

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COURTHOUSE, BOX H
BOULDER, MT 59632
PHONE 406-225-4025
FAX 406-225-4148

ROBERT MULLEN, CHAIR

LEONARD WORTMAN

CORY KIRSCH

**PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF MONTANA
April 5, 2016**

Present: Commissioners Mullen and Kirsch; Bonnie Ramey, Clerk and Recorder; Steve Haddon, County Attorney; Marilyn McCauley; Paul Backlund

Absent: Commissioner Wortman

MINUTES

Commissioner Kirsch moved to approve the minutes of March 22. Commissioner Mullen seconded. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Commissioner Mullen noted the receipt of the March Clerk and Recorder fees report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Mullen noted that they have received two bids for a pump that the Road Department is selling. The bids were as follows: \$625.00 - Felstat Corp. \$750.00 - Ed McCauley. The bid was awarded to Ed McCauley.

CALENDAR REVIEW

4/5 Boulder Study Circle
4/6 Local Mental Health Advisory Council - 10:00
4/7 BTAC - 8:00
Survey Review - 1:30
Elkhorn Working Group - 3:00
Mosquito Board - 5:00
Weed Board - 6:00

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Kirsch reported that he attended the MACRS conference in Great Falls last week.

Commissioner Mullen reported that he met with Megan Bullock and Ken Vivrette on Tuesday regarding a sewer system problem in Martinez Gulch.

Commissioner Mullen reported that on Thursday he attended the RMDC board meeting. It was a very short meeting, consisting of the Director's report, the Head Start report and they welcomed the newest board member - Maria Pace.

Commissioner Mullen reported that yesterday he attended a meeting with Terry Minow, Gary Spaeth and Eric Burke - MEA-MFT. They discussed some op eds, letters to the editor that have been in the paper and developing our response to those.

ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS' ACTION OR REVIEW

AWARD BID FOR FAIRGROUNDS BLEACHER COVER

Four bids were received as follows:

Contractor	Bid Bond	Addenda #1	Base Bid	Add Alt No 1 Arena Lighting System	TOTAL Base + Add Alt No. 1
Geranios Enterprises, Inc.	X	X	\$319,279.00	\$75,500.00	\$394,779.00
Wadsworth Builders Company, Inc	X	X	\$247,500.00	\$91,500.00	\$339,000.00
Golden Eagle Construction, Inc.	X	X	\$234,900.00	\$103,200.00	\$338,100.00
Abraham Construction Services	X	X	\$242,800.00	\$99,950.00	\$342,750.00

Commissioner Mullen stated that three of the bids are extremely close, noting that Golden Eagle Construction is the lowest bidder on both the base bid and with the lighting option.

Commissioner Kirsch asked if the county resident preference applies. Steve stated that he checked this out, and it doesn't apply to capital improvements, which this is. Also, one of the principals of Golden Eagle Construction is a Jefferson County resident.

Commissioner Mullen stated that they will award only for the base bid at this time, and the architect reviewed the bids and has stated that Golden Eagle submitted a fair bid.

Commissioner Mullen moved to approve Golden Eagle Construction's base bid for the bleacher cover. Commissioner Kirsch seconded. The motion carried.

CONFERENCE CALL - KEN BROWN - WESTERN COUNTIES ALLIANCE

Commissioner Mullen called Ken Brown, Western Counties Alliance, in Utah.

Ken started with an update on PILT. He reviewed past and current numbers, and noted that Jefferson County will receive approximately a 9% increase from 2015 to 2016 to be paid in one payment this year, unlike last year which was made in two payments. He asked if Alternative A Counties in Montana are allowed to create a special service district to protect themselves from offsets. Commissioner Mullen wasn't aware, but will research further and Ken will send some information on the formation of special service districts.

Ken stated that two bills have been introduced to continue PILT and SRS payments for three to five years, S2164 and HR3257. This is starting to get support from eastern states.

Ken stated that SRS has been re-authorized for 2016 payments and Jefferson County is due to receive \$287,772.

Ken then spoke about the on-going battle for public land transfer, noting that there is a lot of opposition to it. He said that the problem is that public land is not in production, so no revenue is being generated. If states/counties had control, it could be properly managed. Utah has their lawsuit prepared for submission to the Supreme Court to have Utah federal lands transferred, but with the current situation, this is currently on hold.

Sage grouse were not listed on the endangered list, but FWP plans to manage them more restrictively than if they were listed. He stated that some states are preparing suits.

Ken stated that Montana doesn't currently have a problem with the wild horse/burro problem, but excess numbers in some states are causing resource damage. Two bills: S1845 - Hatch, UT and HR3172 - Stewart, UT, have been introduced to have the management control switched from the feds to the states. The concerns that he has for Montana, he hears from advocates that Montana is a prime candidate for transplants. He always offers testimony in opposition, but they don't want to coordinate with state or local agencies, they just want to do it.

Ken stated that he continues to encourage counties to do a road inventory to put together RS2477 roads maps and get the maps submitted to a federal judge a package of roads for recordation.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTEST:

**BONNIE RAMEY
CLERK AND RECORDER**

BOB MULLEN, CHAIR

LEONARD WORTMAN, COMMISSIONER

CORY KIRSCH, COMMISSIONER