

SEPTEMBER 5, 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 and Larry Hendrickson (chair).

FISH WILDIFE AND PARKS

Warden Willie Miller was in to update the Commissioners on what his department has been doing. The Commissioners let him know that the cattle increase for predatory control is on hold, due to a tie vote. The Commissioners sent out letters to the cattlemen in Liberty County. So far seven cattlemen are for it and 5 are against it.

LEPC

The Commissioners attended the LEPC meeting at the fire hall this morning. The Commissioners asked at the meeting for Kayla Johson, Liberty County DES representative to look for grants. She will continue to look and see if there are any available.

CLERK AND RECORDER

The Clerk and Recorder was in to ask about going forward with the pay increase and backpay for some of the employees and for Stonegarden Grants.

SENIOR CENTER/TRANSIT

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center/Transit Director, was in to ask the Commissioners about updating the annunciator panel/cell booster. A motion was made by Commissioner Woods to upgrade these parts for the fire suppression unit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wickum. There being no public comment, the motion was carried with all in favor.

BUDGET MEETING

Budget meeting called to order by Larry Hendrickson (chair) at 10:01 am. All in attendance were: Kathy Armstrong, Joette Woods, Davin Buffington, Justin Wickum, Larry Hendrickson, Chris Case, and Denise Wanken. A motion to approve the Chester Joplin Inverness School portion of the budget was made by Commissioner Woods with a second by Commissioner Wickum. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in approval. A motion to approve and accept the county budget was made by Commissioner Wickum and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. A letter will be crafted by Robert Padmos, CA, to District 10 Chair, to give a budget deadline and inform them that their budget is past due to receive the money. This letter will be hand delivered by our local Sheriff Office.

MAINTENANCE

Jerry Ghekiere was in to update the Commissioners on some generator issues.

PREDATORY CONTROL

A motion to approve resolution 23-14 to increase predatory control was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in approval.

COUNCIL ON AGING

A motion to approve the Area 3 Agency on Aging contract was made Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Wickum. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with approval by all.

MACo

Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the MACo dues for Liberty County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wickum. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

MSU LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the MSU Extension Agent Contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in approval.

IRON CREEK ROAD CLOSURE

A motion to close the Iron Creek Rd due to fire danger was made by Commissioner Wickum and seconded by Commissioner Woods. There being no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

RESOLUTION 23-16

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the final budget, resolution 23-16. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. The final mills due to the increase in mill value have gone down from 133 to 127.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

SEPTEMBER 6, 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 Commissioners present were: Larry Hendrickson (chair), Joette Woods, and Justin Wickum.

SHERIFF

Undersheriff Kyle Heppner, was in to update the Commissioners on the letter that he hand delivered to District 10 Schools to let them know that they need to return their revised budget to the county by Friday, September 8th or they will receive no mills. The Commissioners toured the basement in the Sheriff Office. The Commissioners are looking to vent the basement area that the radio towers are in due to moisture in the basement which is causing damage. The Commissioners will be getting bids on venting through the basement.

DES/PUBLIC HEALTH

DES/ Public Health employees were in to discuss radio grants. Kayla Johnson/DES has been looking for grants to purchase equipment for radio upgrades and maintenance.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Kathy Armstrong, County Superintendent, was in to update the Commissioners on the District 10 school issues that continue to surface.

CHIPPEWA CREE/EASEMENT

The Commissioners typed a letter to the Chippewa Cree Tribal Council to ask for an easement on a small parcel of land that gives Liberty County access to the radio towers and repeaters that need yearly maintenance.

PAYROLL

A motion to approve payroll was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Wickum. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried. Payroll had an issue with the download that went to the bank. Last year's numbers were downloaded for September of 2022 instead of 2023. The correct download and fixes were done on the same day.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to update the Commissioners on some county issues he is working on.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

SEPTEMBER 12, 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, Larry Hendrickson (chair), and Joette Woods.

WIC SATELLITE PROGRAM

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

SCHOOL - NEED REVISED BUDGET

Luke Haggarty and Kathy Armstrong were in to discuss the colony schools lack of revised budget. The Commissioners and Superintendent have made some phone calls for guidance on how to go forward with the budget for District 10 Schools.

MOWING DITCHES

Deb Wolery called the Commissioners about mowing along the ditches by their ranch. The Commissioners explained the mowers are working their way along that road.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Commissioner Hendrickson attended the Council on Aging meeting.

COMPLAINT/JOPLIN RESIDENT

Ken Snyder, from Joplin, was in to let the Commissioners know he has had enough of some people's junk in the middle of the streets in Joplin. He would like the Commissioners to do something about it.

MSU LIBERTY COUNTY EXTENSION

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Liberty County Extension Agent, was in to discuss the grasshopper problem Liberty County is having. He updated the Commissioners on the cemetery issues as well.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Nick Erickson updated the Commissioners on the new Tahoe that was ordered a year ago. They are picking it up this week. He also updated the Commissioners on someone in the community that is having manic episodes that they are watching closely.

CLAIMS

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

EVENT INSURANCE

The Commissioners called Wood Enterprises about who would carry the event insurance on the "kid zone" the Harvest Festival plans on having set up at the courthouse. The Commissioners are ok with the "kid zone" being on county property as long as the entity putting the fun zone up is covered with their own event insurance.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

SEPTEMBER 13, 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 Justin Wickum, Joette Woods, and Larry Hendrickson (chair).

SHERIFF

Sheriff Nick Erickson was in to update the Commissioners about an incident that happened in Joplin. Everything turned out ok. Nick explained that the Tahoe they ordered for the Sheriff Department. was not the same as what they had asked for when they ordered it. The Tahoe remains in Fort Benton until the proper items are put into the vehicle.

CPR TRAINING

The Commissioners are planning the biannual CPR training for employees for November/December.

BUILDING NOTICE

The Commissioners will be putting a county wide building notification together for future builds in Liberty County. There are specific county regulations, except the regular sewer, electrical, and digging requirements. The Commissioners ask Liberty County residents to follow the state regulations. This information will be used to assist future assessors with updating property values and new builds that are going up in the county.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

County Superintendent Kathy Armstrong was in to update the Commissioners on the teacher retirement for the colony teachers.

MACo

A motion to renew our MACo dues was made by Commissioner Wickum and seconded by Commissioner Woods. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

SENIOR CENTER/TRANSIT

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center/Transit Director, was in to update the Commissioners on the Senior Center happenings. The demand for goods so far has been keeping up with the supply chain.

COUNTY SANITARIAN

Sarah Robbin, Sanitarian, was in to update the Commissioners on the conferences that she attended and what's going on with some of her permits.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

SEPTEMBER 19, 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 and Larry Hendrickson (chair) Justin Wickum (via phone)

SAFETY MEETING

The safety meeting was held in the Commissioner's office. In attendance were: Joette Woods, Larry Hendrickson, Davin Padmos, Kassondra May, Julie Gagnon, Nick Erickson, Anne Melton, Kayla Johnson, Melissa Kantorowicz, Chris Case, Denise Wanken, and Kathy Armstrong.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Kathy Armstrong, County Superintendent, was in to update the Commissioners on the District 10 issues.

DIS TECHNOLOGY

The Commissioners wrote a letter to our current IT company, DIS, to let them know that Liberty County will be switching to MACo IT for future IT issues, and updates.

VOCA

One of the Liberty County VOCA advocates has decided to resign. Stephanie Hurley from Toole County has resigned effective October 6th. Amy Jacques, from Choteau County is willing to take over the program if the grant allows. We will be advertising for the job.

MT SECRETARY OF STATE

Jesse Mullens, Candidate for MT Secretary of State, dropped in at the courthouse to let people know that he is out and about for questions and comments.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE

The Commissioners met with MDOT/BNSF on the 600 Rd East of town. BNSF is looking at fixing the crossing and MDOT will help with pavement over the crossing. The Commissioners agreed to replace a couple of faded and shot up on either side of the tracks.

PAYROLL

A motion to approve payroll was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

HUMAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A motion to approve the HRDC Governance Calendar was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. There being no public comment, the motion carried.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

The Commissioners filled out the required ARPA survey that was due by September 22nd and emailed it back to remain in compliance.

WEED DEPARTMENT/911

Jim Ghekiere, 911, Weed Department Coordinator, was in to update the Commissioners on his end of year activities in the Weed Department.

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

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

Chairman

SEPTEMBER 26, 2023
Commissioners gone to Butte for MACo.