

March 11, 2024

The Board of Garfield County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday March 11th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers at the Garfield County Courthouse.

Present were Chairman Justin Dixon, Member Larry Ledgerwood, 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 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 dipped ditches on Gould City-Mayview Road and graded the following roads: Hastings Hill, Howell Grade, Valentine, and Hutchens Hill Road. The crew hauled rock to Hutchens Hill and Bell Plain. They also hauled ditch material from Gould City-Mayview. They fixed the guardrail on Bell Plain Road. They moved the shower in the spray room so it's more accessible. Four trucks plowed last Monday and went back out on Tuesday to clean up drifts on Peola. They are going to keep two trucks plowed up. In the shop they worked on pickups E208, 221, and 218 as well as the spray truck. They took the wing plow off E121 and the plow and chains off E128. They also serviced the mower and tractor for the fairgrounds. Steve stated that they put the bids together for oil, rock, and hot mix for chip sealing and those will be advertised the next few weeks and bids will be opened at the April 8th meeting. Steve informed the Board that he had gathered information for painting lines and would reach out to Walla Walla County for a quote. Chairman Dixon asked about Whitman County, and Steve stated that they use oil base paint which is more expensive and there are environmental concerns surrounding it. There was discussion regarding the pricing and the longevity of the paint, and Steve stated that it was basically equal as far as costs go in the grand scheme of things when looking at longevity or paint and costs up front. Steve continued that Whitman County is the only county that uses oil-based paint in the state. He stated that another option is to order with Pierce County and get a better price (this would be water-based paint). Steve informed the Board that the crew is going to start brooming roads this week. Steve's hoping to get quotes for paint this week and then they will be able to decide how to move forward.

Chairman Dixon stated that the Board had a presentation by Matt Slaybaugh with the Garfield County Hospital last week on a proposal of adding an imaging suite to the hospital. The Board drafted a letter of support, and reviewed resolution 2024-06 in the matter of Supporting the Imaging Suite Project. Commissioner Ledgerwood made a motion to pass the resolution and Chairman Dixon seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board signed the resolution in support of adding an imaging suite to the hospital.

Engineer Wege joined the Board to give his weekly update. He stated that Public Works was back online after having an issue with the switch and fiberoptics the last few weeks. He also informed the Board that he interviewed three firms last week for three projects. He notified the

firms of the selections, and the next step will be the scope and fee from those firms. He stated that the firms have 21 days to get that back to the County. After receiving those the county can begin negotiations. He added that two of the three projects do have to go to WSDOT Local Programs for concurrence. He informed the Board that bids for the parking lot surfacing at the Ag Museum will be due by this Thursday at 5:00 p.m. and they will be opened on Monday, March 18th at 9:30 a.m. He wrapped up his update stating that the annual reporting to C.R.A.B. is due April 1st, but there are a few things that are hung up due to their software. The person he needs assistance with is on jury duty.

The Board went into executive session at 9:17 a.m. with Engineer Wege and Steve Gormsen to discuss the qualifications of an applicant for employment. There were no decisions made.

The Board went into executive session to discuss potential litigation with Prosecutor Newberg from 9:30 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. There were no decisions made.

The Board went into executive session to discuss the qualifications of an applicant from 9:45 a.m. until 10:34 a.m. No decisions were made.

The following voucher payments were approved for payment:

Claims Clearing Fund

Numbers: 71376	Through: 71411	Totaling: <u>\$6,637.05</u>
Numbers: 71412	Through: 71461	Totaling: <u>\$ 70,046.85</u>
Numbers: 71462	Through: 71487	Totaling: <u>\$96,880.24</u>

Payroll Clearing Fund

Numbers: 23283	Through: 23289	Totaling: <u>\$8,484.30</u>
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Electronic Payments

Dated: 3/8/2024	Number of Payments: 58	Totaling: <u>\$162,669.47</u>
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The Commissioners regular meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. with the next regular meeting set for Monday, March 18th, 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