

Commission Meeting Minutes; Park County, Montana
Week of November 3 – 7, 2008

November 3, 2008

Park County Road Updates

@9:00:51 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Ed Hillman, road supervisor; Shannan Piccolo, deputy county attorney; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss county road issues.

Road Supervisor Ed Hillman said he and road crewman Mark Smith will meet with a resident, Mr. Murphy, of Cinnabar Basin who said Hillman and Commissioner Durgan told him the county would replace his electric line if it damages it from road work. Hillman said Murphy has a water line running under and through a county culvert. Durgan said Hillman needs to verify whether the man has encroachment permits for those lines.

The Commission reviewed the road crew weekly work schedule. Hillman said the crew is finished putting up snow fence for the year.

Durgan said Hillman submitted a purchase order on October 25 for a 30-inch culvert for Fiddle Creek. Hillman said he has not talked yet with the landowners there if they will contribute to installation of that culvert on the irrigation ditch. Hillman said he needs to see the county's policy on landowners contributing to irrigation canal work. Durgan said the Commission will hold off on approving that culvert until Hillman speaks with the landowners about contributing funds. Hillman said that culvert is not needed until spring.

Hillman provided the Commission with an estimate to repair frame damage to a road grader snowplow blade. Hillman said the damage happened somewhere on Swingley Road.

Hillman said he is getting complaints on Eldridge Creek Road from residents who say the road needs gravel. Lahren said an approach was put in incorrectly on that road due to work of a contractor, and part of the road problem is related to that. He said now the county needs to gravel the road up to where a new house is built past the canyon. Hillman said he needs a purchase order from Jesson for an estimate for that job. Hillman said he also needs more top gravel from Jesson for O'Rea Creek Road.

Hillman said he ordered a culvert for Fridley Creek last week and the road crew will put it in as soon as it arrives. Hillman said he has permits from the Army Corps of Engineers and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks for that work.

Hillman said he does not need a permit for a culvert replacement on Cinnabar Basin Road per his discussions onsite with Scott Opitz of Montana FWP. He said he will check with Opitz again on the matter. Hillman said he plans on doing that work next Monday.

Lahren told Hillman to put the O'Rea Creek estimate and Eldridge Creek estimate on separate purchase orders and marked for top gravel and pit run gravel types. Lahren asked Hillman if he can ask Jesson to fix the county's rate on the gravel for a year.

There was discussion about a Miller Drive speed limit zone near the daycare and the Montessori school on that road. Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said she will research whether the county can change the speed limit through that zone. She said the county probably could put a "Slow Children" sign up. Lahren said that sign should be put up. Hillman said will put up a school sign and an advisory sign underneath it.

Hillman asked about an annexation of Fleshman Creek Road by the city. Hillman said he thought Commissioner Denton submitted a letter of request to the city for that annexation.

Durgan said it looks like the road crew may need to be running a water truck in front of the grader on Trail Creek because it is dry on that road.

@9:26:41 a.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 3, 2008

Discussion of Agenda and Review Minutes for Week of October 27, 2008

@9:33:22 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. 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 Commission's upcoming agenda and review Commission meeting minutes for the Week of October 27, 2008.

Commission Executive Assistant Raea Morris presented the Commission with its upcoming meeting agenda and schedule through November 14. The Commission had no revisions to the agenda.

Reviewing Commission meeting minutes for the Week of October 27, 2008, Durgan requested a revision to Page 3 of 18, fourth paragraph, the last line should read, "The Commission directed Rambow to give notice to the city about the Angel Line payment." On Page 17 of 18, the third paragraph from the bottom of the page should read in entirety, "Durgan said Hillman better talk to the citizens on Fiddle Creek Road about monetary participation for the culvert because it is an irrigation ditch. Durgan said the

county would put in the culvert to the correct specifications, but the adjacent landowners would be responsible for the cost of the culvert.”

On Page 5 of 18, Lahren requested a revision to the second bullet item. The second sentence should read, “Lahren said the job title of catalogue assistant apparently has been changed to archaeology curator, which puts the county at risk since the museum is falsely advertising it has an archaeologist on staff and does so without sufficient facilities.” On Page 11 of 18, the third paragraph should read in entirety, “Malone asked about a YRRE Interpretative 2399 account. Commissioner Lahren said those funds are one half of \$63,000 a developer paid for the appraised value of land deemed to be a historic county road, a road from Carter’s Bridge to Chico bisecting the old Pierce place that was going to be subdivided. Lahren said the county made an agreement with the developer to abandon that road to allow the county to erect interpretive displays, which included work at the Chico Cemetery. Lahren said the funds are external money and are not tax monies. He said the county is subject to the terms of the agreement with YRRE.” On Page 17 of 18, sixth paragraph; Lahren noted the correct spelling of “Fridley” Creek. On Page 18 of 18, Lahren noted the correct spelling of Jackie “Shiplet.”

Durgan made a motion to accept the minutes with additions and corrections noted. Lahren seconded that motion. Motion passed.

@10:02:58 a.m., Lahren adjourned the meeting.

November 3, 2008

Review of Correspondence, Public Contacts and Determine Action Plan

@10:03:02 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Bill Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, Commission executive assistant; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to review correspondence, public contacts and determine action plans.

Action items included:

- Draft resolution from Deputy County Attorney Piccolo designating Park County a Class II county
- Memo from Rick D’Hooge to Commissioner Lahren re. payment as union negotiator for Park County. Lahren phoned D’Hooge and asked him to set up a quarterly payment arrangement with the county.
- The Commission signed off on an agreement to retain Mona Jamison as legal counsel for a Cooke City resort tax and water district issue.

Correspondence included:

- Road crew weekly work schedule - To Road Book. Lahren said a continuing problem exists where the Commission receives a tentative work schedule but does not get a district by district prioritized work plan. Lahren said that makes it hard for the Commission to know what to tell citizens who inquire about road problems and is why the Commission cannot get a grasp on the budget with estimated costs. Lahren said the road department needs a management model and planning rather than a hit and miss operation that exists now.
- Yellowstone Gateway Museum director time log - To human resources for file. Lahren said NAGPRA stands for Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and was implemented in 1991. He said NAGPRA requires any museum receiving public monies to receive NAGPRA review. Lahren said when he left the museum it had NAGPRA approval, meaning it had no skeletal remains or patriarchal/personal artifacts. He said the county does not want to take any skeletal remains or any burial-associated materials, which would put it in violation of NAGPRA. Lahren said a competent archaeologist is needed to review collections and gain NAGPRA approval.

There was discussion about how the road log book should be prioritized.

Durgan read into the record the following issues discussed at the 9 A.M. road updates meeting:

- Lee Harris from Ninth Street Island requested help putting in a gate because access to his property was blocked off by the county during installation of the Bailey bridge. Durgan said the road crew will assist with putting that gate in and Harris will pay for the materials.
- A Cinnabar Road culvert will be installed on November 10 and the road will be out of commission during the time the culvert is put in
- There was a question about graveling Eldridge Creek Road with an estimate of 500 yards of 3-inch minus gravel and top gravel. The 3-inch minus gravel will be purchased from the Bainter Pit and the top gravel from the Jesson Pit. Lahren said the Commission noted that graveling will extend on the county right-of-way to Cochran's and the problem may have been created in part by work of a private contractor, but the county will repair the road as standard road maintenance.
- Road Supervisor Ed Hillman indicated more gravel was needed on O'Rea Creek and that gravel will be placed when the crew gravels the railroad crossing approach.
- There was discussion about a 15 mile per hour sign in the school area on Miller Drive. A "Slow School" sign and a 15 MPH limit sign will be erected.
- There was discussion about installing a culvert extension on a ditch on Fridley Creek Road before winter freeze up
- Hillman submitted a purchase order for Fiddle Creek Road and will check on the county's policy of citizen monetary participation on irrigation ditch work

- Hillman submitted a purchase order for a snowplow blade frame and the Commission suggested Hillman check with Kevin Warren to see if he can fabricate a frame
- Hillman telephoned and indicated an inquiry was made from Jason Hahn of Cooke City asking whether the county needed any extra snow plowing help in that area. The Commission said the road supervisor should submit a memo about the proposal and proof of insurance and an independent contractor's license for Hahn.

@11:01:41 a.m., Lahren made a motion to recess the correspondence review until after the 11 a.m. meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was recessed.

@3:01:13 p.m., Lahren reopened the meeting.

The Commission reviewed the correspondence binder and determined there were no additional action items to address.

@3:01:19 p.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 3, 2008

Consider Subdivision Regulations by Planning Board

@11:01:52 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Philip Fletcher, planning director; Mike Inman, planner; Shannan Piccolo, deputy county attorney; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider subdivision regulations by the planning board.

Planning Director Philip Fletcher said the purpose of the meeting was to present the Commission with information and no decisions need to be made. He said the planning board started reviewing subdivision regulations for five potential changes/improvements to the county subdivision regulations. He said a proposed change to the family transfer exemption could potentially involve a procedural change in the family transfer review process.

Fletcher said the current procedure for family transfer exemptions is an application comes in to the planning office and the planning staff, environmental health department, clerk and recorder and county attorney's offices review the application.

Fletcher said the proposed change is for the Commission to consider a family transfer exemption application and planning staff report in an open meeting rather than the planning department staff denying or approving the exemption application. Fletcher said at that meeting the Commission would deny, accept or conditionally approve the application, meaning the Commission and not the planning department staff would ultimately make the decision on family transfer exemptions before any appeal is filed.

He said such a process is a fairly common way for other jurisdictions to review family transfer exemptions.

Fletcher said since the appeal process does not cost an applicant, it is almost routine for the applicant to come to the Commission with an appeal. He said the proposed amended process would save time for the applicant, planning staff and Commission, because the application comes straight to the Commission after the planning staff report and presentation is made to the Commission, but the Commission makes the decision if the family transfer is appropriate.

Fletcher said right now the Commission acts as the appellant board. He said if the process changes theoretically that eliminates an appeal for an applicant except in court. For that reason, he said he added to the proposal that once the Commission makes a decision, the applicant can petition the board of Commission for reconsideration, which would serve as a type of appeal.

Commissioner Durgan asked if the planning board currently makes an analysis of family transfer exemptions. Fletcher said right now exemptions do not go before the planning board. Durgan said the planning board should be aware of family transfer exemption applications to give it a heads up, because the exemption might become a subdivision if the family transfer is denied. Fletcher said that is one reason for the planning board to be involved in the process. He said theoretically the planning board could be the next step after the planning department staff writes its report and before that report goes to the Commission.

Planner Mike Inman said if a family transfer appeal came to the Commission and was denied, it would go through the subdivision review process with the planning board, and thus the planning board would be notified of the application. Inman said the staff currently does family transfers in a week, and involving the planning board may add one to two months to the process because the board meets once a month.

Fletcher said the amendment proposal was written for applications that are acceptable for staff report and review procedures, and once on the Commission calendar those could go by quickly. He said problem applications would take longer.

Inman said one way to consider the amendment proposal is it beefs up the accountability of family transfers. Inman said the aim is to identify upfront the intent of the family transfer application. He said currently the planning department is seeing a lot of evasion and abuse of the family transfer exemption option, and the planning department ultimately is trying to protect the family transfer option. Lahren said accountability is the important issue, and the Commission generally will follow the recommendation of the planning department staff regarding family transfer exemption decisions.

Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said her only concern is how other counties handle appeals, whether through a rehearing with the Commission or through a board of adjusters that hears appeals.

Fletcher said he would stress if the Commission is satisfied with the family transfer review process as it currently exists, the Commission can keep it. He said since denials always get appealed anyway, he felt skipping the step of the planning department doing the analysis and having the initial decision go straight to the Commission may accelerate the process.

Piccolo said there likely will still be an appeal to a Commission denial, so it may not streamline the process. Fletcher said he feels there may not be an appeal if the Commission makes the denial decision.

Durgan said the Commission will not be generating the background study of the application, thus he does not know why the Commission would go against the planning department recommendation.

Inman said a lot of the time the planning department does not have the information it needs to properly provide an opinion on a family transfer exemption application. He said the proposed amended process would force applicants to go before the Commission and state on the record what they are attempting to do with the family transfer exemption. He said the planning department and the planning board do not have the ability to ask applicants their intentions with a family transfer exemption application. He said when abuse of the exemption occurs a surveyor drops off the survey, the planning department does not meet the applicant, and it has no way of knowing what is going on with the intent of the applicant.

Commissioner Lahren said he thinks the planning department is on the right track because having an applicant go before the Commission eyeball to eyeball is a good way to communicate and makes people think about what they are proposing.

Fletcher said he came up with some questions the Commission may like to ask applicants during a hearing and drafted an affidavit that may flush out facts of an application. Fletcher said approximately 40 percent of new lots created in Park County have been created by the family transfers, and the planning department knows subsequently some of those lots are turned right around and sold. Fletcher said the proposed amendment tries to plug that loophole. Fletcher said the planning department is after improvement in the procedure of process and getting the Commission involved earlier in process.

Fletcher said the planning board will consider the proposal and go through it line by line at a public hearing scheduled for the third week of November. Fletcher said the planning board will have discussion, make findings of fact, and vote on all five changes proposed, including the family transfer. He said the planning board recommendation will then come to the Commission for a decision to accept or deny the amendments.

@11:28:14 a.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 3, 2008

Watson Boundary Relocation Denial Appeal

@11:31:08 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Shannan Piccolo, deputy county attorney; Philip Fletcher, planning director; Mike Inman, planner; Barney Hallin, public citizen; Jim Woodhull, city of Livingston; Bruce Becker, city of Livingston; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled as a Watson Boundary Relocation denial appeal.

Planner Mike Inman provided the Commission with a copy of his planning department staff report on the Watson Boundary Relocation denial. Inman said Section V-F-3 of the Park County Subdivision Regulations allows for a denial appeal. Inman said the appeal was being made by City Attorney Bruce Becker and Surveyor Barney Hallin.

Inman said the boundary relocation denial involving Tract 1 and 2 of Certificate of Survey (COS) 2226 RB was based on Section V-E-D(2) of the *2006 Park County Subdivision Regulations*, which state, "Rebuttable Presumptions: The use of this exemption is presumed to have been adopted for the purpose of evading the MSPA if: the proposed relocation creates a parcel of less than 160 acres which prior to the relocation included more than 160 acres."

Inman said the request included two tracts of land, one being 186 acres prior to the boundary relocation and after the relocation request was 86.04 acres. Inman said that is where the rebuttable presumption comes in and thus the denial.

Inman provided a history of the tracts in question. Inman said Barney Hallin submitted a proposed boundary relocation in April of 2008 which was denied by then County Civil DePuy based on the same rebuttable presumption. He said in addition DePuy requested additional research regarding an interchange lawsuit settlement agreement and zoning. Inman said on April 18, 2008 another boundary relocation proposal was submitted but no review was necessary because both tracts were over 160 acres and remained over 160 acres. Inman said those tracts were denoted as COS 2226 RB recorded in the county clerk and recorder's office on April 18, 2008.

Inman said, thus the denial today constitutes the second boundary relocation involving both tracts of land. Inman said the current Park County subdivision regulations, Section V-E-1.A. states: "Statement of Intent: The intended purpose of the exemption is to allow a change in the location or the elimination of a boundary line between adjoining properties outside of a platted subdivision and to allow a one-time transfer of a tract to affect that relocation or elimination without subdivision review."

Inman presented to the Commission three maps showing different proposed boundary relocations of the tracts in question.

Barney Hallin said the relocation of common boundaries is not a division under Montana law. Hallin recited Montana Code Annotated 76-3-207. Hallin said the loophole the county is trying to close with the 160-acre limit for subdivision review does not close any loopholes. He said possibilities for evasion still exist, saying the county's limitations are more stringent than state law.

Durgan said the maps show him the applicants have taken two tracts within the rules and now are into the second boundary relocation application, which that in itself is wrong. Hallin said under state law it is not wrong. Hallin said there is no subdivision and no reaction of any tracts of record.

Deputy County Attorney Piccolo said state statute states a relocation is considered a subdivision if a method of relocation of boundaries is adopted for the purpose of evading subdivision regulations. Piccolo said in and of itself a boundary relocation is not a subdivision, but if it is used in attempt to evade subdivision review then state law says it is considered a subdivision. Piccolo said state law and is case law exists to support that statute. Hallin said there is no subdivision and no creation of any tracts of record.

Durgan asked what is proposed for the two tracts. Hallin said one tract is currently gravel and another is proposed as a gravel pit for the city. Durgan said it sounds like the county is going from one bad situation into a worse one with getting into gravel pits. He said he needs more consultation with legal staff to see if the Commission is getting itself into another corner. Hallin said the issue is not use of the land because there is no zoning on the property.

Piccolo said the Commission needs to look based on the facts presented because the appeal is an opportunity for the applicant to present additional information to rebut the presumption. She said the presumption in the regulations is going from 160 acres to below that number may be deemed as making an attempt to evade subdivision review.

Planning Director Philip Fletcher said the staff report and recommendation was based on two rebuttable presumptions, which are very clear in the ordinance. Fletcher said the Commission needs to decide if it has heard anything from the appellant which contradicts the staff report in as far as the two assumptions. Fletcher said he thinks the future use of the land is not important. He said the two rebuttable issues are the lot was previously divided and the 160-acre issue. Fletcher said the burden of overcoming presumption is on the people who appealed. He said if the Commission feels they have rebutted the two issues in the ordinance then it should decide in the appellants' favor.

Hallin said to look in state law at the definitions of what a division of land is and what a subdivision of land is. He said the applicant is not creating any tracts of record.

Lahren said he is going with the rebuttable presumption that the proposed relocation creates a parcel of less than 160 acres which prior to the relocation included more than 160 acres which is contrary to the county subdivision regulations and therefore he moved the Commission deny the appeal. Durgan seconded that motion. Durgan said he has not

seen anything here that would change his thinking on the staff recommendation and the Commission needs to stay within the county regulations and the staff made it clear the Commission needs to stay within the regulations. Motion passed.

@11:59:06 a.m., Lahren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 4, 2008

Election Day Holiday – All Offices Closed

November 5, 2008

9:00 A.M. – Claims Review Meeting – Commissioners Chambers

November 5, 2008

Consider Resolution of Designation of Park County as a Class II County

@10:04:00 a.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Denton, Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to consider a resolution designating Park County a Class II county.

Commissioner Lahren read Resolution #1035 into the record. Lahren said a “2008 Certified Taxable Valuation Information (Pursuant to 15-10-202, MCA)” document accompanies the resolution denoting the taxable value Park County will receive as a Class II county.

Durgan made a motion to accept the resolution designating Park County a Class II county. Denton seconded that motion. Motion passed.

The Commission signed the resolution.

@10:05:47 a.m., Durgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Denton seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 6, 2008

Review of Correspondence, Public Contacts and Determine Action Plan

@1:33:04 p.m., Chairman Lahren called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Denton, Durgan and Lahren were present. Also present was Bill Hurley, director of operations; Raea Morris, Commission executive assistant; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller. No public comment was made.

The meeting was scheduled to review correspondence, public contacts and determine action plans.

Director of Operations Bill Hurley said the work at O'Rea Creek railroad crossing was done well. He said the markings on the road warning vehicles to stop may be too close to the tracks and his recommendation is to pave around the corner at the crossing for safety reasons, which will result in 100 feet of pavement.

Correspondence included:

- A bill from Bridger Communication for \$910 for the county attorney's office move. Lahren said the county has a penalty because it is late in paying the bill. Durgan said the county attorney is still trying to have the Commission pay for everything associated with the office move. The Commission instructed Commission Executive Assistant Raea Morris to draft a claim to include the county attorney's office code.
- Lahren read annual leave requests from six employees into the record – The Commission approved the requests
- Invoice from Clyde Bainter for gravel at Whispering Pines – Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Invoice from Nittany Grantworks for Fleshman Creek grant work - Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Estimate from Mobile Repair for a custom built bumper and tow bar for a road department Dodge truck – To be discussed at the next road updates meeting
- Memo from Lori Benner of Nittany Grantworks re. invoice for Oasis Environmental on Fleshman Creek project - Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Invoice from Stafford Animal Shelter - Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Memo from Sanitarian Randy Taylor re. filling his position. The Commission said the job notice needs to go through the human resources department and the county hiring and announcement process needs to be followed
- County budget adoption resolution – Resolution was signed by the Commission and filed with the clerk and recorder
- Public info request for Nov 3 meetings - To minutes clerk for action
- Memo re. damage to Angel Line bus from poor condition on Divide Road
- Draft letter from Lori Benner re. Ninth Street and Siebeck Islands property acquisition program – The Commission signed off on the letter
- Invoice from Mount Contact Cabins - Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Memo from MACo re. elected county officials orientation
- Invoice from Rick D'Hooze dating back to 2004 re. union representation work - Invoice was signed by the Commission
- Memo re. new email for Livingston Police Chief Raney
- Postage log record - To Morris for review
- Memo re. wind energy - To Durgan for review
- Memo re. inquiry about bartending training to restrict sales to minors

- Memo from AP clerk requesting October gas receipts
- Memo from treasurer re. taxes posted on county website
- Observation report from architect re. completion of fairgrounds rabbit and poultry barn
- Memo re. closure of Cinnabar Road on November 10 at 8 a.m.
- Memo re. Bailey bridge observations made by Commissioner Denton - To file and Road Book
- Memo re. Park County Cooperative Weed Management - To Durgan for review
- Montana Economy at a Glance newsletter – To Denton for review
- Resolution #1035 declaring Park County a Class II county
- Memo re. Forest Service programs in Big Timber district
- Memo from AP clerk re. her discussion with CSA and a program update - The Commission directed Morris to determine who at CSA is to fix the problem
- Kamp's Ag Exemption document from applicant attorney – To file
- Citizen comment that flood work on Fleshman Creek and accepting FEMA money for that work is not acceptable at this time - To Grants Coordinator Benner for review
- Memo re. carbon credits - To Durgan for review
- Memo re. JSEC meeting change
- Agreement form from Park County Fire Council requesting services in lieu of refuse fees – Commissioner Lahren said he will submit a letter of response
- Memo from deputy county attorney requesting agreement with Frank Wright re. a sprinkler system

Commissioner Durgan said he got a phone call from Citizen Matt Asphlund re. snow removal in Cooke City - To Denton for review.

Durgan said he had a phone call into MDT Bridge Engineer Dan Gravage re. the load rating on the Deep Creek Bridge. Durgan said Gravage said the engineers are working on a load rating.

Commissioners Durgan and Lahren said they viewed the Main Boulder Road today per request of local residents. They said the issue will require a day's worth of road maintenance in Park County near a guest ranch. They said other reported poor road conditions in Sweetgrass County are a result of rocks under the road surface.

@2:21:39 p.m., Denton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lahren seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 6, 2008

Park County Road Updates

@3:04:04 p.m., Vice-Chairman Durgan called a meeting to order in the Commissioners Chambers. Commissioners Denton and Durgan were present. Also present was Ed

Hillman, road supervisor; Shannan Piccolo, deputy county attorney; Bill Hurley, operations; Mike Felkins, public citizen; and Commission Minutes Clerk John Mueller.

The meeting was scheduled to discuss county road issues.

Road Supervisor Ed Hillman said the road crew finished graveling work on O'Rea Creek at the railroad crossing. Hillman said the crew will install a culvert on Cinnabar Basin Road on Monday.

Hillman said the road crew will have two road graders working in tandem on Cottonwood Bench Road next week. Hillman said Troy Amunrud has not been grading this week because he was in the shop putting on a grader wing.

Hillman said he asked Kevin Warren to look at a frame for an estimate for a snowplow but he has not heard back from him.

Durgan asked about a purchase order from Mobile Repair for a custom built bumper and tow bar for a red Dodge pickup. Hillman said the road crew put such a bumper on the truck before, but it was torn off. Hillman said no one else in the county that he knows of can bend the steel in order to custom make a bumper/tow bar. Durgan said he will call a guy in the valley for an estimate. Hillman said the job is almost finished because Mobile Repair has been working on the bumper since summer.

Durgan said MDT bridge engineers are still looking into the load weight limit for the Deep Creek Bridge. Hillman said the bridge currently has a 8-ton weight limit and a sign is erected at the bridge denoting that limit.

Deputy County Attorney Piccolo presented the Commission with a memo outlining the process of having a study done on Miller Drive for a speed limit reduction there. Durgan said the county can put up a yellow cautionary sign. Durgan said a citizen asked why the road is not graded at present. Hillman said that road has been graded twice this year and the long graders with snow wings make it difficult to grade the side roads, like Miller Drive.

Public comment was made by Mike Felkins. Felkins asked why a 15 miles per hour sign cannot be put up on Miller Drive when surrounding roads have 15 miles per hour signs. Felkins said there is a school and daycare right next to each other on that road and if a 15 mile per hour sign cannot be put up perhaps caution signs can be put up around the school.

Felkins said at the northeast corner of Miller and Guthrie you cannot see and there is no stop sign there. Felkins asked if the county could put a stop sign there attached to existing street signs. He said currently citizens have to pull into Miller Lane when pulling off of Guthrie.

Piccolo said an ordinance exists for a 15 miles per hour speed limit on Miller Drive so a stop sign can be put up on that road. Hillman said he will get locates and put stop signs and school signs up where they are needed.

Director of Operations Bill Hurley told Hillman about county work required per contract at the O'Rea Creek railroad crossing, specifications of the area needing pavement, and the proximity of warning signage on the road surface. Hillman said the road crew will put millings on that road area next summer when it does the millings on Willow Creek Road. Hillman said the county will do whatever it needs to do, but work cannot be done until summer because millings can only be put down in warm weather.

Hillman said the road crew found a section of culvert for Fleshman Creek Road.

@3:36:44 p.m., Denton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Durgan seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.

November 7, 2008

No Meetings Scheduled

10:00 A.M. -12:00 P.M. – Commissioner Denton in Gardiner to Hear Resident Concerns
– Gardiner Eagles Club

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

Denise Nelson
Clerk & Recorder
Park County, Montana