

December 27, 2023

The Board of Garfield County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday December 27, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers at the Garfield County Courthouse.

Present were Chairman Justin Dixon, Member Larry Ledgerwood, Member Jim Nelson, Clerk of the Board McKenzie Lueck and the public.

The Board started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting.

Chairman Dixon called for public comment. There was none.

Road Supervisor, Steve Gormsen, gave the road report. The graders ran on Washboard, Peola, and Lewis roads last week. The crew also patched potholes on asphalt and gravel roads throughout the county. The crew cleaned up the airport pit last week, as well as burned weeds in culvert heads and ditches. Steve stated that cleaning up the culverts is an ongoing chore this time of year. They also trimmed trees on Pataha Creek. There were some slick roads last week, so the crew sanded those. In the shop the crew worked on the 2018 Dodge pickup E411, the 2010 Chevy Traverse E222, and the 2007 Chevy Flatbed 247. They also worked on the 2014 Freightliner E251. Steve informed the Board that Ollie went to sign school last week. This week, the crew is working on the guard rail located on the Malone Hill bridge. Steve informed the Board that there was some black ice throughout the county last week, so the crew put Magnesium Chloride down in some spots and sanded others. They are doing the same thing this week to try to keep the roads safe. The crew is running short due to the holiday week and scheduled vacations. Commissioner Ledgerwood asked Steve about the damaged guard rail that is located at the intersection of Meadow Creek and Highway 127. Steve stated that it was determined that that guardrail is the State's responsibility, but the county offered to assist with repairing it because the state is also running a short crew. The project is currently on hold until the State decides to move forward. Steve stated that there was a downed tree on Hutchens Hill Road today and the crew is working on cleaning it up.

Chairman Dixon asked Engineer Wege if there was any update on the ag building exemption policy and Engineer Wege said that he did not have any new developments. The draft is with the prosecutor.

Cyndi Holbert, E911 Coordinator, joined the Board to present them with a bid in response to a Request for Proposals (RFP) that was previously advertised for a repeater to be placed near Zumalt to upgrade the communications for dispatch and emergency services. There was only one bid presented and the bid was from Valence. The bid was in the amount of \$62,967.69. Cyndi stated that the bid included labor. Commissioner Ledgerwood stated that there is funding available for this project in the budget, and it will be funded with a portion of the 2023 budget and a portion of the 2024 budget. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the bid from Valence and Commissioner Ledgerwood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter of recommendation from the Denny Ashby Library Board of Trustees to fill a vacant position on the library board. The letter recommended Amber Love to fill the vacant position with a term of 1/2023 until 12/31/2027. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the recommended individual to the library board. Commissioner Ledgerwood seconded the motion.

Chairman Dixon asked Rachel Anderson, Civil Service Examiner, if there was any new interest in the vacant position on the Civil Service Board and she stated no.

The Board reviewed a request to transfer \$57,833.50 from ARPA to REET for the purchase of the Treasurer and Assessor's tax program. The Board unanimously approved the transfer of the expenditure.

The Board reviewed resolution 2023-27 pertaining to the transfer of \$2,200,000 from the Current Expense Fund to the Budget Stabilization Fund. McKenzie gave a brief overview of this transfer, stating that the Board budgeted last year to transfer funds to a stabilization fund in the best interest of the county and that this was taking place to complete that process. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to sign the resolution and Commissioner Nelson seconded it. The resolution was signed.

The Board reviewed and approved resolution 2023-28 in the matter of transferring \$488,721.54 from E911 to Current Expense. Chairman Dixon stated that this was an annual transfer that is done to cover expenses incurred by dispatch including wages and benefits that current expense pays throughout the year.

The Board recessed from 9:21 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.

Engineer Wege provided the Board with the proposed Six Year Transportation Improvement Program. This program includes the following projects; Kirby Mayview MP 13.2 to 15.16 (subgrade repair, hoiz curve correction, road and shoulder widening, slop flattening, guardrail, hazard elimination, new roadway ballast and surfacing, BST, drainage, signing, striping, seeding, fertilizing and mulching), Kirby Mayview MP 21.3 to 25.2 (safety improvement, pavement rehabilitation, horizontal correction, signing, delineation, truck escape ramp), MP 10.23 to 11.91 (add/upgrade/relocate guardrail/end terminals, including relocating/moving guardrail out further away from edge line to existing built shoulders, remove guardrail, flatten slopes, and resurface roadway, roadway resurfacing will include cement asphalt recycled base (CRABS) and BST surface treatment), Kirby Mayview MP 25.1 to 29.6 (safety improvement, signing, delineation), and Fairground Road/US 12 Intersection Reconfiguration project (relocation/reconstruct fairgrounds road intersection with US 12, project will require the construction of turn lanes on US 12 and replacement of existing bridge over Pataha creek). These projects are in order of priority. Engineer Wege stated that the plan did not change from the previous year, as the projects were pushed back. He continued that some of the projects' funding was pushed back a year by the state's request due to them having to juggle funding between other projects that are already in construction. After reviewing the plan, Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to approve resolution 2023-29 in the matter of Adoption of 2024 Annual Construction Program and Six Year Transportation Improvements Program for the Years 2024-2029 and Commissioner

Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board signed the resolution.

The Board reviewed resolution 2023-30 in the matter of Year 2024 Final Budget. This was a continuation of the budget hearing that started on December 11th. Commissioner Ledgerwood thanked everyone for their work on the 2024 budget. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve resolution 2023-30 and Commissioner Ledgerwood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board signed the resolution.

Chairman Dixon informed the Board that he had received an amendment to the BLAKE Agreement for FY2024 with AOC. Prosecutor Newberg had reviewed the amendment and approved the Board to sign it. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to have the chair sign the agreement and Commissioner Ledgerwood seconded the motion. The chairman signed the agreement.

Engineer Wege joined the Board to give them his weekly update. He stated that he reached out to the firm that was selected as the winner of the engineer consultant interviews. He continued that the winner would provide their scope and their costs within the next three to four weeks. Upon receiving those and comparing them with the County's budget and scope, it will be at that point that Engineer Wege will decide to move forward or if the winner does not match the county's needs, then he will begin negotiations with the second choice.

Engineer Wege informed the Board of a pilot program that would allow the state to keep federal funding but give the county's \$0.95 on the \$1.00 of state funding for projects. This will impact the way the County is audited if these projects move from being federally funded to state funded. Commissioner Ledgerwood asked how this would affect Garfield County and Engineer Wege stated that it would allow the county to use county forces if projects are no longer being funded with federal restrictions. Engineer Wege stated that he didn't have all the details at this time because previously he didn't think Garfield County would qualify. He stated that he is going to start the conversation with the state at the first of the year to see how it would benefit Garfield County. Chairman Dixon stated that he thinks this could be good news because it has been an issue for County Engineers for a very long time and this could add a lot of flexibility for county road resources.

The Board reviewed resolution 2023-31 regarding the 2023 Supplemental Budgets. There was a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to approve resolution 2023-31 in the matter of 2023 Supplemental Budgets and Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

The Board recessed from 10:04 a.m. until 10:10 a.m.

The Board went into executive session from 10:10 a.m. until 10:27 a.m. to discuss the duties and performance of an employee.

The Board went into an executive session from 10:30 a.m. until 11:10 a.m. with Treasurer Summers to discuss the duties and performance of an employee.

The Board met with the County Transportation Authority in an emergency meeting from 12:30 p.m. until 12:47 p.m.

The Board met back in regular session at 12:49 p.m. to review a request to transfer an expenditure from the ERR Fund to the County Road Fund due to a coding error. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion and Commissioner Nelson seconded it. The chairman signed the request.

The following voucher payments were approved for payment:

Claims Clearing Fund

Numbers: 70705	Through: 70717	Totaling: <u>\$14,109.26</u>
Numbers: 70718	Through: 70719	Totaling: <u>\$4,342.80</u>
Numbers: 70720	Through: 70773	Totaling: <u>\$164,978.31</u>
Numbers: 70774	Through: 70774	Totaling: <u>\$45,021.91</u>
Numbers: 70775	Through: 70796	Totaling: <u>\$58,191.57</u>

Payroll Clearing Fund

Numbers: 23124	Through: 23126	Totaling: <u>\$2,800.00</u>
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Electronic Payments

Dated: 12/22/23	Number of Payments: 20	Totaling: <u>\$23,443.92</u>
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The Commissioners regular meeting adjourned at 12:52 with the next regular meeting set for Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Chambers at the Garfield County Courthouse.

/s/ McKenzie Lueck
Attest: Clerk of the Board

/s/ Justin Dixon
Chairman, Board of Garfield County Commissioners