
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Dupont, Commissioners Lauman and Holmquist, and Clerk Robinson were present.

Chairman Dupont opened public comment on matters within the Commissions' Jurisdiction.

Jim Watson briefed the commission with current in-depth preliminary plans from MDOT on the pedestrian tunnel between Kids Sport Complex and FVCC near the intersection of Grandview Drive and Four Mile Drive.

No one else rising to speak, Chairman Dupont closed the public comment period.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ JIM ATKINSON, AOA

9:00:30 AM

Members present:

Chairman James R. Dupont
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, AOA Director Jim Atkinson, Clerk Kile

Atkinson reported every four years the Older American Act requires a four year plan to be developed and submitted, which requires input from the public as to what they are looking for in the future. He reported an RFQ for Medicaid case management is also due shortly. Atkinson noted he has spent time in Helena representing Flathead County and testified at senate claims and finance committees hearings. Statistics on bus ridership, congregate meals and information and assistance were reviewed.

OPEN BIDS: COURTHOUSE CABLING NETWORK

9:30:45 AM

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Deputy County Attorney Tara Fugina, I.T. Technical Supervisor Jae Carnsew, Clerk Kile

Bid received with bid bond enclosed from DCS, Inc. totaling \$31,752.00.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to take the bid received under advisement. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

OPEN BIDS: COURTHOUSE DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM

9:35:45 AM

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Deputy County Attorney Tara Fugina, I. T. Technical Supervisor Jae Carnsew, Kent Rosenlund, Brian Johnson, Dan Murphy, Clerk Kile

Bids were received with bid bonds enclosed from:

Flathead Security and Alarm	\$5,660.00
Atlas Security Products	\$5,953.35
Integrated Security Solutions	\$7,453.95

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to take the bids under advisement. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

DOCUMENT FOR SIGNATURE: RELEASE OF CLAIMS/ OWL CORPORATION V. FLATHEAD COUNTY

9:39:25 AM

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Deputy County Attorney Tara Fugina, Clerk Kile

Fugina reported the document is a general release for a lawsuit filed mainly between the City of Kalispell and Owl Corporation regarding connection fees for the 911 Center.

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011
(Continued)

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to approve the release of claims for Owl Corporation v. Flathead County. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

RESCIND MOTION: AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/ FLATHEAD WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT GROUP AND ACCEPTANCE GRANT

[9:40:46 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk Kile

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to rescind the prior motion to authorize publication of an RFP for Flathead Wastewater Management Group and acceptance grant. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

For the record this motion was made on March 15, 2011.

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION: FLATHEAD WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT GROUP AND GRANT ACCEPTANCE

[9:41:24 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk Kile

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to authorize chair to sign the RFQ for Flathead Wastewater Management Group. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR
ENGINEERING SERVICES

Flathead Area Wastewater Technical Assistance Project

The Flathead County Board of Commissioners is requesting interested persons/firms to submit their qualifications and proposal to provide engineering/hydrogeological and mapping services to Flathead County. The work will focus on activities that may create a better understanding of septic system contribution to the overall waste load allocation to the Flathead Lake system. The objective of this RFQ is to develop a list of proposals from a qualified firm(s) to respond to a need for a work product identified by the Flathead Regional Wastewater Management Group (FRWWMG), a working group comprised of elected municipal and county officials, public waste water district board members, citizen members appointed by the Flathead Basin Commission and membership from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council.

Detailed Request for Qualifications, including a description of the services to be provided by respondents, can be obtained by referencing the Flathead County web page at www.flathead.mt.gov/commissioner or www.flathead.mt.gov/wastewater_management/ or may also be picked up at the Flathead County Commissioners Office, 800 South Main, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 758-5537; dkile@flathead.mt.gov. All **sealed** responses must be received no later than **5 o'clock p.m. on April 7, 2011**.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2011

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Flathead County, Montana

By/s/Dale W. Lauman, P. T.
James R. Dupont, Chairman

ATTEST:
Paula Robinson, Clerk

By/s/Diana Kile
Diana Kile, Deputy

Publish on March 24 and March 31, 2011.

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011
(Continued)

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH CALL FOR BIDS: 2011 CRACK SEAL PROJECT

9:41:59 AM

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk Kile

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to authorize publication of Call for Bids – 2011 Crack Seal Project. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana, will receive sealed bids for construction of:

2011 Crack Seal Project

All sealed bids, **plainly marked** “**SEALED BID – 2011 CRACK SEAL PROJECT**” must be in the hands of the County Clerk and Recorder, 800 South Main, Kalispell, MT, 59901 at **10:00 a.m.**, local time, **April 11, 2011**. Bids will be **opened and read immediately following** in the Commissioner’s Office at the West Annex of the Courthouse.

The proposed work includes placing crack sealing throughout the Flathead County Roadway System.

Various roadways will be receiving crack sealing improvements in Flathead County, and the Contractor should be prepared to mobilize equipment on a daily basis.

All Bids must be in accordance with the Contract Documents on file with the Flathead County Road & Bridge Department, 1249 Willow Glen Drive, Kalispell, Montana, (406) 758-5790 and at the office of Robert Peccia & Associates, 102 Cooperative Way, Suite 300, Kalispell, Montana; (406) 752-5025.

Copies of the Contract Documents for use in preparing Bids may be obtained from Robert Peccia & Associates at the address stipulated above upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 for each set of documents including drawings.

A prebid conference will be held at the office of **Robert Peccia and Associates**, commencing at **11:00 o’clock am, Monday, April 4, 2011**. Those interested in bidding the project are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Bids will be received on a price basis as described in the Contract Documents. Bid security in the amount of 10 percent of the total Bid must accompany each Bid.

Within 10 calendar days after the Notice of Award, the successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Labor and Materials Payment Bond guaranteeing faithful performance and the payment of all bills and obligations arising from the performance of the contract. The bonds will each be equal to 100 percent of the contract amount.

Work at the site is to commence within 10 calendar days after the written Notice to Proceed is issued. Completion of the work is required within **Twenty One (21) consecutive calendar days** following commencement of work. The project includes liquidated damages that will be assessed as set forth in the Special Provisions per calendar day if the work is not complete within the allotted contract time.

Each bidder will be required to be registered with the State of Montana, Department of Labor and Industry prior to bidding this project.

No Bid may be withdrawn within a period of 60 days after the date for opening bids.

Flathead County reserves the right to reject all Bids, to waive informalities, and to reject nonconforming, irregular, non-responsive or conditional Bids.

Flathead County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DATED this 21st day of March, 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Flathead County, Montana

ATTEST:

Paula Robinson, Clerk

By/s/Dale W. Lauman P. T.
James R. Dupont, Chairman

By/s/Diana Kile
Diana Kile, Deputy

Publish on March 24 and March 31, 2011

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011
(Continued)

OPEN BIDS: COURTHOUSE FURNITURE RESTORATION

[10:00:52 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk & Recorder Paula Robinson, Dean Hadley, Clerk Kile

Bid received with no bid bond attached from Ridgeline Innovations for \$15,972.00.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to take the bid under advisement. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

FINAL PLAT: ASHLEY TRAIL SUBDIVISION, LOTS 1-4 OF AMENDED LOT 5

[10:17:23 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Planner Alex Hogle, Jay Billmayer, Clerk Kile

Hogle entered into record Final Plat FFP 10-09, Amended Plat of Lot 5 Ashley Trail Subdivision; an application received from Jay and Vicki Billmayer with technical assistance from Billmayer and Hafferman, Inc. and Marquardt and Marquardt Surveying for approval of a subdivision creating four residential lots. Preliminary plat approval was granted on October 9, 2007, subject to 21 conditions; an extension was granted on September 7, 2010.

It was stated the applicant has asked that consideration be made by the commission regarding condition #18 (f) that states: There shall be no further subdivision of lots.

Hogle explained the reason the applicant is requesting the condition be removed is annexations are currently in process with the idea in the future there will potentially be the presence of public water and sewer facilities.

Commissioner Lauman P.T. stated he supported removing the condition since it is adjacent to Kalispell and the size of lots would render into that factor.

General discussion was held relative to history of ownership of the property and removing condition #18 (f) from the face of final plat.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to accept Final Plat Ashley Trail Subdivision, Lots 1-4 of Amended Lot 5 as amended. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to approve Final Plat of Ashley Trail Subdivision, Lots 1-4 of Amended Lot 5. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

10:00 a.m. Commissioner Dupont: Meeting w/ Chip Weber @ Forest Service Office

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on March 22, 2011.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Dupont, Commissioners Lauman and Holmquist, and Clerk Robinson were present.

12:00 p.m. Commissioner Holmquist: MWED Board meeting @ Glacier Bank

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on March 23, 2011.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Dupont, Commissioners Lauman and Holmquist, and Clerk Robinson were present.

Chairman Dupont opened public comment on matters within the Commissions' Jurisdiction, no one present to speak, Chairman Dupont closed the public comment period.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)

MEETING W/ LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RE: JOINT WATER DISTRICT FOR FLATHEAD LAKE INVASIVE SPECIES

9:01:26 AM

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Lake County:

Commissioner Paddy Trusler
Commissioner Ann Brower
Commissioner Bill Barron

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Health Dept. Director Joe Russell, Environmental Technician Kate Cassidy, Director Flathead Basin Commission Caryn Miske, Richard Siderius, Larry VanRinsum, Ted Williams, Laney Hanzel, Mike Durgel, Clerk Kile

Flathead County Commissioners held discussion with Lake County Commissioners regarding concerns related to Flathead Lake and the potential economic impacts of a zebra and quagga mussel infestation.

Commissioner Trusler said they believe establishing a local water quality district would help maintain local control over one of the biggest economic drivers in the Flathead drainage.

Caryn Miske, Executive Director of the Flathead Basin Commission presented a power point presentation on what a local water quality district can do in the Flathead Basin and how one is formed. She explained a local water quality district is a county entity created by a county entity that protects and improves surface and ground water quality. Miske reviewed the following economic impacts:

Economic Impacts of Zebra & Quagga Mussel Infestations

Invasive mussel infestations have significant economic costs. Most economic impact assessments associated with mussel invasion are based on costs incurred by industries operating dams, diversions, power and water treatment plants, and associated losses to the local economy and tax base. Estimates in the U.S. indicate that hydropower industries are incurring \$1 billion dollars annually to maintain their operations after mussels invade, and estimated annual economic losses suffered by regions in the event of a mussel infestation are staggering:

- \$100s of millions annually in the Columbia River Basin;
- \$94.5 million annually to the State of Idaho; and
- \$22.4 million annually in the Lake Tahoe region.

Unfortunately, most economic impact assessments do not include costs to irrigators and agriculture. Therefore, the economic costs associated with AIS are significantly underestimated.

Water System costs for zebra mussels:

- \$7.2 million in capital costs and an additional \$10 to 15 million annually for the Metropolitan Water District, CA. Long term capital costs unknown
- \$26 million in capital costs and an additional \$1 to 4 million annually for operation and maintenance for the Southern Nevada Water Authority.
- Hydropower: \$8,800 in capital costs and an additional \$160 annually per megawatt hour.
- Drinking water systems: an additional \$110,000 to \$500,000 annually.

Other economic losses associated with aquatic invasive species:

- \$11 million annually to Orange and Lachloosa Lake in Florida (1/7th the size of Flathead Lake) due to aquatic weed infestations.
- \$445 million predicted loss in British Columbia if a \$350,000 aquatic plant control program was terminated (\$85 million in tourism revenue (1,700 jobs) and \$360 million in real estate values).
- Great Lakes: 10 to 20% decrease in property values, 11 to 35% decrease in recreational fishing, 13 to 33% decrease in commercial fish landings and an additional cost to raw water users from \$30,000 to \$118,000 per facility.

The potential economic impact of an infestation to the State of Montana does not exist. It is likely that it would be measured in the millions of dollars similar to Idaho. The economic impact would be felt in the following ways:

- 10 to 30% decrease in tourism;
- 10 to 20% increase in utility rates;
- 10 to 20% decrease in property values and taxes;
- 10 to 20% increase in maintenance and operations for water infrastructure; and
- Millions of dollars of capital costs for new infrastructure.

In Montana, recreational boating and fishing contribute \$671 million to Montana's economy. A 10% decrease would equal a loss of \$67 million to local communities.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)

Discussion was held relative to boat inspection points, funding deficiencies, the strategic plan for a basin wide approach, enforcement, compliance, the need for public outreach and concerns with problems originating in the upper valley.

Mike Durgel pointed out if Flathead County, Lake County and the tribe work hand in hand together they would be more likely to receive federal funding.

Ted Williams said he wants to see Flathead Lake protected from aquatic invasive species, but also wants to see it protected from sewage and toxic substances. The following memo was presented to the commission:

MEMORANDUM

Desk of Ted Williams 406-883-9259 Email: tedwilliams@centurvtel.net

Date: March 23, 2011

Subject: Support for a Joint Flathead Basin Water Quality District

My support for the formation of a joint water quality district in the Flathead basin is based on my lifelong concern for protecting our heritage and more recently for passing it on to my grandchildren. Clean water and beautiful lakes and rivers are a large part of that heritage. In addition, I do not want to trust outside agencies to provide this protection. I would want a locally controlled independent agency, in direct contact with our citizens, with assured future funding and dedicated strictly to protection of our area's surface and ground water quality. This is very close to what is possible for a "Water Quality District" as defined in state law (Title 7, Chapter 13, Part 45 - Local Water Quality Districts).

I would not want to see a Water Quality District (WQD) replace any current services or resources. Rather, a WQD should promote and support any current activity that protects water quality. We need them all. However, I think a WQD is needed to "independently" formulate the full range of goals and objectives needed to protect our basin's water quality and then determine where we need to provide additional work and resources. This function will also be needed to deal with future changes and new threats to water quality. A "joint" district covering both Flathead and Lake counties is needed because of the environmental and economic interdependence of all areas within the basin.

Water quality protection contributes to the following general goals to:

- Protect human and animal health
- Preserve and promote economic activity
- Maintain property values

I have attached a list of more specific objectives that might be considered for the proposed WQD. These are based on my related professional experience. The listed objectives are intended only as discussion points and to give some idea of the possible purpose and scope of the proposed WQD. If a decision is made to create a WQD, a detailed plan needs to be developed around such objectives.

I recommend that a joint WQD be adopted by joint resolution by the commissioners of Flathead and Lake Counties, and that a related public education campaign be launched as soon as possible

to: 1) explain the purposes and cost of the WQD, 2) begin to connect the WQD with public input, and 3) encourage questions or stated reasons for protest. It appears that this approach will allow work on more urgent water quality problems to begin some 12-18 months sooner compared to a referendum. At the same time the resolution process should allow opportunity for early public protests and for avoiding the costs of conducting a referendum ballot.

I sincerely hope you will agree that we need to take steps now to protect our own water resources and that this will become even more important as we move into the future.

Ted Williams

My remarks are based on the following experience. My family has lived in the Flathead basin since 1908. I grew up in Dayton. Went to high school in Polson and on to the University of Montana. I earned a doctorate in chemistry from Washington State University in 1968 and then did post-doctoral basic research at UCLA and Michigan State University. This was followed by a 25-year career in environmental health with the Michigan Departments of Health and Environmental Quality. I worked as both a laboratory director and a principal scientific consultant for state and county investigations. Since retirement in 1997 I have served on the Chairman's Advisory Group, Dept of Chemistry, UM; on the Advisory Council, Missoula Valley Water Quality District; as a board member for the Flathead Lakers Organization; and as a sitting member on the Governor's Clark Fork River Task Force.

Proposed Joint Flathead Basin Water Quality District (WQD) Objectives

Water quality protection objectives:

Working with existing water quality protection programs and regulatory functions:

- 1) The WQD shall assure that sufficient ground and surface water quality monitoring is done to detect toxic substances, nutrients and other measures of water quality degradation and their potential sources.
- 2) The WQD shall promote proper waste treatment and shoreline waste disposal facilities and their operation and maintenance.
- 3) The WQD shall assure monitoring for disease causing vectors affecting swimming and surface water supply safety including parasites originating from animal populations, septic system failure, disposal from RV and boat holding tanks.
- 4) The WQD shall carry out an active program to prevent the introduction or spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) into and within the basin.
- 5) The WQD shall periodically review response planning related to the threat of road maintenance practices or spills related to transportation that might contaminate the basin's waters.
- 6) The WQD will develop literature to advise on best practices regarding home and business management to prevent water contamination and conduct public education campaigns related to needs.
- 7) The WQD shall attempt to develop a voluntary program for assisting builders with planning that avoids impacts on water quality.
- 8) The WQD shall promote restoration projects as needed to prevent water contamination.

Administrative objectives to support water quality protection objectives:

- 9) WQD shall establish convenient facility location(s), 24/7 staff response to contacts regarding water quality problems, and make efforts to make its services known to all basin residents and visitors.
- 10) The WQD shall establish an advisory group of local professionals for review of problems and proposals related to water quality protection. Recommendations will be acted on by the WQD staff and board.
- 11) The WQD shall maintain data and other information regarding trends in water quality and make this generally available to district residents.
- 12) The WQD shall build a reserve fund to respond to unexpected water quality problems on an emergency basis.

General administrative objectives:

- 13) The board and advisory group shall include as many related local governmental agencies and citizen groups as possible.
- 14) The WQD shall act as the local peoples' agent to assure that all concerns brought to the commission or through members of the WQD will be evaluated and addressed ASAP so as to prevent unnecessary environmental damage and/or costly litigation.
- 15) The WQD shall not depend on outside funding for any continuing administrative activities.
- 16) The WQD shall not assume any permitting or other regulatory or legal authority and will not take part in legal action beyond providing related information.
- 17) WQD work is intended to supplement the work of others as needed to reach water quality objectives (1) - (8). Where needed, the WQD will work independently or with other partners. Partnerships must be limited to specific actions that protect water quality and that allow WQD management control.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)**

Commissioner Trusler noted the meeting today was to get a feeling from the Flathead County Commission as to whether they want to proceed, and what they would need in order to feel comfortable starting the process of forming a water district.

Commissioner Holmquist commented the information today has been great and explained she is not ready to make a commitment today. She stated she agreed something does need done and said her first thoughts are that more needs to be done at the point source; where lakes are contaminated, rather than trying to catch something that is a moving target.

Commissioner Barron said so often counties have to be reactive because we don't have the sources and funding to deal with a problem. He stated a water district is an opportunity to be proactive and would make a huge difference with local control.

Miske explained if major points of entry into the state were targeted it would make a huge difference.

Commissioner Lauman spoke in favor of Flathead County, Lake County and the tribe working together and taking the next steps.

CONSIDERATION OF REJECTING BID: COURTHOUSE FURNITURE RESTORATION

[10:00:17 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to reject the bid received for courthouse furniture restoration. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING: INTERMOUNTAIN PROVIDENCE HOME CDBG

[10:01:58 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Grant Writer Debbie Pierson, Charles P. Wilhoit, Marcia Riecke, Don Patterson, Pam Schapper, Toni Laurendear, Dee Inceronato, Kathy Holley, Robert Holley, Gay Langford, Diane Piorek, Rita Livingstone, Bill Livingstone, Jutta Phillips, Phyllis Anderson, Anne Miller, Janet Loranger, Carole Erickson, Justine E. Nelson, Berni McDonald, Don Loranger, Wayne Miller, Rhudi Miller, Steven Buyan, David Cramer, Ralph Yeager, Marc Liechti, Terry Chaney, David Miller, Gerald Molen, Mr. Fitzgerald, Michael G. Didier, Thomas E. Sliter, Clerk Kile

Pierson reported part of the CDBG process is to hold a second public hearing to consider the potential impacts and benefits of Intermountain Providence Home. She explained what is being pursued is a public facilities grant that requires a 25 percent match by the project. It was noted the grant is primarily designed for projects that support low to moderate income families, and has to be applied for by a city or county government who can request up to \$450,000. Pierson stated a combined public hearing was held earlier this year with multiple service agencies to collaboratively hear the public's needs for the community. She noted multiple needs were presented and Flathead County is looking at moving forward with a public facilities application for Intermountain Providence Home.

Dee Incarnado, 218 Beach Road, Bigfork; Chairman of Intermountain Providence Home detailed the specifics the application would be rated on.

Community Planning and Citizen Participation

- Intermountain has been serving children and families in Montana for more than 100 years. It has had a presence in the Flathead community for over three decades with rented facilities for about the last three years. The organization and its staff do many positive things for Flathead County, and have many solid partnerships in the community. The sponsorship of this grant will be just one of the representations of these partnerships. Providence Home (our Emergency Shelter) partners with schools, doctors, dentists and county agencies to offer many essential services to more than 50 children every year in the community who have nowhere else to go.

Need for Project

- Since opening its doors in 2009, Providence Home has cared for more than 80 children, the youngest only eight weeks old. It has turned away at least half that many children due to space and staffing limitations.
 - Abuse numbers: In a recent 10 month period, there were more than 550 reports of abuse and neglect in Flathead County with Flathead County Child and Protective Services alone. Flathead County has 17.5 percent less residents than Missoula County, but receives only two percent fewer reports of abuse. The current unemployment rate in Flathead County is 11.8 percent. The state average of unemployment is 7.2 percent. (The shelter serves children in surrounding communities, which also have high abuse/neglect rates).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)

- Lack of care for children birth to 12 years old and for sibling groups: Providence Home is the only shelter for young children in the community. In the past, children were sent to other towns or even other states, and it was nearly impossible to keep sibling groups intact, which is just one compounded crisis.
- Capacity: Intermountain does not have enough space for the population it currently serves, so often children still have to be sent away as far as Missoula.
- Permanency and confidentiality: Intermountain needs a permanent facility with flexible space built specifically for our needs and regulation requirements; with enough space to care for children and to house administrative space. Renting inadequate space within the city limits does not allow us to serve kids effectively, to operate efficiently, or to maintain the children's confidentiality.

Project Concept & Technical Design

- Intermountain has conducted research and has preliminary plans and drawings created to move forward with a PAR and our vision for the future of the Flathead campus. Intermountain already owns land in Somers and with your help; we are ready to start breaking ground.

Community Efforts

- We know the community is dedicated to helping children in need. During the past four Intermountain's Annual Calling All Angels and Summer Roundup events in Kalispell, 200 dedicated volunteers came together to help the children and the families Intermountain serves. In just the past four years Intermountain raised nearly \$380,000 with the dedication of volunteers and local businesses. These funds help keep Intermountain's Flathead Program running.

Need for Financial Assistance

- Intermountain already raises from the private sector roughly \$2 million annually in charitable contributions, which are needed to run programs and produce quality outcomes for children. With that said, we are on the brink of a five year, \$20 million plus comprehensive campaign to do much needed capital improvements, to grow our endowment and to continue existing programs and operations. We are aggressively pursuing all funding options to timely complete these projects without unduly burdening the organization with debt or exhausting investment income needed for services.
- By the time, Intermountain and Flathead County submits our CDBG application in May 2011, we intend to raise from the private sector including foundations, individuals, churches and civic groups the balance of dollars needed for the completion of site development. We plan to break ground on the land in Somers this summer so we are ready to build by the time CDBG funds are secured in spring 2012.
- Without the CDBG grant, Intermountain will be forced to rely entirely on the private sector for funding and this will result in significant delays in building Providence Home and our other projects, and place a significant debt burden on the organization.

Benefit to Low and Moderate Income

- Every child coming into foster care/emergency shelter receives Medicaid. Our application will receive all points possible for the low to moderate income rating, as we serve 100% Medicaid eligible children. To be frank, the vast majority of children Intermountain serves at Providence Home represent the poorest of the poor (financially and relationally) within our communities.

Implementation & Management

- Intermountain, a more than 100 year old Montana non-profit and valued partner in the community, has thoroughly demonstrated it has financial and managerial capacity to assure cost-effective, long-term management of the grant funds and a new facility.

Dee Incarnado asked that Flathead County please partner with them in presenting a winning application to build Providence Home.

Mike Pence, County Administrator stated he attended the public meeting held at Kalispell City Hall, and has since learned a lot about Intermountain and the proposed project for Providence Home. He added he is very impressed with the great work done by staff with the facility and stated the project is certainly eligible, and full support is being lent towards consideration of the CDBG application.

For the record a support letter was received from Kalispell Mayor, Tammi Fisher that stated their services are a crucial service to the most weak and vulnerable among us and asked that consideration for this worthy cause be given.

Commissioner Lauman PT opened the public hearing to anyone wishing to speak in regards to Intermountain Providence Home for the proposed \$450,000 grant application to Montana Department of Commerce's Community Development Grant (CDBG) Program for partial funding for construction of Intermountain Providence Home in Somers, Montana.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)

Janet Loranger, RN asked as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) consideration be made towards the grant in order to expand the home. She said as a court appointed special advocate for Flathead County for the past 3 ½ to 4 years she has personal experience with Providence Home. She told of an incident that involved an eight month old who was removed from its parents and had to be moved several times into several different foster homes which is very traumatic. Her second case however, was with an eight week old baby that was at Intermountain Home until it could be placed in kinship foster care, which was absolutely phenomenal as the baby was already suffering from being separated from his mother with the bonding issue broken. Providence Home gave him nurturing, love, care, feeding, cuddling; all the things his mother could not give him since he was removed from his home. He was then reunited with his parent and thriving. She stated from a CASA perspective I can't tell you how important Providence Home is. We see the children that are the innocence in a dysfunctional home; they are removed and placed in a strange environment that is usually short term as they look for a more permanent home. Sometimes they have to go through three to four homes before finding their final destination. Providence Home is not big enough she stated as there isn't enough room for all the children in need in this county.

Diane Piorek, Supervisor of Child Family Services stated she supports building a permanent shelter facility in Flathead County. She said they are very grateful for Intermountain's presence and look forward to their continued service in the county. Piorek noted as has already been said Flathead County historically does not have or has not had sufficient foster care resources to provide placement for our children. She explained previous to Providence opening a temporary shelter in Flathead County many children were transported to Missoula to be placed in the Watson's Children Shelter, which created a great hardship for the children and their families. The children also had to attend different schools, begin new services with doctors, dentists and therapist they did not know. The children also end up being introduced to a new social worker out of Missoula County, just when they have started to build trust with their social worker in Flathead County. Providence's presence has allowed us to place children in our own community. Providence staff ensures the children remain in their own school, continue to be seen by their own doctor, dentist and therapist and are able to visit with their family on a regular basis. It allows the social worker to continue to establish a healthy trusting relationship with each child. When the children are in Providence, Child and Family Services is given the time to do a diligent search and criminal background check for an appropriate kinship family. Due to Providence not having a permanent facility they have had to move in the past and need a permanent facility in order to provide safety for the children. To this challenge the staff remains diligent, competent and professional. Piorek stated over 100 children have been placed with Providence over the past two years and some have had to be placed in Missoula. She asked that Providence receive funding in order to build the facility.

Berni McDonald, Program Manager for Intermountain Providence Home spoke about issues they have had since they first opened. She stated the first facility leased was sold and they secured another site closer into Kalispell. This home has issues in that the children are in the basement. She noted the first year they were opened they turned away 35 children, and up to today have turned away over 50 which is half of what they have taken in. She stated their facility can keep families together, whereas foster homes cannot take in more than one or two children; obviously there is a need.

Michael Didier stated he is a 4th generation Flathead Laker and owns property here and in Lewiston as well. He said he feels this is a time when we seriously need to look at the environment being built; children are our infrastructure. Didier said coming from a family of five that if he put himself mentally and emotionally in the position he is hearing about today, that as a young person it would be emotionally disturbing to endure.

Carol Erickson, 321 Fairway Drive, Whitefish, stated she has been involved with Intermountain since the 80's. She explained while on the board she would drive from Whitefish to Helena to attend board meetings, and later when she moved to Missoula she drove to Helena to continue serving on the board. While she lived in Missoula she was also on the Partnership for Children Board, which was a collaboration between Intermountain and Missoula Youth Homes. Erickson stated she is proud of Intermountain and their ability to work with children, and said the fact we have the ability to bring Providence Home into the valley to help children that are so desperately in need is very fortunate for the valley. She told of an incident with a foster child with tremendous needs, and after research was done Intermountain in Helena was chosen to send the child to; the foster parent later said Intermountain saved the child's life. Intermountain is considered one of the two best programs in the entire United States for what they are able to do with the young children. That person later said if he could change anything it would be to move Intermountain to the Los Angeles area. Erickson stated this is an incredible offer for Providence Home to come to Flathead Valley.

No one else rising to speak, Commissioner Lauman PT closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Holmquist said this proposal came up shortly after she came on board as a county commissioner and stated she definitely is on board with Intermountain. Holmquist stated the organization has done a great job and the fact they already own their land shows they are very committed.

Commissioner Lauman P.T. stated he had the privilege of touring the Helena Facility a number of years ago and having lunch with a group of kids, which was an eye opener in telling you what the needs are. He reiterated an earlier comment in that it is probably the best facility in the United States and stated he fully supports the grant application.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to support Intermountain Providence Home CDBG grant. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)

QUARTERLY MEETING W/ BIGFORK STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[10:35:53 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Grant Writer Debbie Pierson, BSAC Chairman Sue Hanson, Clerk Kile

Hanson met with the commission and reviewed progress with the Grand Drive Project and presented a report on the sample analysis program. Discussion was held relative to traffic related concerns and signage during construction. It was reported the Watershed Restoration Program which is required under two different grants will be done by Mike Koopal with the Whitefish Lake Institute. Hanson explained they are currently investigating the possibility of a survey/educational document to be mailed to property owners regarding a potential RSID.

AWARD BID: COURTHOUSE CABLING NETWORK

[10:32:34 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

I.T. Technical Supervisor Jae Carnsew, Clerk Kile

Carnsew stated on behalf of the I.T. Department the recommendation is to award the bid to DCS who met all the requirements, and was the only bidder for the cabling network project

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to award the bid to DCS, Inc. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

AWARD BID: COURTHOUSE DOOR & DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM

[10:34:52 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

I.T. Technical Supervisor Jae Carnsew, Clerk Kile

Carnsew stated on behalf of the I.T. Department the recommendation is to award the bid to Flathead Security & Alarm who met all the requirements.

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to award the door entry system to Flathead Security and Alarm. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH CALL FOR BIDS: COURTHOUSE FURNITURE RESTORATION

[10:51:37 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman PT
Commissioner Pamela J. Holmquist

Members absent:

Chairman James R. Dupont

Others present:

Clerk Kile

Commissioner Holmquist made a **motion** to authorize chair to sign the Call for Bids – Courthouse Furniture Restoration. Commissioner Lauman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Lauman and Holmquist. Motion carried by quorum.

CALL FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Flathead County, Montana will receive bids for restoration of furniture to be placed in the newly renovated courthouse at 800 South Main, Kalispell, Montana.

The furniture to be restored includes: 24 oak sectional barrister bookcases, 1 oak library table, 8 oak bentwood side chairs, 1 oak wrap-around chair, 3 oak high back office chairs, 1 oak stool, 6 ornate metal roller bookcases, 8 single roller bookcases and 1 covered roller bookcase. The instructions to bidders, forms of the bid sheet and contract to be signed, may be obtained from either the Flathead County Commissioners office @ 800 South Main, Kalispell MT 59901 or the Flathead County Clerk and Recorder, 1035 1st Ave West, Kalispell, Montana 59901.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, a bid security in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total bid to secure the contract, the bidder will, within ten (10) days, enter into a formal contract for restoration of the furniture.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011
(Continued)**

Bid security shall be payable to Flathead County and shall be in the form of lawful money of the United States, a cashier's check, certified check, bank money order, or bank draft issued by a Montana bank, or bid bond executed by a surety corporation authorized to do business in Montana.

No bidder may withdraw a bid after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Sealed bids are to be marked "**Furniture Restoration Bid**" and must be in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder, 800 South Main, West Annex, Kalispell, Montana, 59901, at or before **10:15 o'clock a.m., on April 11, 2011**. Bids will be opened and read immediately thereafter in the Commissioners' Office, 800 South Main, West Annex, Kalispell, Montana and taken under advisement.

Flathead County reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and to accept the quotes deemed to be in the best interest of the County.

The award of bid will be made solely by the issuance of a letter of award to the successful bidder by the Office of the Flathead County Clerk and Recorder.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Flathead County, Montana

By/s/Dale W. Lauman P.T.
James Dupont, Chairman

ATTEST
Paula Robinson, Clerk

By/s/Diana Kile
Diana Kile, Deputy

Publish on March 28 and April 4, 2011.

9:30 a.m. Commissioner Dupont: Mediation meeting @ Southfield Tower
11:00 a.m. County Attorney meeting @ Co. Atty's Office
2:00 p.m. Commissioner Lauman: Audit Committee meeting @ EBB, Conf. Room C

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on March, 24, 2011.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Dupont, Commissioners Lauman and Holmquist, and Clerk Robinson were present.

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on March 25, 2011.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Dupont, Commissioners Lauman and Holmquist, and Clerk Robinson were present.

10:30 a.m. Commissioner Dupont: Meeting w/ Scott Sampey, OES

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on March 28, 2011.
