

TREASURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 21st, 2025

10:04 AM - Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance with Commissioners, Ruth Baue, Ruth Baker, and Marlo Moehr Chairman. Treasure County Clerk & Recorder, Marlee Sears, Treasure County Attorney, Hanna Schantz, Treasure County Road Department, Robin Rich; Treasure County legal assistant & DES Coordinator, Nicole Stephenson; Treasure County Public Health, Deborah French, Treasure County Treasurer, Julie Pinkerton, and Treasure County Sheriff, Will Seastrom. Also present were guests, Ruth Edlund, Bart Icopini, Montana Department of Transportation Reps, Jacob Brotzler and Christopher Trautman, Weed Board Secretary Tyla Keil, and Yellowstone Irrigation District Board Member Dennis Kolb.

10:14 AM - Minutes Approval, Claims & Payroll

- Approval of minutes for Regular Meeting January 6th, 2025
 - ****MOTION**** - Baker Moves to approve January 6th, 2025 minutes, Baue 2nd, Motion Carries
- Claims: Claims for January 21, 2025 were presented for payment in the amount of \$29,593.30, for check number 32008 through 32036.
 - Claim # 31990 - was withheld for Denning, Downey, & Associates. Commissioners would like to send an email with questions to the firm.
- Payroll: Payroll for January will be on the next set of minutes.
- *All Claims were approved & paid.

10:30 AM - Treasure County Road Department Discussion, Robin Rich

- Road Business
 - Guests from Montana Department of Transportation: Jacob Brotzler & Christopher Trautman
 - Mr. Brotzler was present to provide the commissioners with a plan to replace three timber bridge structures on Old Highway 10.
 - They are replacing the structures with box culverts.
 - The current plan is set to begin in March of 2026 or Fall of 2026 dependent upon time and when the water begins in the irrigation canals.
 - MDT will be reaching out to the commissioners about a potential detour in the future, wanted to give an early heads up on the project.
 - Use of Trailer
 - The county borrowed Jr. Haines trailer to haul equipment. Mr. Haines will be submitting a bill to the county for reimbursement.
 - Discussion regarding the Prince bills for the resurfacing project on Pease Bottom rd. Those invoices will be set to be approved at the next regular scheduled commissioner meeting on February 4th, 2025.

10:45 AM - Treasure County Attorney, Hanna Schantz

- Weed board Organization discussion, Secretary Tyla Keil
 - Secretary Keil was present to introduce herself and give an update on the weed board meeting held on the 14th, of January.
 - Bart Icopini is the Weed Board Chairman
 - Dan Story is the Vice Chairman/ Operations Manager.

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- Tyla met with the Road Department
- Tyla is going to use the Soil Conservation telephone number for the Weed District and Tyla has also set up an email.
- Tyla asked permission to take the filing cabinets over to the Soil Conservation Office, the commission approved.
- Discussion regarding Joe Watson, Treasure county Road Maintenance/ Weed Spray Attendant, to maintain his credits for the application license.
 - The board of commission advised to reach out to the Rosebud County Extension office to obtain credits.

11:00 AM - Public Comment -

- **Treasure County DES Coordinator & Legal Secretary, Nicole Stephenson**
 - Nicole stopped in to discuss the Hazard Mitigation Plan. There is a resolution on the agenda for the next commissioner meeting for approval.
 - This is a resolution that has to be completed to remain in good standing to receive grant funding.
 - The mitigation plan now is covered in Districts, we are the Eastern District.
 - There is a March 6th, 2025 Grant Submission deadline approaching.
 - The county can adopt this resolution now or it can adopt the resolution in the future once the Eastern Plan is approved, Road Hazard Mitigation was also included in the plan.
- **Treasure County Attorney, Hanna Schantz**
 - Mrs. Schantz wanted to inform the board of commission that the Town of Hysham is updating their growth policy.
 - Great West Engineering firm is helping with the project.
 - Discussion of the County Planning Board could potentially review the Town of Hysham's Growth Policy.
 - County Attorney Schantz, is checking into it currently.

11:15 AM - Stahley Engineering Conference Call, Adam Hagel

- **Gibson Road Bridge:**
 - Discussion regarding the schedule of the replacement of the Gibson Road Bridge.
 - Adam is hoping that they are going to begin work the beginning of February with a completion of April prior to the irrigation canal turning on.
 - Budget: There is a Contingency of \$46,000. In funding left over and all of that money can be used to improve the site.
 - The money can either go into work to resurface the new bridge deck or can go to the reinforcement of the bridge deck by means of riprap. As long as the work is tied to the initial scope of work of the project.
 - IF the board went with the second option they would have to discuss with the Yellowstone Irrigation District in order to place the rip rap
 - The board of commissioners would like to see the additional funding first be placed on the resurfacing of Gibson road in the area of the bridge replacement.
 - In the meantime Adam is going to check into the placement of the riprap
- **River Rd Bridge**
 - Discussion regarding the River Road Bridge issues including the Southeast wing wall, the structure in the middle of the bridge leaning over and the unreinforced concrete.

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- Senate Bill 536 Funding from Montana Department of Transportation. They will have complete run over the construction and engineering of the project.
- Tullock Bridge
 - Construction has not yet begun due to weather conditions.
- 11:30 PM – Yellowstone Irrigation District, Dennis Kolb
 - The Treasure County Board of Commission invited Yellowstone Irrigation District to the meeting to begin communications about the bridge replacements that will be happening on numerous locations. The Gibson Road Project and River Road Project are both bridges that cross the YID Canal. The River Road project will more than likely have a 2.5 to 3 year timeline to begin construction.
 - Discussion regarding the “Kolb” Bridge.
 - The board of commissioners would like to keep an open line of communication to ensure that everything works as it should.
- 11:45 PM – Treasure County Department Heads:
 - Treasure County Public Health Department, Deb French
 - Updates regarding the various public health grants and funding, see attached update sheet.
- 12:00 PM – Adjourn for lunch
- 1:05 PM – Treasure County Department Heads:
 - Treasure County Attorney, Hanna Schantz
 - Resolution 2025-018 – Resolution authorizing Treasure County to sell the building and real property at 309 Elliot Avenue on Main Street through Public Auction
 - Discussion regarding Musser Brothers host as the auctioneer. At this point they are the only entity that has responded.
 - ****MOTION**** - Commissioner Bauc moves to proceed with the Musser Brothers to be used as the Auctioneer for the Public Auction with the opening bid minimum set at \$30,000.00, Baker 2nd motion carries.
 - Resolution 2025-019 – Resolution to Allow Rosebud County Attorney to handle a conflicting case with Treasure County Attorney Schantz.
 - ****MOTION**** - Commissioner Baker moves to approve Resolution 2025-019, Bauc 2nd motion carries.
 - Treasure County Sheriff's Department, Will Seastrom
 - Discussions regarding the accident roll over with the Sheriff Patrol vehicle for the 2018 Dodge Ram. Newly hired Undersheriff, Shelton was driving the vehicle. He walked away from the incident with no known injuries.
 - Discussions of purchasing a new patrol vehicle.
 - Franks Auto-body out of Miles City has totaled the vehicle, Sheriff is currently awaiting a response from Insurance to have it officially totaled.
 - Sheriff Seastrom provided numerous options for new patrol vehicles. Used vehicles from Lithia Dodge in Billings and Heberle Ford in Forsyth.
 - There was also a newer truck much like the Sheriff's in Livingston that had all of the at Dana Safety for an estimated total of \$67,000. With lights and all wiring and everything needed for the police responder package.
 - Commissioners advised to wait to get a response from insurance before making any further decisions.

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- The 2016 Dodge Ram Patrol was taken to Art's Tires for an estimate for repairs. The current estimate sits at \$12,000.
- ****MOTION**** - Baue moved to not spend any county money into the Dodge 1500, Baker 2nd Motion carries.

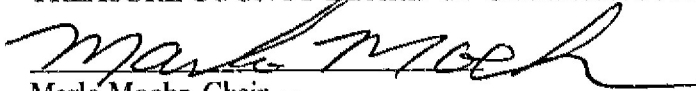
2:05 PM - Commissioners,

- Discussions
 - Chairs for the Courtroom
 - Discussion of chair options. It was determined to buy 7 chairs for the County Courtroom and for Clerk Sears to ask if others wanted/needed replacement chairs. The current quotes received ranged from \$250-270.
 - Chairs were found at \$200.00 so those were the chairs that were purchased.
 - Commute Car for County Employees
 - Discussion regarding a car for employees to drive to trainings, conventions, meetings, etc. The county pays a substantial amount of money in mileage to its employees. So the county is discussing buying a cheaper, used vehicle that is good on gas mileage in order to save on the expense of paying the employees mileage expenses.
- Meetings to Report
 - Ruth Baker -
 - Ruth Baue -
 - Mental Health Meeting - ZOOM 1-23-25
 - Marlo Mochr -

2:29 PM Adjournment of regular business: being no further business to come before the Board, Ruth Baker moved for adjournment, Ruth Baue seconded the motion.

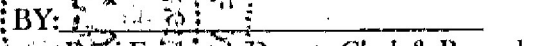
Dated this 4th day of February, 2025.

TREASURE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Marlo Mochr, Chair



ATTEST:
Marlee Sears, Clerk & Recorder

BY: 
Danj Erickson, Deputy Clerk & Recorder