

**June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**AUDIT**

The auditors from Denning, Downey, and Assoc. were in to do the yearly audit. The exit interview was excellent. There were no findings.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Extension Officer, was in updating the commissioners the 4H program.

**SHERIFF OFFICE**

Kyle Heppner, Liberty County Under Sheriff, was in with the security alert guys to discuss where to put the new cameras and microphones in places around and inside the Sheriff Office.

**FWP**

State Game Warden William Miller was in to visit with the commissioners.

**CLAIMS**

The Commissioners reviewed claims presented by Sarah Horel. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the claims presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

**TOURISM BOARD**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wicks to reappoint Judy Tempel and Jesse Anderson to Central Tourism Board. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

**WEATHER STATION**

A motion was made to create a weather station board, by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**BEAR PAW DEVELOPMENT**

The Commissioners headed down to Bear Paw Development in Havre this morning to discuss some grant opportunities. The county had the cares act money explained and how each county can use the funds towards infrastructure.

**ROAD**

Justin Wickum, County Road Department Head, was in to discuss his crew and where they are working currently.

**CLAIMS**

The Commissioners reviewed claims presented by Sarah Horel. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the claims presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson

**ROAD**

Justin Wickum was in to discuss with the commissioners that he has a grader break down, but they are continuing road maintenance.

**BEAR PAW DEVELOPMENT**

Commissioner Wicks made a motion to renew our participation in Bear Paw Economic Development. This motion was seconded by Hendrickson. Hearing no public comment, motion carries with an all-in favor. The fee to renew is billed in two halves. Our half is in the amount of \$3125.00.

**TREASURY PORTAL**

Senator Tester's office called to offer their assistance on the Treasury Portal issues we have been having to try to get an ID set up to collect our ARPA money.

**COMPENSATION MEETING**

Compensation committee met in the commissioner's office today and tabled the COLA/ Wage increase until September. Community member board present were: Dana Lalum, Mike Walstad, and Laura Merchant. Meeting was called to order at 9:17 by commissioner chair Joette Woods. All in attendance were: Maureen Wicks, Robert Padmos, Joette Woods, Denise Wanken, Ann Melton, and Larry Hendrickson. A motion to table until taxable values made by Mike Walstad. This motion was second by Laura Merchant. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

**LEPC**

The Commissioners did not attend the LEPC meeting this month, due to a compensation committee meeting.

**DISTRICT MEETING**

The Commissioners attended the District 4 & 5 meetings in Shelby yesterday. MACo updated the elected officials of the new bills and laws. They went through legislature and how it will affect the counties. They updated the commissioners on ARPA money and how that money can be used

**SENATOR TEMPEL**

Senator Tempel stopped in today looking for an update from the commissioners. They did discuss the ARPA monies that the county will be receiving to help with sewer, water, and broadband.

**DES**

Sarah Robbin, Liberty County DES coordinator, was in to discuss and update the commissioners on what trainings she's been attending. Such as visiting with the residents at the Sweetgrass Lodge on evacuation plans for each resident. Also, she is waiting for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter reimbursement from DES.

**COUNCIL ON AGING AND TRANSPORTATION**

Commissioner Wicks attended the Council on Aging and Transportation meetings today. They are currently looking for new board members to sit on the board. Copy of the minutes kept in a file.

Judge Holly Frederickson was in to update the commissioners on her Justice Court.

**TAX MONEY**

Commissioners Wicks made a motion to accept a decision that the earmarked alcohol tax money go to both Bullhook, and Living Alternatives, and they will split it. Commissioner Hendrickson second the motion. Hearing no other public comment, all in favor, motion carries.

**MAINTENANCE**

Jerry Ghekiere, maintenance supervisor, was in to discuss generator repair. The commissioners will be receiving a quote soon for the estimate to repair it. If all agree, Jerry will be up on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> to repair it.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**CLERK AND RECORDER**

Davin Buffington, Clerk and Recorder, was in to discuss the compensated absence fund with the commissioners. They also discussed the cuts that are being made from the BOR towards our local law enforcement. We will not be cutting Justice and Public safety, as they are a valuable department in Liberty County.

**SHERIFF DEPARTRMET**

Nick Erickson, Liberty County Sheriff, was in to update the commissioners on his department changes. New staff including a new female deputy, her name is Darby Wentworth. She started on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, there is a new Dispatcher named Britney Irwin. Nick also talked to the commissioners about his budget.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Extension Supervisor, was in to let the commissioners know he received the NRA grant for shooting sports for 4H. They were awarded air rifles, scopes, shotgun shells and clay targets. The figured total was around \$2500.00 in products.

**TREASURY PORTAL**

Cheryl Ulmer, from Jon Tester's office, was able to help Liberty County get into the Treasury Portal. This will help us get our ARPA monies from the state.

**CLAIMS**

The Commissioners reviewed claims presented by Sarah Horel. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the claims presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing 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

**June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**TEAMSTERS LOCAL AGREEMENT**

A motion made to sign and accept the Teamsters Local Agreement made by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**ARTICLE 17. SEVERABILITY**

Should any provisions contained in this Agreement be declared invalid by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted legislation or court decree or competent jurisdiction, such terms of the Agreement shall be modified so as to conform to the requirements of such laws or decrees, all other provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE 18. AMENDMENT**

This Agreement shall be subject to amendment at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto. Discussion will be limited to that item or those items which are agreed upon to discuss before opening. Such amendment shall be agreed to by both parties, reduced in writing, state effective date of amendment, and be executed in the same manner as this Agreement. Each party had the unlimited right to propose and discuss any mandatory subject of bargaining, and each hereby assures the other that it will not demand additional negotiations during the term of this Agreement, except by mutual agreement and for a successor collective bargaining agreement.

**ARTICLE 19. WAGE SCHEDULE**

Attached hereto and made a part thereof as Addendum 1 is a list of the agreed wage schedule, classifications, rates and fringe benefits for employees covered by and for the duration of this Agreement.

For the contract years of 2021-2022 this contract was not held to negotiations. Signatory consent to all terms held prior. Signatures are provided to direct current status for the purpose of audits.

For: Liberty County, Montana

Date of Ratification 6/15/21

  
County Commissioner

  
County Commissioner

  
County Commissioner

For: Teamsters Local Union #2

Date of Ratification June 9, 2021

  
Business Representative  
Jim Szymanski

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**MILL AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the lease and mill agreement for the Hospital was made by Commissioner Hendrickson. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**ARPA**

ARPA paperwork was filled out and emailed to the treasury portal. The county should be receiving funds by the end of June.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, was in to show the commissioners her Transit of the Year award. She has worked very hard to achieve this. Also, Glenda had an employee who needs sick time. She and a co-worker donated hours. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to allow this. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**SAFETY MEETING**

A safety meeting was held in the commissioner's office at 10 am. All in attendance were: Morb Wicks, Joette Woods, Larry Hendrickson, Kathy Armstrong, Davin Buffington, Tina Wood, Shelley Sheldon, and our guest fire extinguisher trainers were: Dave Ghekiere, and Jason Wanken. Commissioners will be scheduling the next safety meeting for September 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m.

**PAYROLL**

Employee payroll was submitted for approval by Jordan Miller. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve payroll via phone. Commissioner Wicks seconded via phone. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**VOCA**

The county VOCA representatives were in the office today. They are continuing to work on grants. They are working hard to split counties to meet the needs of people who need their services.

**THE PUBLIC**

The Wanken brothers, Liberty County Residents, were in to ask if they could put up road closed signs on their private drive. The commissioners told them they were able to do that.

**CLERK AND RECORDER**

Davin Buffington, Clerk and Recorder, was in to let the commissioners know the county audit report was signed and returned for finalization. She was also in to discuss the budget resolutions and expansions.

**CLAIMS**

The Commissioners reviewed claims presented by Sarah Horel. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the claims presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Judge Holly Frederickson Justice of the Peace was in to update the commissioners on her court proceedings today.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk**

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**Chairman**

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**ROAD**

Justin Wickum, Road Department Head, was in to update the commissioners on where his crew is today, and will be throughout the week. He is down a guy this week, so things will take a bit longer.

**STATE WORKFORCE**

Commissioner Wicks was able to attend the mine tours at Big Timber this weekend for the State Workforce Innovation Board.

**JOPLIN**

The commissioners have been receiving proposals for the sewer project in Joplin, that we are planning on doing with the ARPA money.

**CLERK AND RECORDER**

Davin Buffington, Clerk and Recorder, was in to discuss budgeting before she sends in the budgets to the state.

**MACO**

Commissioner Hendrickson went to Helena today for MACo board officials meeting.

**THE PUBLIC**

Roberta Beute, Liberty County Resident, came into the commissioner's office to thank both Commissioner Wicks and Commissioner Woods for information she asked for in writing her book. The book is: "As it was A Common Thread."

**WEED**

Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion for Jim Ghekiere, Weed Department Head, to purchase a forklift for the weed department in the amount of \$15,000.00. Commissioner Wicks seconded the motion. Hearing 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**

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**Chairman**

**June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 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: Commissioner Maureen "Morb" Wicks, Commissioner Joette Woods and Commissioner Larry Hendrickson.

**ROAD**

Justin Wickum, Road Supervisor, was in to update the commissioners on his crew, and what they will be working on this week. Conditions are so dry; the roads cannot be worked right now. They will find other projects to work on.

**FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to put Liberty County on stage two fire restrictions. Commissioner Wicks second the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. The commissioners have notified the fire marshal, sheriff office, DNRC, local webpages, and chamber email.

**STAGE II RESTRICTIONS**

The following acts are prohibited until further notice:

- 1. Building maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire.
- 2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
- 3. The following acts are prohibited from 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.:
  - a. Operating any internal combustion engine.
  - b. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
  - c. Using an explosive.

A patrol is required for two hours following cessation of all work as described above.

- 4. Operating motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails.

Exemptions:

- 1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
- 2. Persons using a device fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off.
- 3. Operating motorized vehicles on designated roads and trails.

**CLERK AND RECORDER**

Davin Buffington, Clerk and Recorder, was in to present the budget expansion resolution. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to accept Resolution 21-07 on Amending Budgets. Commissioner Wicks second the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

The Department of Revenue stopped in and asked some questions about new structures being on the tax revenue statements. The conversation led to having a desk here in the courthouse for her to stop in and update.

**SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

Liberty County Sheriff Nick Erickson, was in to discuss the fire restrictions, and fire work restrictions

**CLAIMS**

The Commissioners reviewed claims presented by Sarah Horel. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the claims presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wicks. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**DOR**

A call was placed with the Head of DOR about new taxable revenues, and their procedures and updates they are going through to get appraisals done.

**ARPA**

The commissioners were discussing the three proposals that Liberty County has received for the ARPA money sewer project.

**WEED/911**

Jim Ghekiere, Weed Department Supervisor and 911 director, was in to ask the commissioners about a used pickup for an extra fire wagon. The pickup would be free, except shipping. The total cost would be around \$3000.00

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Judge Holly Frederickson was in to update the commissioners about her court proceedings.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

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Chairman