

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting
September 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
712 W. Main St., Suite 210
Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Butcher, Commissioner Saunders, Commissioner Seilstad, County Attorney Kent Sipe and Clerk and Recorder Janel Tucek. In person public: see attached list.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Agenda approved as submitted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Butcher asked if there were any alterations or corrections to the September 10th, 2024 minutes. Hearing none, he stated the minutes stand approved as presented and will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the Fergus County Website.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: none

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Public hearing was opened on the proposed Dog Creek Minor Subdivision - Being a Portion of Tract 1 of COS 1195, located in the SE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 25, Township 18 N, Range 18 E. Commissioner Butcher read off the staff report. Matt with Stahly Engineering hit some high points of this report. Commissioner Butcher asked why the storm retention pond is being proposed. Matt advised this is part of the DEQ requirements. Commissioner Saunders asked about needing an approach permit as there is already an approach there. Matt advised the developer needs to just make sure there is a permit on file. If not, get one. Commissioner Saunders confirmed that an address is already on file for this location. Developer, Jerry VanHaur, says that the county put in the approach and he also doesn't agree with the proposed location of the retention pond. Matt advised the developer can meet with DEQ to ask to change the location. Commissioner Seilstad opened and read a sealed letter they received regarding this proposed subdivision from Alan Shammel. Letter is submitted with records. Matt responded to the letter. Hearing closed at 10:22 a.m.
2. Public hearing was opened on Resolution 21 – 2024 declaring Fords Creek a county road. Commissioner Seilstad went over why this resolution came about. It is just making the whole road a county road. It has been maintained over the years by the county and that will continue. Doug Osterman asked for clarification that yes, the county will maintain. Hearing closed at 10:25 a.m.
3. Public hearing was opened on the City of Lewistown Growth Plan. Nora Bland went over how this plan came about. Doug Osterman, City of Lewistown Planner, expanded on how and why this plan came about. Darvin Blair asked about the subdivision process. Tim Robertson spoke about how this plan gives respect to the landowners and this will streamline the process of subdivision approvals. It also won't dump a bunch of new regulations on the process. Jerry VanHaur wants to know what this is going to address traffic issues. Tim Robertson advised this does not deal with traffic as that is MDOT. Henry Gottardi had questions regarding the 4.5-mile radius that is City/County and also

if there are protections for the water tables. Further back and forth discussion ensued.
Hearing closed at 11:13 a.m.

BID OPENINGS: none

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Planning Office/Planner in Training - perm/full-time
- Sheriff's Office/Detention Officer - perm/full-time
- Road & Bridge/Road, Bridge, & Gravel Crew Member-perm/full-time

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:

- A resolution will be forthcoming regarding a community redevelopment plan with monies coming from the State
- Commissioner Seilstad and Butcher are headed Helena to a funeral today for Shannon Chamberlain, who was the longtime representative for the Property Casualty Trust for MACo.

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Seilstad motioned to approve the September 25, 2024 claims. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
2. Commissioner Seilstad motioned to approve Dog Creek Minor Subdivision - Being a Portion of Tract 1 of COS 1195, located in the SE 1/4 NE 1/4 of Section 25, Township 18 N, Range 18 E with the listed conditions. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
3. Commissioner Seilstad motioned to table action until a future meeting on the Elison Conservation Easement with MT Land Reliance in Section 15 N1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4SW1/4, Township 17N, Range 17E. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion to table Passed.**
4. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve Resolution 21 – 2024 declaring Fords Creek a county road. Commissioner Seilstad 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
5. Commissioner Seilstad motioned to approve a letter of support for the City of Lewistown Growth Plan. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

APPOINTMENTS: none

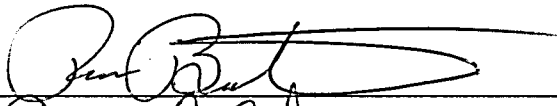
PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Jerry Hanley would like to bring forth to the commissioners at a later date, issues of mineral rights with conservation easements and subdivisions.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

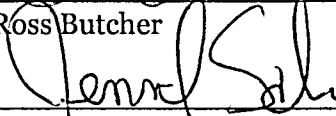
October 10, 2024 Thursday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
October 16, 2024 Wednesday – 5:15 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
October 24, 2024 Thursday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

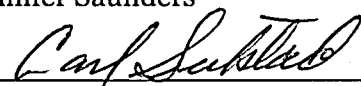
FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:



Ross Butcher



Jennifer Saunders



Carl Seilstad

Attest:



Janel J. Tacek, Clerk & Recorder

