

JULY 5, 2023 WEDNESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Joette Woods, Justin Wickum, and Larry Hendrickson (chair).

HAY CONTRACT

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve a hay contract North by Whitlash. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

WEED DEPARTMENT/911

Jim Ghekiere, Weed, 911, was in to update the commissioners on his departments and the junk vehicle trailer replacement.

SHERIFF

Undersheriff, Kyle Heppne was in to update the commissioners on the Sheriff Office.

PREDATORY CONTROL MEETING

Ed Cole was in to visit with the commissioners about the upcoming Predatory Control meeting.

MSU LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION/CEMETERY BOARD

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Liberty County Extension Agent, was in to update the Commissioners on the tri-county fair in Shelby at the end of the month. He also chairs the cemetery board and updated the Commissioners on an ongoing legal issue they are dealing with.

BEAR PAW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve paying our biannual payment to Bear Paw Economic Development District fees, The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. A motion to renew resolution 23-10 to remain active in Bear Paw Economic Development District, was made by Commissioner Wickum and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with approval by all.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____
Clerk Chairman

JULY 11, 2023 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Joette Woods, Larry Hendrickson (chair), and Justin Wickum.

MSU LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Liberty County Extension Agent, was in to let the Commissioners know he will be out looking at crops. He also updated the Commissioners on fair items coming up.

FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Warden Willie Miller, was in to update the Commissioners on some issues he is seeing in Liberty County as far as fishing, boating, and lack of licenses.

LEPC

Commissioner Hendrickson and Commissioner Wickum attended the LEPC meeting at the fire hall this morning.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Woods attended the Transportation Committee Meeting in the Commissioner's office.

CHESTER JOPLIN INVERNESS SCHOOLS

Chester Joplin Inverness School Superintendent, Luke Haggarty and Principal, Kim Grammar came in to discuss the colony schools and the issues staffing them.

SENIOR CENTER/TRANSIT

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center/Transit Director, was in to update the commissioners on the senior center. She continues to wait on buses and continues to look for help.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Robert Padmos, CA, was in to update the commissioners on his bench trial today.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Montana DOR was in town to explain the property tax increases that will be happening for the upcoming tax season. The Commissioners attended this meeting to be clear on how it all works.

EMS/AMBULANCE

Julie Erickson and Tara Hendrickson, were in to update the Commissioners on EMS/Ambulance transfers. The number of transfers is down due to a local MD available at the hospital.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Chris Case, JP, was in to update the commissioners on the trial upstairs.

WEED DEPARTMENT/911

Jim Ghekiere, Weed Dept, 911 Coordinator, was in to update the Commissioners on extra cameras that have been installed at the county shop.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____
Clerk Chairman

JULY 12, 2023 WEDNESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Joette Woods, Justin Wickum, and Larry Hendrickson (chair).

CHIPPEWA CREE/MT ROYAL EASEMENT

The Commissioners made a phone call to the Chippewa Cree Tribe to discuss getting access or an easement for a small portion of road in the Sweetgrass Hills that gives us access to the TV/Radio towers on Mt. Royal. There will be further discussion on this matter.

FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Warden Willie Miller was in to talk to the Commissioners about the upcoming meeting to increase prices for predatory control.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in approval.

CLERK AND RECORDER

Davin Buffington, C & R, was in to discuss the budget and mill levy transfers.

SENIOR CENTER/TRANSIT

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center/Transit Director. was in to update the commissioners on senior center activities.

PREDATORY CONTROL

A public meeting was held in the courthouse for predatory control increases. All in attendance were: Kirk Sims (Skippy), Willie Miller, Logan Sinclair, Kraig Glazier, Bob Thompson, Diane Thompson, Mark Wickum, Kristin Stewart, Ed Cole, Joette Woods, Justin Wickum, and Larry Hendrickson. It was explained how the funding comes and how they pay for what they do. A conversation was had to increase the amount from .50 to \$ 1.00 and it was suggested that if individual ranchers want more time, they could buy it from Marias Livestock and then they can pay the extra for that. \$650/hr. The Commissioners will mail letters to the ranchers in Liberty County to get a consensus of what they would like to do. Keith Olson is the new pilot.

CLAIMS

Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Wickum seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

SHERIFF

The Commissioners had a meeting with Sheriff Nick Erickson about the Stonegarden grant. The Commissioner requested a binder with the hours and paperwork to be turned in to get reimbursed.

CAMERAS

Jim Ghekiere was in to get a list of cameras that are needed to upgrade the senior center, dispatch, county shop, and the cemetery. He will contact Alert Security and get them on order.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____
Clerk Chairman

JULY 18, 2023 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Robert Padmos, CA, was in to discuss a couple of contract updates, and discuss some events that happened over the weekend.

ROAD DEPARTMENT VACANCIES

The Commissioners will be posting job opportunities in the road department.

CLERK AND RECORDER

The Clerk and Recorder, Davin Buffington, was in to update the Commissioners on some transfers between budgets.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Mason Quick, from DNRC, was in to update the Commissioners on the two fires up in the Sweetgrass Hills. One of the fires was on BLM ground by Devil's Chimney and Miner's Coulee. They were able to use helicopters for fire control. He has many resources and training he can use to help the local fire department and volunteers. The Commissioners updated him on the ponds surrounding the fires for final water drops.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Chris Case, JP, was in to update the Commissioners on his office.

RESOLUTION 23-11

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve resolution number 23-11 for the county commission of Liberty County, State of Montana, to convey certain real property to the Town of Chester, MT. The motion was second by Joette Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with approval by all.

RESOLUTION 23-12

A motion to approve Resolution 23-12 for Authorizing the transfer of funds to corresponding CIP funds was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Wickum. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

AIRPORT CONTRACT

Jim Briden was in to go over an airport contract before it gets signed. The contract needed to be changed and they will send it back to get it corrected.

PREDATORY PROTECTION

The Commissioners sent letters to stock growers about a predatory increase for cattle protection. They are hoping to get the county feedback soon to make their decision.

SIGNS

Jim Ghekiere updated the Commissioners on some signs that he has been asked to order.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____
Clerk Chairman

JULY 25, 2023 TUESDAY

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Justin Wickum, and Larry Hendrickson. Joette Woods was at NACo in TX.

CLERK AND RECORDER

Clerk and Recorder, Davin Buffington, was in to discuss the COLA increase. The Commissioners explained that they are waiting for the taxable values to come out on August 7th before making the decision on the percentage.

TREASURER

Denise Wanken, Treasurer, was in to discuss hiring another person for her office to train. Denise is planning to train someone new for her job and then retire in the next year.

DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Kayla Johnson, DES, updated the Commissioners on the grant funding she has applied for.

MSU LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Liberty County Extension Agent, attended the Marias Fair most of the week, he will update the Commissioners on that next week.

AIRPORT

Jim Briden was in to discuss and sign the airport lease.

PREDATORY CONTROL

Toni Dafoe, called about the predatory meeting the commissioners had. The Dafoe's do not want the increase, as they feel they do not receive the services.

PAYROLL

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

CLAIMS

A motion to approve claims was made by Commissioner Woods (via) phone and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. There being no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman