

Minutes of Open Meeting
February 19, 2014 – 5:15 p.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
Fergus County Sheriff's Office Complex Conference Room

Present: Presiding Officer Ken Ronish, Commissioner Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner Seilstad and Vivian Shammel, Commissioner Assistant/HR Administrator present; Public present: Ben Tuss, Cheri Kilby, Bob McNeil, James Bussey, Chris Hayes, Paul Huff, Gene Meier, Joe Zahler, Tom Wojtowick, Matt Rich, John Nesselhuf, Bull Bucks, and Deb Hill.

CALL TO ORDER:

Presiding Officer Ronish called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Ronish indicated that if there were no alterations or corrections to the meeting the minutes for January 15, 2014 meetings, they would stand approved and they will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the website.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS: None

COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT: Tom Wojtowick indicated that they were working on a couple of items for the Board Approvals document that the Commissioners have not yet approved.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

1. Gilt Edge Stage Road and Boyd Creek Road, Fergus County Attorney's recommendation to the Commissioners. Commissioners Youngbauer made a motion to accept the County Attorney's recommended course of action. Motion seconded by Commissioners Seilstad. Discussion: Commissioner Ronish explained that the County Attorney recommended that the Commissioners have the landowners follow Montana State Annotated Code 7-14-2622, which indicates that the petitioner could take this to the District Court. The original road petition was not clearly worded to know what on the road was included. This also includes the Ruby Gulch Road. No matter what the Commissioners do this will end up in District Court. The County will continue to maintain the road, which is what they are currently doing. The County will cross the bridge with this issue once a Judge rules on this case. County has no right of way on this road. A Landowner could take the County Commissioners to court for taking land wrongfully. Motion carried.
2. Robert Peccia and Associates, Chris Hayes, was present to give a presentation on the Fairgrounds Sewer and Water project. Commissioner Seilstad asked about other grants. Currently there is discussion on Rural Grants to see what is available for this project. Rural development grants you have to have residents included in the project to use these grants, which is TSEP. The TSEP Grant is based on the residents income and they would have to be at \$20,000.00 per year to use these residents to obtain these grant monies. The current design right now does not show residents would not be connected. There is a 3" water line, but that is not a looped system. The lift station could be located closer to the Fairgrounds and lopped and that would elevate some of the man holes that need to be put into place. This is only the preliminary engineering report. The Fairgrounds Sewer and Water Committee is working their schedule to get this on the June elections. This drawing does include the Fairgrounds campgrounds and this would take a lot of load off of the current system to include this in this project. More activities at the Fairgrounds would be a possibility with these improvements. All services include the stubbed out for each location. Tom Wojtowick does it include the installation in total including the RV Dump station. Chris indicated that it currently did include the total installation and the RV Dump station. Tom Wojtowick indicated that they should move forward with the project and not let the Riverdale Subdivision project hinder them from moving forward. Chris indicated that the Fairgrounds and the Riverdale Subdivision would be considered 2 projects and the grants would be set up for 2 separate projects. Peccia and Associates will present at Public meetings to assist with the voting

on the County Bond. Currenty calculations are showing that property owners with a value of \$100,000 would see a \$10.10 increase in their annual property taxes for the next 20 years. Ben Tuss asked if there should be 2 lift stations, due to the terrain slopes uphill from the campsites. Chris indicated that this was just a preliminary engineering drawing and the details have not all been finalized, but it could. Commissioner Seilstad indicated that when the designs come out these will be confirmed for the location of the lift station(s). Commissioner Seilstad asked if this system would accommodate any further developments that could potentially happen out by the elevators. Chris indicated that this project only encompasses the Fairgrounds. Cheri Kilby indicated that the Fairgrounds is also a possible site for emergency site location and maybe they should check on Federal monies that might be available for this designation. Chris indicated that he would check on this and should have the monies zeroed in at the next meeting. There is a 10” pipe that they are calculating on using for the water and 8” mains for the sewer lines, and 2 ½” for the lines going to the treatment plant. Gene Meier wanted to know if this included the abandoning of the septic systems currently in place. Chris indicated that it included the destroying of the leach fields and pumping the septic tanks and filling them with sand. The drain fields are left alone. The City of Lewistown will be maintaining all of these facilities. Will the County be paying for City water and sewer? Yes. The County is currently paying for the water. They will install extra metering at each facility to monitor the usage. Mark Machler indicated that he was against opening up a new subdivision out in this area, and that he has put a lot of money into this project.

APPOINTMENTS:

PUBLIC INPUT: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING DATES:

February 25, 2014 Tuesday –2:00PM	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St. Lewistown, MT 59457
March 10, 2014 Monday-- 2:00PM	Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St. Lewistown, MT 59457
March 19, 2014 Wednesday—5:15PM	Open Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W. Main St. Lewistown, MT 59457

FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ken Ronish, Presiding Officer

Carl Seilstad, Commissioner

Attest:

Sandra Youngbauer, Commissioner

Vivian Shammel, Commissioner Assistant