

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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ROBERT MULLEN, CHAIR

LEONARD WORTMAN

CORY KIRSCH

**PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF MONTANA
April 12, 2016**

Present: Commissioners Mullen, Wortman and Kirsch; Doug Dodge, DES Coordinator; Patrick Webb and Alex Cochell, Senator Daines' office; Jan Anderson, *Boulder Monitor*; Paul Backland

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Commissioner Kirsch moved to approve the minutes of February 23. Commissioner Mullen seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Kirsch moved to approve the minutes of March 1. Commissioner Wortman seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Wortman moved to approve the minutes of March 8. Commissioner Kirsch seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Wortman moved to approve the minutes of March 29. Commissioner Mullen seconded. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Mullen noted that the Commission had written to the Department of Labor and Industry regarding the impact to the Town of Boulder and Jefferson County from the closure of MDC. Per statute 39-2-103, the Department of Labor and Industry should write to us regarding the closure of MDC, providing us with an impact statement of what that closure meant. We wrote to them last September and didn't feel that we received a response from them. We recently wrote back to them asking for a response, which they said they wrote back in September. No one in the office remembers getting that letter. The Department of Labor and Industry stated that the request should be directed to DPHHS, although Commissioner Mullen noted that statute very clearly states that the impact statement is the responsibility of the Department of Labor and Industry .

Commissioner Wortman asked if Senate Bill 411 included a section for the committee or DPHHS to provide an impact statement. Commissioner Mullen said that he doesn't think so.

CALENDAR REVIEW

- 4/12 Study circle - 6:00
- 4/13 Planning board meeting - 7:00
- 4/14 STI meeting - 7:00
CTAC - 8:00
Mosquito board - 5:00
Weed board - 6:00
- 4/18 Commissioner Wortman Whitehall office hours
Boulder City Council - 6:00

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Kirsch reported that on Tuesday night he attended the study circle, where they seem to be making good headway.

Commissioner Kirsch reported that on Thursday morning he attended the BTAC meeting. He thinks that once we finish with the study circles we will have some good information to forward on to the transition committee.

Commissioner Wortman reported that Thursday he attended the Jefferson River Watershed Council meeting in Whitehall.

Commissioner Mullen reported that on Wednesday he had a mental health local advisory meeting in Boulder. On Thursday he took part in a conference call with Area IV Agency on Aging.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick Webb, Senator Daines' field representative, stated that he made the move from Belgrade to Helena and now has time to get into planning a tour of the counties that he is assigned. He plans to do constituent work in Boulder and Whitehall. He also sent an e-mail regarding some transportation grants that are available. The just wrapped up the energy summit tour with the Senator, which was a huge success. He also introduced Alex Cochell, who is the intern in Helena.

ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS' ACTION OR REVIEW

DISCUSS GENERATOR HOOKUP FUNDING FOR MONTANA CITY VFD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Doug Dodge, DES Coordinator, stated that they held a senior and elected officials meeting regarding emergency planning recently. One of the issues that came up is the need for an alternate EOC. The alternate EOC is currently at MDC, which is closing, and also in the same town as the main EOC. The Montana City VFD is currently constructing their new building, which would have room for an alternate EOC, so now is the time to install the additional wiring for a backup generator. This will cost \$5,000.

Commissioner Kirsch stated that he feels that it would be a good idea to have something on that end of the County, even if it isn't the EOC. Now is the time to put in the wiring, before the walls are finished.

Commissioner Mullen stated that they won't make a decision today, but it will be on the next agenda.

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON JAIL EXPANSION PUBLIC PRESENTATION PROCESS

Commissioner Wortman stated that he feels that if we are going to talk about the jail expansion, we need to do it sooner than later, and it needs to be a very public process. He would suggest that we either go on a three-week tour of having traveling evening meetings or set up a public meeting in each area of the county and have meetings on consecutive nights.

It was decided that meetings will be held the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of May.

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON PIPESTONE/JEFFERSON SLOUGH PROJECT ISSUES

Commissioner Wortman stated that we are not going to have an agreement with the Capps for this construction year. Because of this, we are going to have available about \$235,000 that will go towards the Kountz Road bridge. We won't be asking for TSEP funding for that bridge, which requires a 50% match from the County, so this will be a better deal for us. They also feel that the Kountz Road Bridge would rank very low on the TSEP ranking.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTEST:

**BONNIE RAMEY
CLERK AND RECORDER**

BOB MULLEN, CHAIR

LEONARD WORTMAN, COMMISSIONER

CORY KIRSCH, COMMISSIONER