

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).

**REGULAR MEETING – TRAVELING to PARK CITY, MONTANA
March 7, 2023**

- PRESENT** Commissioners Tyrel Hamilton, Chair, Steve Riveland, Jeff Ruffatto, members.
- Others Present: List to become a part hereof
- PLEDGE** Commissioner Hamilton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- MINUTES** January 3, 2023.
- Commissioner Ruffatto **MOVED** to approve the minutes from January 3, 2023. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed.
- CLAIMS** No. 111638 to 111703 totaling \$156,310.59
- Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to approve claims no 111638 to 111703 totaling \$156,310.59. Commissioner Ruffatto **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed.
- RECOGNITION** To Lee Schmelzer for over 24 years of dedicated work for Stillwater County. Commissioner Hamilton noted that Lee’s final day will be Friday March 10th.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** Introductions for Stephanie Ray, Economic Development and Planning, Ben McVitte, Road and Bridge Road Supervisor, Chad Coles the Facilities Manager, and Nick Winfield from Stahly Engineering.
- CONSENT AGENDA** **Absarokee Sewer**
- A) Supplementary Payment Agreement Form RD-440-9
 - B) Authorization Agreement for Preauthorized Payments USDA Form RD 3550-28.
- Brief review of these agreements was provided by Commissioner Ruffatto, explaining that this is an automatic payment plan for the debt. Commissioner Hamilton explained that the assessment is limited to Absarokee sewer users.
- FILE ITEMS** **Clerk and Records Office**
- A) Report for Month ending February 28, 2023 in amount of \$3,862.40
- Justice of the Peace**
- A) Report for the Month ending February 28, 2023 in the amount of \$14,054.50
- Commissioner Ruffatto **MOVED** to consent to the consent items and file the file items. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed.
- REGULAR BUSINESS** **Road and Bridge**
- A) Notice of Award for the Nye Road Washout Repair.
- Nick Winfield of Stahly Engineering read aloud the recommendation letter for the Notice of Award for the Nye Road Washout Rehabilitation. After review of all bids, three total bids

were submitted and the low bidder is Four Beers Inc. The staff engineer has completed a discussion with Four Beers, Inc. and has verified that they have the experience and ability necessary to complete this project. Four Beers is not listed on the list of Labor and Industry suspended contractors. Stahly Engineer recommends awarding the bid to Four Beers, Inc. as the low bid submitted for this project. Total contract bid amount \$2,268,306.00, which was below the engineer estimate. Commissioner Hamilton requested comments or questions. Norm Moss, requested why the difference between bidders was so much and why it was lower. Nick Stahly noted that it was due to mobilization, and just familiarity of the location, Four Beers has the experience with the mine area. Commissioner Hamilton noted that the funding is from FEMA for the most part.

Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to sign the notice of award, the bid from Four Beers Inc. and award the project in the amount of \$2,268,306.00. Commissioner Ruffatto **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed.

Park City Fire

A) Re-appointment of Brian Bartholomew to a 3-year term for the Park City Fire District #2.

Commissioner Ruffatto **MOVED** to approve the re appointment of Brian Bartholomew for a 3-year term to the Park City Fire District #2. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. No discussion. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT Community Round Table will be part of the record immediately following the adjournment of this Agenda meeting. Commissioner Hamilton made the distinction between the two meetings.

Dan Gabowska of the Park City School Superintendent submitted the Impact Amendment for the Stillwater Mine. Requested the Commission to review the 160 pages, which includes the letter to include on a future agenda item for action. Commissioner Hamilton requested a show of hands as a support for the Hard Rock Mining Agreement Amendment. A count of hands showed 55+/-, no opposition.

The Commission will schedule a working session including a Park City Board Trustee, Superintendent, a Mine representative and a commissioner. Gary Hedges requested a definition of the plan. A brief description was provided to the public by Commissioner Hamilton. The next steps to opening the agreement for an amendment would be the working session. Dan Gabowska noted that they are seeking impact fees to be distributed to Park City. Mark O'Bryant, asked when the Park City Schools became a part of the Mine taxing program. Commissioner Ruffatto said that the Park Schools were not a part and opted out in 1985. Dan Gabowska explained that the expansion and current condition is why the amendment is being asked to be opened up, and the triggered items for opening the agreement have occurred. Marvin Gross asked if this takes a part of the current funds or would it be separate. Commissioner Hamilton said that it is based off of the total revenue amount and split among participants of the agreement. Renee Nelson of the Park City PTA requested a timeline of when the review and forward to the Mine. Complete within the next month hopefully is the response from Commissioner Hamilton. Daron Owen requested information to be provided to the community. A question from a citizen timeframe for the School Board was asked. Myron Gross asked on who is representing the Mine and the Board, also if the working session is open to the public. Commissioner Riveland said the process will be done during an open meeting and a comment period will be provided to the attendees.

With no further comments heard the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Tyrel Hamilton, Commissioner Chairman

Prepared by: Kisha Cornell, Administrator

ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder