

**SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 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 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner Shane Gagnon, and Commissioner Joette Woods (Chair).

**LIBERTY EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Commissioners attended the LEPC meeting at the fire hall. They discussed having LEPC members take NIMS (National Incident Management System) courses and having an armed intruder training in the spring. The biggest issue facing the County presently is cell/radio service at the lake. Call volume has tripled this summer and it is becoming an issue.

**ROAD**

Road Foreman Justin Wickum updated the Commissioners on where his crew will be this week and what they will be working on- primarily finishing up mowing county roads and doing maintenance in the shop.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, Extension Agent, updated the Commissioners on 4H happenings and the upcoming mental health classes he is offering at the high school. He also presented the budget for the year. Commissioner Gagnon made a motion to approve the Extension budget, including Jesse’s salary agreement for the year. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**SHERIFF**

Sheriff Nick Erickson reported that a local resident damaged the outside dispatch door of the Sheriff’s Department. The locking mechanism and handle are broken. This is being assessed and addressed both legally and with repairs, and Sheriff Erickson shared some safety updates and reinforcement ideas for the doors and throughout the jail that he had.

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Superintendent of Schools Kathy Armstrong updated the Commissioners on District 10 issues. They came in to collect textbooks that she ordered for them this afternoon.

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 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Joette Woods (Chair).

**ROAD CLOSURE**

A motion to close 5150 Road South from Highway 223 to Moffit due to fire danger was made by Commissioner Hendrickson. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve the 50% match to the funding that DES received from the state, in the amount of \$16,877.24. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**BUDGET FINALIZATION**

All department heads submitted their final budgets for the 2022-23 fiscal year. The Commissioners reviewed the county budget one final time. Commissioner Gagnon made a motion to approve the budget. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE MEETING PREP**

The Commissioners met with a Montana Association of Counties representative, the Clerk and Recorder, County Attorney, and Senator Russ Tempel to discuss in advance the meeting to be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> with the Department of Revenue regarding the newly taxable values. An email will be sent requesting the values going back the last 5 years before this meeting.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT**

The Commissioners met with Ashley Wickum (Town of Chester), Sheriff Nick Erickson, County Attorney Robert Padmos, and Clerk and Recorder Davin Buffington to discuss renewing the interlocal agreement between the Town of Chester and Liberty County for policing services. The last agreement was for \$75,000.00. Due to inflation for the last two years, the County is proposing a new agreement in the amount of \$89,000.00. Ashley will bring this proposal to the next City Council meeting and a decision will be made next week.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, Extension Agent, updated the Commissioners on 4-H shooting sports and flags.

**CLAIMS**

Monica Serrato, Claims Specialist, presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. After review, Commissioner Gagnon made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Hendrickson 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

**SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Joette Woods (Chair).

**ROAD**

Road Foreman Justin Wickum updated the Commissioners on what work his crew is doing this week. Work was done on Green's Hill and will be working on Bears next, as well as finishing mowing. He will also be working on installing a new door at the Sheriff's Office.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

County Attorney Robert Padmos updated the Commissioners on some ongoing issues with the Office of Public Instruction and the District 10 school contracts.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Extension Agent came in to share how 4H night went and shared updates about the Cemetery Board.

**CEMETARY BOARD**

The Cemetery Board met with the Commissioners to review their budget. In attendance were Jesse Fulbright (chair), Betty Ann Wolery, Pat Ludwig, Toni Dafoe, Bob Dafoe, Ted Zorn, Jason Wanken, Delbert Anderson, and Scoot Marshall.

**WEED/911**

Jim Ghekiere came in to discuss a backup battery for 911. He also discussed the Sweetgrass Hills helicopter grant.

**CELL TOWER BY LAKE**

The Commissioners called AT&T about a cell tower and repeater down by the lake, however AT&T is unable to help at this time.

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

**SEPTEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Joette Woods (Chair).

**SAFETY MEETING**

The quarterly safety meeting was held in the Commissioners' Office, in addition to the Commissioners were representatives from the Clerk and Recorder, Extension Office, Public Health, and Wood Enterprises.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Public Health nurses Kayla Johnson and Melissa Kantorowicz updated the Commissioners about a PHEP grant that they received.

### **JOPLIN SEWER PROJECT**

The Commissioners met with Robert Peccia and Associates about the Joplin Sewer project overview. RPA will come back to meet again in January with some solid numbers. The timeline currently is:

- Summer 2023- bid
- 2024- project start date
- 2026- project completion

Commissioners will be asking local land owners close to the lagoon for a possible 1-year lease to spread sludge.

### **CLAIMS**

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve claims. Commissioners Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing to public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

### **LOCAL PERMIT**

Clark Diemert brought in a form for the Commissioners to sign for the Permitting and Compliance Division informing them that there are no zoning restrictions for composting. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to sign the form. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

### **ELECTION RETENTION SCHEDULE AND DISPOSAL**

The Commissioners discussed the schedule for retaining/disposing of election records, according to the RM88 form instructions. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to destroy the records for the 2017 Special Election through the 2020 Federal Primary. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. Records will be documented and destroyed in accordance to form RM88 which is to be kept on file for 30 years.

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

### **SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 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 Larry Hendrickson, and Commissioner Joette Woods (Chair).

### **ROADS**

Road Foreman Justin Wickum updated the Commissioners on the road crew. They will be done mowing this week. He shared that he received a call from a farmer whose road access is closed; he is angry that it is actually a county access road to BLM land.

### **CLAIMS**

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing to public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. Justin and the Commissioners had a phone call with the Montana Department of Transportation about bridges and resources that are available to update or repair them. Without grant funding, the County doesn't have the resources for repairs/updates.

### **JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Justice of the Peace Holly Frederickson informed the Commissioners that she will be upstairs for a hearing in the afternoon.

### **PAYROLL**

Payroll Specialist Jordan Miller presented payroll for the Commissioners to review and approve. Commissioner Hendrickson made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Gagnon seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

### **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT**

The Commissioners discussed the interlocal agreement between the Town of Chester and Liberty County Sheriff Department. The agreement is for the Town of Chester to pay one sheriff deputy's salary due to the volume of calls within town limits. The agreement was negotiated in June, and approved by the Town Council. Commissioner Gagnon made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. Sheriff Erickson signed the agreement.

### **JOPLIN SEWER RATES**

The Commissioners will put a notice in the paper regarding a raise in rates for the Joplin Sewer.

### **TAXABLE VALUES**

The Commissioners met with the Department of Revenue and Montana Association of Counties about taxable values in the county. The DOR explained why the newly taxable values are not what was anticipated. Beginning next year, they will be going back 6 years to add on newly taxable values.

### **COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT**

County Superintendent Kathy Armstrong informed the Commissioners that she will not be approving the budgets for the Cool Springs Colony School in Hill County or for District 10 Schools in Toole County. By law she cannot approve out of district budgets or teachers.

### **TREASURER**

Treasurer Denise Wanken updated the Commissioners on the County Treasurer Conference in Billings. There are certain ideas that the state legislature wants to have county treasurers implement such as allowing payment plans for property taxes instead of requiring full payment. She is not in favor of this chance.

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

**SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2022 TUESDAY**  
Commissioners out of the county to attend MACO