
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008

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

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

PERSONNEL MATTER

[9:59:59 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, HR Director Raeann Campbell, Lori Schroeder, Vickie M. Eggum, Deputy DeReu

Discussion was held relative to a request from Lori regarding reinstating her longevity. Vicky mentioned her discussion with Lori regarding waiving her probationary period and being able to use her sick leave and vacation time before the probationary period was over. Vicky stated she had no problem with this proposal. Raeann stated that state statute says until you accrue your vacation time from the date of hire you are not eligible to use it for six months. Raeann also stated that you are unable to use any accrued sick leave for ninety days even if you have been a past employee. Mike Pence commented that he has to support HR's position on this since it is set by state law and Flathead Counties policy. Lori interpreted the policy as saying if the employee moved from one department to the next you still have your probationary period, but are able to use your sick and vacation time along with accruing your longevity. Lori explained her intent was not to waive her probationary period. Lori was hoping that at least her longevity would be reinstated. Raeann explained that longevity is only reinstated if there has been no cash out of sick leave or vacation time and in this case there was a cash out.

Commissioner Brenneman made a **motion** to deny reinstatement as a permanent employee and of longevity pay and authorized the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Lauman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF HR TRANSMITTAL: ROAD DEPUTY/ SHERIFF'S OFFICE

[10:06:27 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, HR Director Raeann Campbell, Clerk DeReu

Raeann requested approval for a seasonal Road Deputy, Stuart Smith. Commissioner Hall inquired if there was a job description and Campbell stated there was not. There was discussion regarding the importance of this new full time seasonal employee being completely dedicated to patrol dust traffic. The deputy will be required to provide information regarding tickets and will be attending monthly meetings. It was suggested that Sheriff Meehan submit a monthly report and or a dust management plan.

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve the HR Transmittal for the Road Deputy/Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Brenneman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ RAEANN CAMPBELL, HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE

[10:15:57 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Raeann Campbell, Clerk DeReu

Raeann passed out a handout regarding work comp claims and discussion was held in this regard. Raeann discussed upcoming training including the loss prevention training for supervisors. She mentioned they are still working with the drug and alcohol task force and will be meeting next week. General discussion was held regarding government and state employees using and or abusing sick time. Union contracts have been keeping Raeann busy regarding language interpretation and further discussion was held regarding this matter.

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve the HR Transaction for the month of March. Commissioner Brenneman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ DAVE PRUNTY, SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

[10:30:56 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman
Others present:
Assistant Mike Pence, Public Works Director David Prunty, Operations Manager Jim Chilton, Clerk DeReu

David Prunty thanked the Commissioners for approving Alan Ruby to the Solid Waste Board. David stated they are moving right along with the landfill gas to energy project and are waiting on the requests for qualifications / proposals. He is working with the County Attorney to make sure the proper protocol is established.

David brought up the assault that occurred at the Somers container site where a scavenger approached a resident before he was even out of his truck. The resident asked the scavenger to allow him to empty his truck and the scavenger became somewhat belligerent. This resident has filed a complaint with the Sheriff's Department. The board is eager to put an end to these activities at the container sites where there is a sizeable risk. David has had discussion with the County Attorney regarding different approaches to ending these activities. There was discussion regarding an email received which stated Flathead County either needs to monitor or close the container sites. Commissioner Hall suggested hiring a deputy to monitor these sites. One advantage stated would be this deputy could issue a citation on the site. Discussion was also held regarding passing a resolution to place signs up deterring scavengers and make sure there is good liability insurance. David commented that the Sheriff Department works really well with their department regarding any requests they may have for them to do a drive by check if there is any conflict reported.

David mentioned the profit of recycling metals has been an asset for the Solid Waste Department. He stated that 20% of the fee goes to the container site and the other 80% goes to running the landfill, administration etc.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ GUY FOY, ROAD DEPT.

[11:07:18 AM](#)

Members present:
Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman
Others present:
Assistant Mike Pence, Public Works Director David Prunty, Operations Manager Road & Bridge Department Guy Foy, Clerk DeReu

Foy and Prunty reported that the winter budget is in good shape with the winter we had. He then noted they were down three Operators' and one Teamster, yet felt their response time was adequate. Foy talked about Road Department personnel retirees and replacement of them. He then noted there has been interest for internal replacements and there is a definite need to increase lead positions. Discussion also included pending crushed gravel bids, problems with Jellison Road and weight limit restrictions. Prunty then presented a projected summer projects report to the Commission and asked for endorsement of the summer projects and direction in regards to them. A newly drafted road closure form was also discussed.

ENGINEERS CONTRACT FOR SIGNATURE, RSID #144

[11:53:18 AM](#)

Members present:
Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman
Others present:
Assistant Mike Pence, County Attorney Jonathan Smith, Clerk DeReu

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to sign the Engineer's Contract for RSID #144. Commissioner Brenneman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

8:00 a.m. Weed & Parks Board meeting @ Weed & Parks Office

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on April 8, 2008.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008

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

Commissioner Brenneman PT opened public comment on matters within the Commissions' Jurisdiction, no one present to speak, Commissioner Brenneman PT closed the public comment period.

BI-MONTHLY MEETING W/ VICKI SAXBY, I.T.

[9:15:58 AM](#)

Members present:
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman PT
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman
Members absent:
Chairman Gary D. Hall
Others present:
Assistant Mike Pence, I.T. Director Vicki Saxby, Jae Carnsew, Clerk DeReu

Saxby reported the new county website is unfortunately late with problems encountered by Snowdog with their staff and some issues with hardware and software within the county. She then noted various projects programmers and network supports is working on that included tax and payroll updates, spam problems, the badge project, server room changes and the E Clinic Project.

General discussion was held relative to the badge project and the advantages of it for the county.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ LAURIE REBUCK, JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

[9:43:06 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman PT
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Juvenile Detention Director Laurie Rebuck, Kathy Frame, Clerk DeReu

Discussion was held relative to new cameras in the Juvenile Detention Center at a cost of \$31,000.00 which would be a total replacement of their entire system which is currently VHS to digital recording. Also discussed were communications problems, their budget, building maintenance and population in the center.

DOCUMENT FOR SIGNATURE: ADULT PHONE CONTRACT/ SHERIFF'S OFFICE

[9:57:29 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman PT
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Juvenile Detention Director Laurie Rebuck, Kathy Frame, Clerk DeReu

Kathy Frame explained the 5 year phone contract in which she asked for Commissioner approval.

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve the phone contract for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Brenneman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried by quorum.

BI-MONTHLY MEETING W/ KAROLE SOMMERFIELD, 4-H OFFICE

[10:00:48 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman PT
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, 4-H Director Karole Sommerfield, Extension Office Wes Gwaltney, Clerk DeReu

Karole Sommerfield reported on upcoming events in regards to preparing for camps that are held in Ferndale. She then noted that she attended the National Camp Institute in Virginia and brought back a great deal of valuable information. Also noted was 180 kids just recently finished a livestock quality assurance training program, an overnight horse camp will be held next month, a service program will be done at the Salvation Army where they will cook and serve lunch and a spaghetti fund raiser at the Christian Center is being planned.

Wes Gwaltney reported that he has completed the 6 week small acreage workshop that was attended by 40 citizens and will consider doing the program again this fall. He then noted the Master Gardner Program is still in progress and he would like to keep it going throughout the year. Gwaltney then stated that he hoped to work with the radio stations and the newspapers in regards to insects and weeds to alleviate some of the phone traffic about similar issues.

Discussion was also held relative to flaggers providing safety in high traffic areas for farmers.

DOCUMENT FOR SIGNATURE: CONTRACT ADDENDUM/ FLATHEAD ASSOCIATION OF SR. CITIZENS & AOA

[10:18:48 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman PT
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk DeReu

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve the contract addendum between Flathead Association of Senior Citizens and AOA. Commissioner Brenneman PT **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried by quorum.

MONTHLY MEETING W/ MARK PECK, OES

[10:32:36 AM](#)

Members present:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman

Members absent:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, OES Director Mark Peck, Clerk and Recorder Paula Robinson, Clerk DeReu

Mark Peck reported Lincoln Chute has been hired. He then spoke about the 16,000 – 18,000 acres that we have direct protection responsibility for and the possibility of purchasing a type 6 vehicle.

Discussion was held regarding assessments that will be addressed at the board meeting.

Mark Peck stated that he knows there are homes that are not being assessed and that we are going to need multiple departments to ascertain the assessments. He then reported on the 911 consolidation budget of 2 million a year in which Columbia Falls, Whitefish and Kalispell's cost would go down and the counties cost would increase. Also discussed was the growth rate of Columbia Falls, Kalispell and Whitefish. Peck then noted they would start interviewing soon for the radio position. He then added that he attended the State Wildland Fire meetings in Missoula and Flathead County is being asked to brief others on how the county handled everything from finances to operationally how things were managed. It was then stated that issues still exist in regards to (PERS) with seasonal employees that need addressed. Peck continued with he still has an issue in regards to the deputy position verses an office management position, with the deputy position needing the same skills as the director. He then noted his concerns with the way 911 is headed in regards to covering that level of a position with an office administrator.

12:00 p.m. Commissioner Hall / Speaker @ Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce

1:15 p.m. 911 meeting @ Justice Center

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on April 9, 2008.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008

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

11:00 a.m. County Attorney meeting @ Co. Attorney's Office

12:00 p.m. Commissioner Hall to Whitefish Chamber of Commerce Business Brown Bag Luncheon @ Mtn. West Bank, Whitefish

5:30 p.m. Commissioner Hall to Whitefish Chamber of Commerce Volunteer Celebration @ O'Shaughnessy Center

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on April 10, 2008.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008

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

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

MONTHLY MEETING W/ JEFF HARRIS, PLANNING & ZONING OFFICE

[9:03:38 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman

Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Planning & Zoning Director Jeff Harris, Clerk DeReu

Harris started out the meeting by passing out a handout regarding the quarterly report. Discussion was held regarding the comparison of last year's quarterly report to this year's. Final plats were approximately the same as last year but the Lake Shore Permits were down compared to last year same quarter and the Floodplain Permits were drastically up. Jeff stated the number of preliminary plats was down and zone change requests were up. The bottom line of total applications is not that different from last year according to Harris. Discussion was held regarding maintaining the budget and adjustments that were made. There was a brief discussion regarding the growth policy and the future of the economy. Commissioner Brenneman brought up the issue of billboard violations. There was discussion regarding these issues and Jeff stated that the County Attorney has asked the Planning Department to review all the signs and billboards and find out which ones are in compliance and which ones are not. Jeff stated that all the state highways are scenic corridors and the county enforces these areas

Harris handed out the Flathead County Zoning Regulations Section 1.04.020 Growth Policy/Neighborhood Plan Analysis. There was lengthy discussion regarding this and how it would or would not impact the neighborhood plans and the growth policy. During the discussion Harris referred to page 10 of the handout which reads "The growth policy and neighborhood

plans are not regulatory and do not confer any authority to regulate. The growth policy and neighborhood plans are intended to provide direction and guidance when consideration is given to adopting zoning and other land use regulations.” Jeff stated there was no action taken at the previous public hearing. There was a brief discussion regarding the West Valley Zoning and Overlay Districts and the term “gravel extraction”. Jeff asked the Commissioners to schedule another public hearing at the same time the initial text amendment is discussed and considered.

PUBLIC HEARING: ROAD ABANDONMENT #470 (PORTION OF 4TH & 5TH STREET SOUTH, MARTIN CITY)

[9:40:27 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Franz Barthel, Clerk DeReu

Chairman Hall opened the public hearing to anyone wishing to speak in favor or opposition of the road abandonment.

No one rising to speak, Chairman Hall closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Brenneman made a **motion** to approve Road Abandonment #470. Commissioner Lauman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

FINAL PLAT: LONETREE SUBDIVISION

[9:44:47 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Planner Dianna Broadie, Jeff Bell, Pamela Farnum, Ken Farnum, Clerk DeReu

Dianna Broadie reviewed the application submitted by Linda Dutton with technical assistance from Brian F. Sullivan for final plat approval of Lonetree Subdivision; a subdivision creating one residential lot with a remainder located northwest of Whitefish on the east side of Hwy. 93. Preliminary plat approval was granted on January 9, 2008, subject to 22 conditions.

Commissioner Brenneman made a **motion** to approve final plat of Lonetree Subdivision. Commissioner Lauman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

FINAL PLAT: RIVERVIEW OVERLOOK

[10:02:31 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Planner Dianna Broadie, Joe Kauffman, John Thomas, Matt Nardig, Mark Nelson, Hugh Frank, Clerk DeReu

Dianna Broadie reviewed the application submitted by Hugh Frame with technical assistance from A 2 Z Engineering, PLLC and Big Sky Surveying for final plat approval of Riverview Overlook; a subdivision creating 14 residential lots located on Hwy 35, on the northeast side of the bridge over the Flathead River. Preliminary plat approval was granted on October 13, 2005, subject to 19 conditions.

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve final plat of Riverview Overlook. Commissioner Brenneman **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall, Brenneman and Lauman. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS: ARCHITECT FOR 911 CENTER

[10:25:49 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent: Joseph D. Brenneman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, County Attorney Jonathon Smith, Clerk DeReu

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to authorization the publication of the Request for Qualifications for a 911 Call Center. Commissioner Hall **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall and Lauman. Motion carried by quorum.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

TO: Interested Architects/Engineers

SUBJECT: Selection of Architect/Engineer for the Flathead County 911 Center

On behalf of Flathead County and the Flathead County 911 Advisory Board, I would like to invite interested firms to be considered for interviews on the Flathead County 911 Center. Firms must **submit two (2) copies** of the state Form 115 to the Office of Emergency Services, 920 South Main, Kalispell, by close of business (5:00 PM) on **Wednesday, April 30, 2008**. No facsimiles or late Form 115's will be accepted.

At least two firms will be chosen for interviews and given a preliminary project program. They will be asked to present their credentials to the Flathead County 911 Advisory Board who will make the recommendation of the firm of choice to the Board of Commissioners for final approval.

The Form 115 is available on the State of Montana A&E Division Web site:

<http://www.architecture.mt.gov/default.asp>

Further information is available from, and questions can be directed to, Mark Peck at (406) 758-5560 or mpeck@flathead.mt.gov.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Flathead County, Montana

ATTEST:

Paula Robinson, Clerk

By/s/ Gary D. Hall
Gary D. Hall, Chairman

By /s/ D. DeReu
D. DeReu, Deputy

Publish April 15 and April 22, 2008.

TAKE ACTION: THUNDERBOLT ALLEY

[10:36:31 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk DeReu

Commissioner Hall stated that the applicants of Thunderbolt Alley have missed their deadline and read into the record that Thunderbolt Alley is a dead file.

CONSIDERATION OF PRINTING BIDS: HEALTH DEPT

[10:36:22 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Clerk DeReu

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to approve the print bid from Insty Prints for 4 sets of 500 business cards for \$82.86 and 250 2-part tamper resistant prescription pads for \$108.79 for the Flathead City-County Health Department. Commissioner Hall **seconded** the motion. **Aye** – Hall and Lauman. Motion carried by quorum.

CONSIDERATION OF RELEASE OF OLD COLLATERAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF NEW SIA:SADDLEHORN SUBDIVISION

[10:36:59 AM](#)

Members present:

Chairman Gary D. Hall
Commissioner Dale W. Lauman

Members absent:

Commissioner Joseph D. Brenneman

Others present:

Assistant Mike Pence, Elaine Nelson, Clerk DeReu

Discussion was held regarding the Subdivision Improvement Agreement and it was explained by Elaine that this new SIA will release the previous SIA line of credit since they reduced the amount of monies. Elaine also stated that she received a new letter of credit from the bank.

Commissioner Lauman made a **motion** to release the old collateral and approve the acceptance of the new SIA for Saddlehorn Subdivision. Commissioner Hall **seconded** the motion. **Aye** - Hall and Lauman. Motion carried by quorum

7:00 a.m. Commissioner Lauman to Prerelease Center Working Committee meeting @ Triangle Building
12:00 p.m. Bigfork Steering Committee Public Forum @ Bethany Lutheran Church
12:00 p.m. Commissioner Brenneman to Rotary @ Hilton Garden Inn
2:00 p.m. Commissioner Lauman to AOA Board meeting @ Kalispell Sr. Center
4:00 p.m. Commissioner Hall to Montana West Economic Development meeting
7:00 p.m. Road Advisory Committee meeting @ Solid Waste Conference Room
7:30 p.m. Fair Board meeting @ Fair Office

At 5:00 o'clock P.M., the Board continued the session until 8:00 o'clock A.M. on April 11, 2008.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008

The Board of County Commissioners met in continued session at 8:00 o'clock A.M. Chairman Hall, Commissioners Brenneman and Lauman, 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 April 14, 2008.
