of the Conservation District.

Commissioner Roe attended the Re-Imagining Rural workshop at the Carnegie Library.

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

All Commissioners are in.

Clerk & Recorder/Elections Administrator Dawn Curry brought in information on a constitutional requirement that all county and municipal governments must pass a resolution every 10 years that calls for an election on the question of a local government review and the establishment of a study commission. The Board of Commissioners only has discretion on the number of study commissioners, 3 or 5, and how much it would cost to fund a commission study and an election, if passed. The primary ballot will have a question regarding whether or not (for or against) a local government review should be conducted. Following discussion, the Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator will prepare a resolution to be voted on next Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Wednesday, February 14, 2024**

All Commissioners are in.

The Commission had the quarterly meeting with the City to discuss common interests and concerns. Mayor DeBoer, City Council Members – Kerri Baird, Justin Ferguson, and Len Woehler, City Public Works Director – Kris Novotny, City Clerk - Hope Mosness, County Financial Officer – Vicki Uehling, Clerk & Recorder Dawn Curry and Cory Conner, Sweet Grass County Public Works Director, attended.

An interlocal agreement between the county public works department and the city public works department was presented for discussion. It was recommended to discuss the agreement with the respective insurance companies especially over liability and unintended or resulting damages.

The airport was discussed, as it is a City/County owned property. The feasibility of putting up a building to house the snowplow, loader and tractor was part of the conversation. City representatives were encouraged to attend the next board meeting.

The Interlocal Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the City was discussed. Clarification on how animal control should be managed outside of regular hours or when the animal control officer is not available. It was mentioned that parking violations on Main Street as well as other locations in town seem to be increasing. Enforcement is an issue. Various ways of letting people know that parking violations were going to start being enforced was also discussed.

Another issue mentioned was some of the problems with Republic Garbage Service. Not only are they inconsistent in their pickup of county wide garbage (they contract privately with individuals outside of the city), but their billing to the City is usually incorrect and requires additional hours of the clerk's time to straighten it out each month. Options are being explored by the City at this time and will be discussed in the future to see if there are any mutual benefits to be had.

The next quarterly meeting between the City and County was set for May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM at City Hall.

Planner Dringman presented a Certificate of Survey/ Boundary Adjustment between adjacent landowners Behrent and Lyndes. The planner expressed no concerns over this exchange and both parcels were greater than 160 acres. Commissioner Wallace moved to approve the COS. Commissioner Roe seconded and the motion was carried with three ayes.

Bailey Elliot from Granite Technology Phones called to check in to see how the phone system was working and if we were happy with the update. She was going to let DIS know that we would not be using their services for our phone system any longer, however they will still provide computer services to the Sheriff's office.

#### **Thursday, February 15, 2024**

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

Clerk & Recorder Curry came in to prepare the agenda for next week and to read minutes from Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, February 2, 2024. Commissioner Roe moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Commissioner Moody seconded. There was no public discussion and the motion was passed with two ayes.

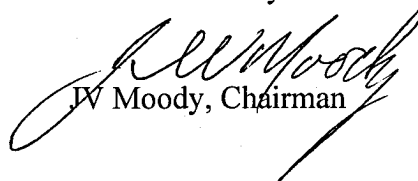
Claims were reviewed and signed.

#### **Friday, February 16, 2024**

The Commission had a discussion on the pros and cons of updating and improving the county website.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Dawn M. Curry

Board of County Commissioners

  
J. W. Moody, Chairman

Date Approved: April 8, 2024

Attest: Dawn M. Curry, Clerk

