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CORY KIRSCH, CHAIR

LEONARD WORTMAN

BOB MULLEN

**PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF MONTANA
January 10, 2017**

Present: Commissioners Kirsch, Wortman and Mullen; Tom Harrington, JLDC; Micky Zurcker, MSU Extension; Bruce Benkowski, Event Coordinator; Barb Reiter, DUI Task Force; Jan Anderson, *Boulder Monitor*; Paul Backlund

The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS

Commissioner Kirsch noted the receipt of the Clerk and Recorder fees report for December.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Mullen stated that the Commission received a letter this week from our architectural firm regarding building 6 on the South Campus. Tom Harrington stated that there is a public meeting regarding this on January 24th at 6:00 p.m.

CALENDAR REVIEW

- 1/11 State Weed Conference - Great Falls
Boyd Andrew - noon
DPHHS committee hearing - 3:00
- 1/12 ATV Users Group sponsored lunch in rotunda - 11:30
- 1/13 Mullen and Spaeth to meet with Dan Villa
- 1/16 TSEP hearing at legislature - 8:00

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Mullen reported that he attended the MHLAC meeting on Wednesday. They finished their work on the bylaws, which will be on a future agenda for approval. He stated that a young lady, Brooklyn Leary of the local high school district, came to speak to them and gave some good insights. He thinks that we have found the way to work with young people in the school; the school counselor will be working with high school students that are interested in mental health, particularly surrounding suicide.

Commissioner Mullen reported that he had a meeting with the RMDC Executive Committee on Thursday, where they discussed the Whitehall Head Start program. The Executive Committee decided to make an attempt to continue the program at least through the end of this school year. The teacher is retiring at the end of the year, so they will need to find a replacement. They also need to get enrollment numbers up. Commissioner Kirsch gave kudos to Commissioner Mullen for keeping that program in Whitehall. He is confident that if he had not been there to fight for the program, it would be gone. Commissioner Wortman stated that he feels that Commissioner Mullen is being modest; he basically raised holy hell in fighting for this program.

Commissioner Wortman reported that on Thursday he did a tour with Terry Murphy of the area around Cardwell and came up with proposed boundaries for the ambulance district. He also spoke with people from the ambulance district, and they were also okay with the boundaries.

Commissioner Wortman reported that on Monday he did a tour around Whitehall in the afternoon. Pipestone Creek had some water and ice coming up again, on the east side of Kountz Road.

Commissioner Kirsch reported on the BTAC meeting. The high school talked about strategic planning and the City of Boulder is looking at their capital improvement plan. MDC gave a brief update as well.

The Elkhorn Working Group met on Thursday afternoon, and they did a strategic planning meeting. They are wondering if they are needed any longer.

Commissioner Kirsch reported that the previous day the Commissioners were able to meet with the new events coordinator, Bruce Binkowski. Bruce introduced himself and gave an overview of what his job will entail.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Harrington stated that he would like to echo the sentiments of Commissioner Wortman, in regards to Commissioner Mullen. The Head Start is very important to Whitehall and the families that it services.

ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS' ACTION OR REVIEW

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR DUI TASK FORCE SUPER BOWL PARTY

Barb Reiter, DUI Task Force, stated that they are working on the 2nd annual Super Bowl Party for teens. She explained the prizes and funding. She stated that this gives the kids an opportunity to come together and have a good time without being exposed to alcohol.

Commissioner Mullen asked if this is just for Boulder, or are they attempting to do one in Whitehall as well. Barb stated that they are going to talk to the student members about this today. She contacted the school in Whitehall, and they cannot support getting the kids to Boulder. However, if they get enough interest, the Task Force could pay for a bus to get them here.

As an aside, Barb stated that she appreciates what Commissioner Mullen has done to help keep the Head Start program in Whitehall. The program is a good foundation for prevention.

Commissioner Mullen moved to donate \$2000. Commissioner Wortman seconded, with the stipulation that outreach be done to Whitehall. Feels that this is really important to give kids an alternative.

The motion carried. The money will come from the PILT fund.

TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT UPDATE

Tom Harrington, JLDC, came before the Commission to give an update on the quarterly TIF meeting held mid-December.

The North TIFID has a balance of \$23,471, and the metal mine loan balance is \$286,432. The South TIFID has \$750,450 and a remaining balance on the metal mine loan of \$45,000, which is in the process of being paid off.

The north TIFID has four lots sold; the recycling operation is up and running. Two more lots are in the process of being sold. On the south end, the three offices in the warehouse are occupied. There has been discussion on forming a water/sewer district to handle things after the TIFID sunsets.

The TIFID board also discussed the public meeting held in November regarding urban renewal versus TEDD.

There were three board members whose terms had expired; Scott Mendenhall opted to resign and Ed Handl and Kevin Keeler renewed their membership.

The board has a contractor working on a TIFID procedures manual.

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON PIPESTONE/JEFFERSON SLOUGH PROJECT ISSUES

Commissioner Wortman stated that the bid is out to repair the blowout. They are working on getting a landowner agreement for the portion of the Jefferson Slough that we are going to redo.

There was a big deal with icing in the Whitehall area last week. He stated that there are parts of the Slough that are less than a foot deep and silted in, which created huge problems.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTEST:

**BONNIE RAMEY
CLERK AND RECORDER**

CORY KIRSCH, CHAIR

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