

February 26, 2024

The Board of Garfield County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday February 26th, 2024, 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, Nikki Smith, and the public.

The Board started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chairman Dixon called for public comment. There was none.

Road Supervisor Steve Gormsen gave the Board the weekly maintenance report. Last week, the crew worked on guard rail on Bell Plain and Gould City Mayview Road. The graders ran on Falling Springs, Wildhorse, Alpowa Creek, Clayton Road, Hagen Road, and Kuhl Ridge. They also hauled gravel, cleaned culvert heads, and burnt weeds on Knot Grass. In the shop they worked on E174, the roller, fixed a transmission and coolant issue on E272, and fixed a code error on E221. They also cleaned the shop and properly stored the flammables in the flammable cabinet and are addressing other housekeeping items that were found in the insurance inspection. There was some snow this morning and will likely continue this week, so the trucks went towards Peola and may make an afternoon run because of the winds. They are also working on updating all of the operators who are subject to drug testing in the drug testing database.

Engineer Wege joined the Board to give them his weekly update. He stated that the phones are still not working, but the internet is okay. They hoped to get the phones fixed today since Greg Sharp is back. He also stated that they had their 3-year compliance review with Puget Sound Energy and there were no major concerns. He also gave his input on the Appaloosa project open house. The board asked if they had a point of contact after his last day of March 18th, and Ashlyn Deatherage stated that they reached out to their legal counsel and will get back to them. He gave an update on the EWAM sidewalk project, and he currently has 3 bids. They are due on Friday, so he will give the board the name of the lowest bidder on Monday at the next meeting. He hopes to get the ad in the paper for the parking lot paving project in this week's paper and will run it for 2 weeks or until March 14th, 2024.

Nikki Smith asked that the board sign a letter drafted to Rehn & Associates to update the plan records for plan deadlines from 60 days to 90 days. She stated that our previous administrator of our HRA allowed 90 days. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to sign the letter. Commissioner Nelson, seconded. It passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon discussed the BIC MOU. Blues Intergovernmental Council asked for our County to sign a MOU. The advantage of this would be to see the plan before it is released to the public. The board didn't see any disadvantages. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to sign the letter. Commissioner Nelson, seconded. It passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ledgerwood moved to approve the minutes from February 20, 2024.

Commissioner Ledgerwood stated that he was approached by a member of the public regarding the jury expansion room. He suggested that an architect look at it before the work is underway to make sure that the wall isn't a load bearing wall. The board members thought this was a good idea as well.

The board discussed their schedules this week. Dixon has a meeting with the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. Ledgerwood has a meeting with Raising the Blues on Wednesday, Feb. 28. Nelson has a remote meeting on Thursday, Feb. 29 with LSC. The board also discussed Petrichor and reaching back out to Mayor Jack Peasley. They feel others may be better served by the funding.

Rachel Herres was out last week and asked if Martha Lanman brought up the discussion of hiring a part time position for someone to work approx. 15 hours/week regarding grants for the daycare project. She asked to be on the agenda for next week's meeting, March 4, 2024, and will have an update on the position.

The Board went into executive session at 9:36 a.m. to discuss contract negotiations. The Board got out of executive session at 10.32 a.m. No decisions were made.

Katie Magill was asked to reach out to Chris's Professional Electric LLC asking for a drawing with clarification on their quote that was accepted last week.

The following voucher payments were approved for payment:

Payroll Clearing Fund

Numbers: 23282 Through: 23282 Totaling: \$1,500.00

Electronic Payments

Dated: 02/23/24 Number of Payments: 22 Totaling: \$24,743.92

Claims Clearing Fund

Numbers: 71293 Through: 71345 Totaling: \$110,092.75
Numbers: 71346 Through: 71374 Totaling: \$45,118.15

The Commissioners regular meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. with the next regular meeting set for Monday, March 4th, 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