

Commission Meeting Minutes; Park County, Montana  
Week of August 18 – 22, 2008

August 18, 2008

Park County Road Update Meeting

@11:00:07 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. The meeting had been postponed at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Denton, Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Ed Hillman, road supervisor; Brett Linneweber, county attorney; Mark Hartwig, public citizen; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss county road issues.

The Commission reviewed confidential attorney advice in the form of a memo. After that, County Attorney Linneweber stated that he has concluded that Deep Creek Bottom Road is a county road. The Commission said Hillman needs to fix the bridge on Deep Creek Road and a right-of-way needs to be cleared to 60 feet. Hillman said the cheapest way to fix the bridge may be to install a bottomless culvert to county road standards with a 24-foot road top. Hillman said it may take two weeks to order a culvert and the job may take two days to complete. Lahren said all alternative crossing information during construction will have to be included in the permit and a temporary bridge may need to be used as a crossing while culvert installation is completed. Hillman said he will price the culvert and determine an alternative access.

Public comment was made by Mark Hartwig. Hartwig said he does not have a problem with the county using some of his property at the site to fix the bridge. Hartwig said he will provide Hillman with a list of owners and tenants living on Deep Creek Road.

Hillman said locates will be done on a culvert on a washout on Pine Creek Road and the washout will be fixed as soon as locates are found.

Hillman said the bridge on Hill Road on the Shields River near Goat Mountain has to be replaced and it is something the county road crew cannot do. He said he has a “Bridge Closed” sign on the bridge but people are still using the bridge. He said MT Fish and Game said a culvert cannot be put into the creek at that spot. Hillman said a second access point exists to the ranch served by the bridge. The Commission said it will view the bridge to determine a course of action.

Lahren said there have been three citizen complaints about road edges being pulled up after mowing on Mission Creek. Hillman said that procedure is standard.

Lahren said there have been complaints about “No Trespassing” signs on the Mission Creek county road right-of-way. Hillman said he is sure that is a 100-foot right-of-way and he will check it out.

Hillman said he is getting a lot of citizen complaints on Willow Creek Road. He said caretakers are taking out cattle guards on the Harm's Ranch.

Durgan said there is very tall sweet clover on Old Yellowstone Trail. Hillman said Winn Treible is mowing that road this week.

Durgan said he had a message from a woman on Six Mile Road who said she needs to have the road prepared in order to put down dust control. Hillman said he does not know when Mark Smith will be up on Six Mile Road.

Hillman said he was going to have Mark Smith prepare Jardine Hill for magnesium chloride. Hillman said an invoice for \$7,800 for magnesium chloride is from Brentag and Dust Masters spreads it on the road.

Durgan said given the amount of money used from the road budget, magnesium chloride should not be applied to Jardine Hill. Durgan made a motion the dust control is not put down this year on Z Hill. Lahren seconded that motion. Motion passed.

Hillman said he has gotten a lot of citizen complaints on Dry Creek Road past the oil in the South Glastonbury area. He said the citizens want the road graveled. Hillman said that road needs ditches and gravel, but he does not have the time to do the work. Hillman said the county recently graded the road. Hillman said the road crew will work on the road when it gets the time.

Hillman said a bus turnaround will be put in at the intersection of Chicory and Warrior Roads.

The Commission discussed a green box site access issue brought up by Citizen Allan Shaw. The Commission said it is not a big problem as it exists and will put it on the back burner.

@11:37:06 a.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Denton seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

August 18, 2008

10:00 A.M. – Review Correspondence, Public Contacts and Determine Action Plan – Canceled

August 18, 2008

Cooke City Water District Project and Resort Tax Funding Strategy

@1:09:16 p.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Denton, Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was

Sandra Kust, Midwest Assistance Program; Kay Whittle, Cooke City Water District; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss a Cooke City Water District project and resort tax funding strategy.

Kay Whittle said Cooke City has had trouble for 10 years obtaining funds for a needed water project. Whittle said Cooke City received \$1.7 million from the Farm Bill for the water project and Rural Development would like to see the town's resort tax pay for part of that project as an infrastructure improvement. Whittle said Rural Development wants \$20,000 per year to pay for water system loans and the funds would save resident water users \$25-\$30 per month on their water bills. Whittle said as currently written, there is no provision within the parameters of the resort tax to repay the water project each year, thus the water district is requesting amending the resort tax for an annual disbursement of \$20,000 to help pay for the water system. Whittle said the district will need the county attorney's assistance to amend the resort tax for the annual disbursement to get the amendment on the ballot for Cooke City- area registered voters to vote on.

Durgan made a motion the Commission authorize County Attorney Linneweber to start the paperwork and get things lined out on the resort tax amendment. Lahren seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@1:31:35 p.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lahren seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

August 18, 2008

Discussion of Agenda and Review Minutes for Week of August 11, 2008

@2:12:58 p.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. The meeting had been postponed at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Raea Morris, Commission executive assistant and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss the upcoming Commission agenda and review meeting minutes for the Week of August 11, 2008.

Durgan said he had two doctors appointment changes to the upcoming agenda and his personal schedule.

Lahren requested a revision to Page 1 of 12, sixth paragraph, the second sentence should read, "He said MDT said Montana Rail Link and the county road superintendent made an agreement to put in a 24-foot approach, which does not comply with what was originally signed off on on a work permit." Lahren requested the fourth sentence read, "Hillman and Durgan said they had met with MRL in the past."

Durgan requested a revision to Page 4 of 12, the last bullet point should read, "Upper Yellowstone Advisory Committee meeting notice" and on Page 5 of 12 a bullet point should read, "Memo re. union response to road department vote. Seven of nine county road department crewmen voted for the teamster. The vote was 7-0." On Page 6 of 12, Tolmacheve Family Transfer Exemption Appeal meeting, Durgan noted the correct name as the "Bunn" Family. On Page 7 of 12, Durgan noted Bill Hurley attended an IT Advisory Committee meeting. On Page 8 of 12, last paragraph, Durgan noted the correct spelling of "Vern" LeDoux. On Page 10 of 12, Durgan noted he attended a Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting.

Lahren made a motion the minutes be approved as corrected. Durgan seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@2:28:22 p.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

August 19, 2008

Human Resources Development Council Meeting

@8:59:42 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Denton, Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Jeff Rupp, HRDC; Heather Grenier, HRDC; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss the Human Resources Development Council.

Jeff Rupp provided the Commission with HRDC's five year priority needs strategic and community service block grant plans. Rupp said housing is HRDC's number-one priority. Rupp said MSU gave the Bozeman bus system \$85,000 and would like to establish Saturday and Sunday bus routes and an a.m. and p.m. commuter service from Livingston to Bozeman. He said no vehicle currently exists for that service at this time, and money from MSU is for one year.

The Commission signed a document verifying it received the plans.

@9:11:42 a.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

August 19, 2008

1:00 P.M. – Senior Citizens Center Meeting – Livingston Senior Center

August 19, 2008

Department Head Meeting

@1:38:37 p.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Community Room. Present was Lois Hatfield, landfill; Linda Budeski, justice court; Kim Knutson, fair; Belinda Van Nurden, DES; Suzanne Brown, health department; Mary Anne Anderson, Extension; Clay Williams, weed/junk vehicle; Dan Hackman, mechanic; Brian Sparks, museum; Brett Linneweber, county attorney; Randy Taylor, health department; Allan Lutes, sheriff; Ed Barich, county superintendent; Philip Fletcher, planning; Marc Richards, GIS/IT; and Ed Hillman, road.

The meeting was scheduled as a department head meeting.

Public Comment – County Attorney Linneweber thanked everyone who helped with the office move downstairs.

Employee of the Month - Sandy Gordon of the County Attorney's Office was nominated and appointed employee of the month.

New Business - Marc Richards made an announcement about computer training days to be held in the Community Room and East and West Rooms on August 20 and 21. Brett Linneweber said he will be conducting legal training on public information at 11 a.m. both days.

Durgan said the department head meetings are for the department heads and encouraged heads to get any agenda items to Commission Executive Assistant Raea Morris.

@1:46:37 p.m., Durgan adjourned the meeting.

August 19, 2008

6:30 P.M. – Urban Renewal Agency Meeting – West Room

6:30 P.M. – Park County Fair Board Meeting – Park County Fairgrounds Office

August 20, 2008

No Scheduled Meetings

Computer training classes were held for all county employees.

August 21, 2008

10:00 A.M. – Park County Issues and Updates – No quorum of Commissioners

August 21, 2008

10:30 A.M. – Meeting in Clyde Park to Hear Area Residents Concerns – Clyde Park Town Hall - Canceled

12:30 P.M. – Meeting in Wilsall to Hear Area Concerns and Share Upcoming Agenda – Wilsall Senior Citizen Center – Canceled

August 21, 2008

1:30 P.M. – Review Correspondence, Public Contacts and Determine Action Plan – No quorum of Commissioners – Durgan and Director of Operations Bill Hurley reviewed correspondence.

August 21, 2008

1:30 P.M. – Planning Board Meeting – Community Room

4:00 P.M. – Communications Meeting – Community Room - Canceled

6:00 P.M. – Solid Waste Board Meeting – West Room

August 22, 2008

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. – Land Use Training – Community Room – Commissioners Denton and Durgan attended.

Larry A. Lahren  
Chairman, Park County Commission  
Park County, Montana

Denise Nelson  
Clerk & Recorder  
Park County, Montana