

Park County Commission Meeting Minutes  
Week of July 6 – 10, 2009  
Park County, Montana

July 6, 2009

Review Daily Agenda and Correspondence

@8:49:28 a.m., Commissioner Taylor called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Present were Bill Hurley, director of operations; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to review the daily agenda and correspondence.

Correspondence included:

- Memo from Peccia and Associates - To Commissioner Durgan for review
- Three memos of legal advice to Commission from civil deputy county attorney

@8:50:43 a.m., the meeting adjourned.

July 6, 2009

Consider Appointing Applicants to Solid Waste Board

@10:36:20 a.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Taylor were present. Also present was Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to appoint applicants to the Solid Waste Board.

Commissioner Durgan said the Commission received one application.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to postpone a decision until the Commission receives further direction from the county attorney on procedures. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@10:37:57 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Taylor seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 6, 2009

Consider Signing Amendments to Montana Clean Contract

@2:25:43 p.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Taylor were present. Also present was Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider signing amendments to a Montana Clean contract.

Commissioner Durgan said the amendment would extend a contract with Montana Clean Janitorial Service until such time as Park County enters into another contract for janitorial services. A two-weeks notice of contract termination is required.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the amendment to the contract. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@2:26:39 p.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 6, 2009

Consider Signing a Resolution to Amend Resolution #1017

@2:38:08 p.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Taylor were present. Also present were Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider signing a resolution to amend Resolution #1017.

Commissioner Taylor read Resolution #1057 into the record, A Resolution by the Park County Commissioners Amending Resolution No. 1017 with Regards to the Frequency of Advertising for Open Board, Commission and Committee Positions. The resolution would require a 48-hour advance notice for scheduled public meetings.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the resolution and the amendment involved with Resolution #1017. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@2:40:20 p.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 6, 2009

Review of Minutes for Week of June 29, 2009

@3:01:40 p.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Taylor were present. Also present was Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider approval of Commission meeting minutes for the Week of June 29, 2009.

@3:02:24 p.m., Commissioner Taylor made a motion to postpone the meeting until the morning of July 7. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting postponed.

@9:40:28 a.m., on July 9, Chairman Malone reopened the meeting.

Commissioner Durgan requested a revision to Page 2 of 14, noting the correct spelling of “Cutler cellular” tower. The third paragraph, the second sentence should read, “Rigler said she has professional and ethical concerns with the issue, as a county employee trespassed on her property, and it appears the museum director has no process to follow with regards to cultural resource viewings and subsequent correspondence.” On Page 6 of 14, Durgan noted the correct title of Heart K Ranch Manager Blake Blatter. On Page 9 of 14; fourth paragraph, the third sentence should read, “Durgan said the county has no accountability if it does not enforce floodplain regulations and FEMA and the Montana DNRC will jump down the county’s back if provisions of the permit are not followed.”

Commissioner Taylor requested a revision to Page 1 of 14; third from last paragraph, the first sentence should read, “Civil Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said the sheriff and county attorney were telephoned about a county road crewman damaging reclamation work adjacent to Jardine Road.”

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@9:53:27 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 7, 2009

Review Daily Agenda and Correspondence

@8:37:07 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Bill Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, executive assistant; Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Ed Hillman, road supervisor; William Parrilli, citizen; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to review the daily agenda and correspondence.

Correspondence included:

- Rocky Mountain Area IV Agency on Aging contract
- Memo from MACo re. conference call - To finance director for review
- Email re. PCRFD#1 daily status report
- Memo re. Cooke City Water District improvements
- DOWL HKM landfill monitoring results - To Commissioner Taylor for review
- Memo from city of Livingston re. remodeling project at 49er - To file

- Memo re. RYO Correctional Facility - To Durgan for review
- July 7 city/county meeting agenda
- Memo from sheriff re. MACo changes in law
- Memo from MDT re. approval of Park County DUI taskforce
- MDT Transportation statement of accounts
- Frontier West LLC certificate of liability insurance
- Memo from Slip N Slide Ranch re. costs for Cutler Lake cell tower
- Citizen memo re. parking in Gardiner
- Citizen memo re. Boulder Road condition complaints
- Memo from MACo re. sale of OshKosh plow truck
- Memo from planning department re. Yellowstone Stage Stop minor subdivision
- Montana Economy at a Glance newsletter
- MDT Newslite newsletter
- Livingston Ranger District Forest Service Newsletter
- Commission postage log
- Memo re. promotion of deputy county attorney
- Legal advice to Commission from civil deputy county attorney

Civil Deputy County Attorney Piccolo presented the Commission with a Park County Victims Witness Program grant for signature.

Director of Operations Bill Hurley discussed a Gardiner Sewer District title search, newspaper advertisement, and rebuilding of a pump motor.

@9:08:50 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Malone seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 7, 2009

Park County Road Updates

@9:08:53 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Ed Hillman, road supervisor; Bill Hurley, director of operations; Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; William Parrilli, citizen; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss county road issues.

Road Supervisor Ed Hillman said crewmen are still working on Cokedale Road, millings will be put down on Willow Creek Road starting next week, and the Shields River project is progressing slowly. Hillman said a Forest Service contract in Cooke City will not be renewed, and a county grader is back from Billings after repair.

William Parrilli, Gardiner resident, said a problem has existed with Main Street in Gardiner for 30 years. He said the problem results from the road crew spreading gravel

on the curve and never picking it up. He said the road is now 12 inches higher than the manhole grade and is higher than the sidewalk, which results in frozen sidewalks and an inability to shovel the sidewalks in the winter. Parrilli said he spent money for which he was never reimbursed and built higher retaining walls to rectify the issue, and chip asphalt made the problem worse. Parrilli said the surface needs to be graded back down to grade so water will flow to storm drains on Highway 89. Hillman said he will visit Gardiner to meet with Parrilli and view the issue.

Civil Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said historian Jerry Brekke found no documentation Travertine Lane is a county road. Piccolo said the county needs to obtain documentation from the Forest Service it claims lists that road as a county road. Commissioner Malone said he will contact the Forest Service representative for that documentation.

Piccolo said the Flying Pig is seeking legal assistance to designate a loading zone in front of the business in Gardiner.

@9:59:38 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 7, 2009

Consider Amending Resolution #780 Concerning Family Transfers

@10:07:34 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Philip Fletcher, planning; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider amending Resolution #780 concerning family transfers.

Civil Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said the amendment will put the existing resolution in compliance with the 2009 Park County Subdivision regulations that went into effect on April 1, 2009, and which require all family transfer recipients to sign an affidavit agreeing not to sell the parcel received for a period of at least three years.

Commissioner Durgan made a motion to accept Resolution #1058 amending Resolution #782 concerning family transfers. Commissioner Taylor seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@10:18:20 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Taylor seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 7, 2009  
City/County Meeting

@4:07:52 p.m., County Commissioner Durgan called a meeting to order in the Community Room of the City/County Complex. County Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were City Commissioner Steve Caldwell; City Manager Ed Meece; Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Bill Hurley, county operations; Marc Richards, county GIS/IT; Camden Easterling, Livingston Enterprise; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss joint city/county issues.

Commissioner Durgan opened the floor to public comment. No public comment made.

1. City/County Joint IT Proposal: GIS/IT Manager Marc Richards said the county signed the joint proposal and will get the contract to the city for signature. He said his department is meeting with the city on July 8 about the program.

2. Parking Situation with Sale of East Side School Building: City Manager Ed Meece said he met with Crazy Mountain individuals about the parking issue. Meece said the city will draft up the sale to designate the basketball area as a 30-year lease to the city for \$1/year, and a second section of spaces will be used as city/county building parking between 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Commissioner Malone requested a sketch of the parking for employees. Meece said he will provide that sketch once the engineer generates it.

3. City Swimming Pool (Fees vs. County Contribution): Meece said it has become increasingly difficult for the city to keep up with the cost of operating the swimming pool. He said the city put \$18,000 of capital improvements into the pool this year, and he expects more capital improvement expenses in the future. Meece said 40 percent of pool users are county residents, and the city is asking for a money contribution from the county for that usage.

Commissioner Taylor said he is not convinced the usage percentage numbers are correct, and he is not sure county kids outside the donut area use the pool. He said it is not fair to charge Wilsall and Cooke City residents taxes for the use of the pool by others, and perhaps a different fee structure should be set up for county residents using the pool.

City Commissioner Steve Caldwell said he agrees with that opinion to only charge people who use the pool. Meece said as a city resident he pays twice the amount to check a book out of the library and such services because he pays a city and county tax.

No additional public comment

The next meeting is scheduled for August 4, 2009 @ 4 p.m. in the Community Room.

@4:32:43 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

July 8, 2009

Review Daily Agenda and Correspondence

@8:36:52 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Bill Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, executive assistant; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to review the daily agenda and correspondence.

Correspondence included:

- Memo re. PCRFD #1 daily update
- Cash-on-hand report from Treasurer Larkin
- Memo from MDT re. Cooke City highway traffic study
- Memo re. 911 consortium meeting on July 15
- Memo from MT Department of Commerce re. Park County Senior Center
- Memo from Forest Service re. environmental analysis for West Paradise fuels project

@8:45:46 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Malone seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 8, 2009

Signing of Health Department Immunization Program and Agency on Aging Contract

@9:35:25 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Suzanne Brown, public health nurse; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to sign a health department immunization program and Agency on Aging contract.

Public Health Nurse Suzanne Brown said the immunization grant pays for registration for daycare facilities and schools, and the homemaker grant is from the Area IV Aging on Aging providing services to senior citizens in their homes.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the health department immunization grant. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

Commissioner Durgan made a motion to accept contract number 2010-004-010 between Rocky Mountain Area IV Agency on Aging and Park County Health Department for

provision of in-home care services to the elderly. Commissioner Taylor seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@9:45:38 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 8, 2009

10:00 A.M. – City/County IT Meeting – West Room

July 8, 2009

Discussion of Cooke City Community Center Financing

@10:07:50 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Shannan Piccolo, civil deputy county attorney; Sarah Hamlen, NRMRC&D; Cooke City Residents Betty Sommers, Donna Rowland, and Beverly Chatlain; Mae Nan Ellingson of Dorsey and Whitney (via telephone); and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss Cooke City Community Center financing.

Attorney Mae Nan Ellingson provided the Commission with different options for the county to provide tax exempt funds to a proposed Cooke City Shoofly Community Center project. Ellingson said one option is for Park County to borrow up to \$1 million per Montana Code, and the county would purchase a general fund note from a bank which would be secured and backed by the county's credit. The county would issue the note and use the proceeds to construct the facility. An agreement between the county and community council would state the county would own the building until time the building was paid off with resort tax revenues. The council would be responsible for all maintenance and operation costs. Ellingson said that option would save time and not require an election for expenditure of Cooke City resort tax funds.

Ellingson said a second option is for the county to pass along its tax exemption for the qualified project by issuing a mortgage note on the facility to a local bank. The county would lend the proceeds of that note to the community council, which would build and own the facility and agree to repay the loan from resort tax funds. Ellingson said the county would be out of the transaction insofar as having any liability on the note once it issues the note and executes the loan agreement. Ellingson said the option would require a citizen vote on the amount of revenues pledged.

Sarah Hamlen of Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D said the community council has \$410,388 toward construction of the community center facility, and the mortgage amount would be \$225,000, which is down from \$300,000 from last year.

Cooke City Resident Bev Chatlain said now is a good time to build, Cooke City needs a positive community project, and she hopes the Commission will support the project.

The Commission said there is a consensus Ellingson can proceed with drafting a resolution of intent that would outline the scope of the note between Park County and the Cooke City Community Center. A meeting was scheduled to approve the resolution on July 15, and a community meeting will be held in Cooke City on July 24 at 11:00 a.m.

@11:13:56 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Taylor seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 8, 2009

Consider Parks Board Request to Expend Funds at Fish, Wildlife and Parks Sites

@11:37:03 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Philip Fletcher, planning; Phil Dawson, parks board; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider a Parks Board request to expend funds at FWP sites.

Planning Director Philip Fletcher said the Parks and Recreation Board has proposed expending \$5,000 of parks board funds to purchase picnic tables and fire rings for Loch Leven, Chicory, Emigrant, Mallard's Rest, and Paradise Fish, Wildlife and Parks Fishing Accesses. Fletcher said the parks board held a public meeting in Emigrant on June 29 at the Commission's request, and no public attended the meeting or made comment. Fletcher said the board fulfilled that request and again requesting to expend the \$5,000.

Commissioner Taylor said the parks board is working hard and partnering with FWP gets them in the door without having to own land or easements.

Parks Board Member Phil Dawson said FWP is willing to provide signage and a press release of the board's partnership. Dawson said FWP will do all maintenance, assembly, and chaining down of the tables.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the Parks Board proposal to use the \$5,000 for their development as stated. Commissioner Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@11:46:04 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 9, 2009

Review Daily Agenda and Correspondence

@8:35:04 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Bill

Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, commission executive assistant; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to review the daily agenda and correspondence.

Correspondence included:

- PCRFD #1 daily status report
- Board of Health meeting agendas - To Commissioner Taylor for review
- Solid Waste Board meeting agenda - To Taylor for review
- Memo from city manager re. county website updates - To GIS/IT manager
- Memo from planning director re. Community Transportation Enhancement Program options - To Taylor for review
- Citizen memo re. Silvergate and Cooke City road grading schedule and cost
- Memo re. July 22 MDT KPRK bridge project meeting
- Memo from GIS/IT manager re. changes to Fiscal Year 2010 program plan

Commission Executive Assistant Raea Morris said Undersheriff Scott Hamilton would like to meet with the Commission in Gardiner on July 13 to discuss parking issues.

@8:58:00 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Malone seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 9, 2009

10:00 P.M. – Local Emergency Planning – Community Room

July 10, 2009

Review Daily Agenda and Correspondence

@8:37:49 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Bill Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, commission executive assistant; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to review the daily agenda and correspondence.

Correspondence included:

- Memo re. housing surveys from Montana Fair Housing
- Memo from teamsters union representative Rick D'Hooge
- PCRFD #1 daily status report
- Memo from Commission executive assistant re. position job duties
- Memo from YGM board president re. \$6,500 citizen-submitted invoice
- Memo from Ferguson Water Works re. Cooke City right of action water work
- Citizen memo re. Myer's Flat lock replacement

- Citizen memo re. trash disposal from house fire

Commission Executive Assistant Raea Morris said Planning Director Philip Fletcher would like to schedule a tour at the Heart K Ranch revetment project.

Commissioner Malone said he and Road Supervisor Ed Hillman traveled to Whispering Pines to view an issue of water over the road. Malone presented pictures of the issue to Commissioners Durgan and Taylor.

@9:08:33 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Taylor seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 10, 2009

Discussion of Contract for TSEP Bridge Grant

@9:37:51 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Kevin Feldman and Scott Nelson of CTA Engineering; Lori Benner, Nittany Grantworks; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss a contract for a Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) grant.

Kevin Feldman of CTA Engineering presented the Commission with CTA Engineering's scope of services and how it arrived at cost figures for a permanent 9<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge. Feldman said CTA is considering a two-span, one-pier bridge across the Yellowstone River to 9<sup>th</sup> Street Island. He said TSEP will fund a Preliminary Engineering Report, which must be submitted by May 2010, but Feldman expects to have a draft report by the end of August and finalized by mid-September. Feldman said CTA will hold public meetings for that process, and CTA's fees for final bridge design, permitting and flood mapping will come to approximately \$80,000.

@10:32:22 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Taylor seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

July 10, 2009

Discussion of Director of County Operations Position

@10:35:31 a.m., Chairman Malone called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan, Malone and Taylor were present. Also present were Bill Hurley, director of operations; Jill Ouellette, human resources; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment made.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss the Director of County Operations position.

Director of Operations Bill Hurley said the director of operations position was created with a vague position description. Commissioner Durgan said the job description was vague because there were a lot of things Hurley undertook that did not have boundaries and to which Hurley could devote his full attention. Durgan said the first thing Hurley did was an investigation of the county's refuse system from transfer station and landfill points of view, which led to a solid waste report by a private firm for the city and county. Durgan said Hurley moved into other projects the Commission assigned to him, and he feels Hurley has been a very important liaison for the Commission between state and federal-type programs, projects and interpretation of state and federal regulations. He said at the same time Hurley serves informational purposes for other departments.

Commissioner Taylor said he thinks Hurley has done a fine job. He said he questions how much the county still needs the director of operations position.

Commissioner Malone said the Zia Study is accomplished, and the Myer's Flat project and Gardiner Sewer District transfer will be completed in short time. Malone said the commissioners should take an active role in splitting up projects and taking them on themselves, and budget-wise he is concerned whether the county can afford a director of operations position.

Durgan said Hurley has acted as a consultant to the Commission, which has been invaluable above the projects he has worked on. Durgan said the Commission still needs consulting services to make decisions and do the legwork for projects, and he thinks the director of operations is like a road foreman in looking at what needs to be done and who can devote the necessary time. Durgan said the commissioners' time is so fractured in trying to address so many different issues, which is why he feels a director of operations is an integral part of this operation. Durgan said he agrees with budgetary concerns, but the Commission will not find a consulting firm for the same price paid for the director of operation's salary. Durgan said part of the position's salary compensation package was use of a county pickup truck, and he thinks that can be worked out and if need be that privilege can be dispensed of.

Human Resources Analyst Jill Ouellette said the county obtained consulting services on a contract basis prior to the director of operations position coming in-house. Ouellette said perhaps the Commission could offer the position at half-time with benefits if the workload appears to be coming to an end. Taylor said the county should then contract with Hurley or another service instead of waiting around paying someone wages and benefits.

Hurley said he was originally hired as a contract employee, but the former Commission was more comfortable setting up the director of operations position as a full-time employee due to workload and insurance issues. Ouellette provided the Commission with the original contract for review.

There was discussion whether Hurley would be interested in contracting with the county on an as-needed basis. Hurley said the health benefits associated with the director of

operations position are extremely important to him, and he is willing to negotiate working less than full time if he received benefits he could afford. Hurley said the issue with the position title and use of a pickup truck can easily be resolved. Ouellette said an employee must work 20 hours per week to qualify for benefits and stay in line with the county policy and procedures handbook.

Malone said the Commission cannot talk about an individual's needs if the meeting is scheduled to talk about the director of operations position, as the Commission would have to tell the public it was continuing the position for an individual's needs. Malone said he is thinking about an as-needed basis, but that would not address Hurley's needs.

Hurley said such issues and possible alternatives can be discussed in another meeting and he is flexible in looking at various ways of minimizing what the Commission feels it can or cannot do. He said he will submit a written proposal to the Commission. Malone said he thinks the Commission needs to eliminate the position unless Hurley comes up with an alternative.

Taylor said he thinks it is a good idea to abolish the job and Hurley can propose to the Commission what he can do for Park County at what price as a contractor and barter how that will be done regarding hours and benefits. Taylor said he does not especially want to get rid of Hurley and his services, but the county would be better off to contract with Hurley when needed. He said he does not think the county director of operations needs two computers, a truck and all that goes with it.

Durgan said he feels Hurley has saved the taxpayers a tremendous amount of money in possible lawsuits. He said the Commission should really explore whether an amenable situation can be worked out in order for the county to retain the services of a director of operations with a reduced timeframe or half-time position. Durgan said he feels the county would lose a lot not having a director of operations who is knowledgeable about the day to day happenings and is up to speed, and someone else would have to get up to speed in order to work on a given project. Durgan said he feels the position serves a very viable purpose and gives a great deal of assistance and help to the commissioners at all times. Taylor said he feels the man in the job gives all that service, but he does not feel the position gives that.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to abolish the director of operations job and look at further ways of looking at Bill Hurley as a contractor. Commissioner Malone seconded that motion. Malone amended the motion to include an effective date of August 10. Malone and Taylor voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Durgan voted in opposition to the motion. Motion passed.

In discussion, Malone said Hurley can come back with an alternative proposal. Taylor said he objects to the position and feels the position was created as almost a third-and-a-half commissioner so the two commissioners who could not keep up had someone to explain what was going on. Taylor said he thinks that can be done away with because the county has qualified commissioners who can do that job, and if they need help they

should refer to Hurley, but the county does not have to keep that on staff. He said that is why he thinks Hurley serving as a contract employee and working on specific projects would be better than having a full-time director of operations.

Malone said as he sees it after six months in the job he does not think the county at this present time needs a full-time employee in that position. He said he understands and respects Durgan's thoughts, but Hurley can provide advice on an as-needed basis.

Durgan requested the HR director check with MACo staff, particularly Jack Holstrom and the Jack Clause, to ensure the Commission is not getting itself into another bucket of worms. Ouellette said she would respond to the Commission in writing.

@11:22:35 a.m., Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned.

Marty Malone  
Chairman, Park County Commission  
Park County, Montana

Denise Nelson  
Clerk & Recorder  
Park County, Montana