

**GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, January 5, 2010**

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2010. Commissioners Ron Rides At The Door and Tony Sitzmann were present. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door called the meeting to order. Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder was present.

Commissioner Michael DesRosier was not present. He was attending the Blackfeet Constitution Forum in Browning, Montana.

**Present throughout the day:** Bill Bandel, GC Road Supervisor; James Laidlaw, EMT; Charles Farmer, GC DES; Glacier County Attorney Larry Epstein, Sheriff Wayne Dusterhoff, Payroll Clerk Diane Proefrock; Carol McDivitt, Public Health; Damon Bunting GC Extension; Della Dubbe, GC Library; Merle Cowell, GC Maintenance; Diane Anderson, Clerk of Court; Kate Salois, Treasurer; Peggy Hartwell, TACT/Dispatch Supervisor; Dennis Seglem, Museum; Bonnie Martin, Justice Court; Tim Siefert, Detention Officer; Nikki Lako, Minutes

**8:30 a.m. Approval – Cash Reports: October and November 2009**

The commissioners reviewed the October 2009 Cash Report as presented by Kate Salois, Treasurer with a cash total of \$21,084,529.24 for all county funds.

Revolving	\$6,531.00
A101	\$2,140,919.81
A2	\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$98,353.21
Taxes	\$66,157.95
Co Tax Sale	\$0.00
Warrant Correction	\$0.00
MSR	\$0.00
Warrants Paid	(\$3,746,444.94)
Treasurers Disbursements	(\$98,234.55)
County Payroll ACH	(\$173,541.72)
Warrant No GL County	\$0.00
Misc.	\$0.00

Total Cash was derived with the beginning balance of \$22,790,788.48 plus receipts and charges of \$2,311,961.97 less payments and credits of \$4,018,221.21 to equal the ending balance of \$21,084,529.24. Bank balances were as follows:

Native American Bank	\$138,359.02
NH Bond- Bank of GI Cty	\$0.00
Bank of Glacier County	\$173,648.26
Stockman bank	\$2,800,648.96
SMITHBARNEY	\$0.00
RBC	\$9,473,481.33
WACHOVIA	\$3,497,041.67
DAD	\$5,000,000.00
Cash in Safe	\$1,350.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,084,529.24</b>

The commissioners reviewed the November 2009 Cash Report as presented by Kate Salois, Treasurer with a cash total of \$21,139,613.71 for all county funds.

Revolving	\$3,549.50
A101	\$3,491,181.42
A2	\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$67,099.23
Taxes	\$4,196,739.94
Co Tax Sale	\$0.00
Warrant Correction	\$0.00
MSR	\$0.00
Warrants Paid	(\$4,358,695.72)
Treasurers Disbursements	(\$117,220.15)
County Payroll ACH	(\$128,814.27)
Warrant No GL County	\$0.00
Misc.	\$0.00

Total Cash was derived with the beginning balance of \$21,084,529.24 plus receipts and charges of \$7,758,570.09 less payments and credits of \$4,604,730.14 to equal the ending balance of \$24,238,369.19. Bank balances were as follows:

Native American Bank	\$197,134.21
NH Bond- Bank of GI Cty	\$0.00
Bank of Glacier County	\$174,090.50
Stockman bank	\$5,879,820.96
SMITHBARNEY	\$0.00
RBC	\$9,488,931.85
WACHOVIA	\$3,497,041.67
DAD	\$5,000,000.00
Cash in Safe	\$1,350.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,238,369.19</b>

Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door entertained a motion to approve the cash reports for October and November 2009 as presented by Kate Salois, County Treasurer. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve the October and November 2009 cash reports as presented by Kate Salois. Commissioner Rides At The Door second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

### **9:00 a.m. Department Supervisors Meeting**

Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door began by thanking all the department supervisors for coming in today. Commissioner Rides At The Door handed out a printout regarding the new county website. He asked that each department supervisor get the information requested to be put on the website in by Thursday January 7, 2010 if they haven't already, we really appreciate any contribution to the website. Morris-Maierle is going to try and get the website up and live shortly after. The domain will remain glaciercountygov.com. Commissioner Rides At The Door submitted the application for a .gov domain; he is still waiting for the approval. Morris-Maierle will provide remote training and if there are enough supervisors interested Morris-Maierle will provide a day of onsite training. The goal is to keep the website updated regularly and to make it as entertaining as possible. Kate Salois asked if the website would have keywords for search engines to help find the website. Commissioner Rides At The Door assured her that the website has a list of key words to help locate the website on the internet. The new county website is going to be a community based website for Cut Bank, Browning, East Glacier and Babb.

Larry Epstein, County Attorney, advised all department supervisors that Glacier County is now a Class One County. This puts Glacier County in par with Hill, Yellowstone and other large counties. He urged them to check their association's dues, the dues increased by a third (1/3). Diane Anderson set that each individual association sets their own dues.

Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door opened the floor for more comment.

Kate Salois, Treasurer since the reappraisal property taxes went up drastically. Usually we only have five or six tax appeals; however this year we currently have eighty-two that are protesting their taxes. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann added that the commissioners have had several citizens come in and ask the commissioners regarding the increase in their taxes.

Merle Cowell, Glacier County Maintenance, asked if the commissioners were going to do the classifications for each department. Commissioner Rides At The Door advised the supervisors that the commissioners checked with three companies to do this for Glacier County and the estimated cost was about \$30,000.00 plus expenses. Commissioner Rides At The Door said the commissioners are looking at making up a team to work on the classifications.

The commissioners received an anonymous letter regarding the courthouse office space. Larry Epstein read the letter out loud for all to hear. Commissioner Rides At The Door said to all, please look at the situation at hand. The commissioners never formally promised any office space to any specific department, we need to work out this issue thru discussion. He asked those involved to act professional. He reminded all that the commissioner's doors are always open for any concerns, communication goes a long way. Peggy Hartwell, TACT/Dispatch Supervisor, wanted it made clear that either she or Bonnie Martin did not write the letter in question. Hartwell stated that it was discussed and in the minutes, when are they valued. Hartwell added when she was getting ready to move into her new office she was told that she couldn't move just yet, that the office space issue was on the agenda for January 5, 2010. Peggy Hartwell again stated that whoever wrote the letter had a valued point. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door stated that the bottom line is that whoever wrote the letter was very unprofessional. The office space issue was not a closed issue, we are going to discuss this as adults and figure out what best fits everyone. Again, yes the office space was discuss in previous commissioner meetings, however there was not a formal approval for the office space that is in question. Negativity does not get anybody anywhere. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann stated that Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door is not accusing any specific individual for writing the letter. Hartwell stated she had planned for months to move, ordered equipment and asked why she wasn't warned that the move wasn't approved or that it was even an issue. Both Commissioner Tony Sitzmann and Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door both stated they didn't realize it was an issue. We need to work out this office space issue by looking at who will best utilize the office space. Commissioner Sitzmann stated that we need to move on; we will act on this issue at 10:30 a.m. when it is scheduled on the agenda.

Charles Farmer, DES, stated he had some announcements to make. He started by saying he would like to see the attendance and participation to these DES meetings get better. He asked, "What will happen if the county goes down?" DES has reached several milestones in the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP): finished the Direction & Control Annex, Basic Plan, Evacuation Annex, Mass Casualty/Mass Fatality Annex, Special Needs Care & Support Annex, COOP/COG Annex. The next project will be the Communications Annex and the Public Information Annex. Upcoming events: ICS 700a, ICS 100a, ICS 200a, ICS 402 (for elected officials). The dates for the ICS courses will be set at a later date. On February 18, 2010, Glacier County will be having a Continuation of Operations-Continuation of Government (COOP/COP) Tabletop exercise at the Courthouse Annex.

Carol McDivitt, Public Health, asked when the auditors will be here. Diane Proefrock replied on January 11, 2010 and they will be here for about three days. McDivitt asked how she could talk to the auditor directly for help with a couple of things. Proefrock advised her to leave her questions with Nikki Lako and when the auditors come in, the auditors will go out and help her.

Della Dubbe, Public Library, thanked the commissioners for the treats.

#### **10:00 a.m. Discussion – Road Issues: Dean Blackweasel**

Dean Blackweasel didn't arrive for the schedule agenda item regarding his road issues.

#### **10:30 a.m. Approval – Courthouse Office Space**

Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door opened the discussion by asking everyone involved to act professional and this will help look at our options to make a decision. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann stated that Justice Court's office move had been approved by the commissioners before he came into office. Merle Cowell added that the conflict came about due to the change in the original jail plans, Peggy Hartwell's office was to be part of the new jail. The architect took the office out of the plans. Hartwell again, stressed that she didn't write the anonymous letter to the commissioners. Cowell advised that he was the individual that found the letter addressed to the commissioners on the stairs. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door stated that the commissioners had discussed with Glenda Hall and Diane Proefrock regarding the elections new requirements. He also asked all departments to not get hung up on the anonymous letter, it just caused problems. We are going to work together to find a positive solution for all departments involved. Commissioner Rides At The Door said this is a cliché, but he would like to see everyone start the New Year on the right foot. With that he turned the discussion over to Glenda Hall and Diane Proefrock to explain the new requirements for elections.

Proefrock stated that she had gone to elections training recently and learned a lot of new requirements for elections. There are counties that are being sued for privacy rights for voting areas. It is HAVA (Help America Vote Act) requirement to have each polling location have at least one voting system accessible to individuals with disabilities, including nonvisual accessibility for the binds and visually impaired, in a matter that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. The last election the voting booths were in the hall way. Commissioner Rides At The Door asked if you could use the annex. Proefrock said the building has to be handicap accessible (bathroom). Sheriff Dusterhoff asked how many days do you need office space for elections. Both Hall and Proefrock stated thirty days for absentee voting and daily for storage. Sheriff Dusterhoff asked about the driver's examiner's office. Nikki Lako called and asked Floyd Stiffler from the State Driver's Examiner's office in Great Falls. Floyd Stiffler stated that there is not a contract and Glacier County provides the office space for free. The governor will not approve funds for rental fees. Dusterhoff told Proefrock that he would clean out the Sheriff's office portion in the vault and she could use that for storage. Bonnie Martin, Justice Court, also stated that she would be able to give up her storage area in the vault if Hartwell moves into the old Justice Court office. Justice Court will be able to use Hartwell's old office for storage. Commissioner Sitzmann stated a possibility would be to move the Drivers Examiner's office across the street into the Job Service office building and in the future having the Drivers Examiner spend a day or two in Browning and one day a week in Cut Bank. Diane Anderson asked if we could have a temporary solution and this will make for more time to make a permanent move. Commissioner Sitzmann asked Proefrock when elections will need the extra space. Proefrock stated late April early May. As for storage, Commissioner Rides At The Door said a possibility would be to build a secure storage facility to house documents. Cowell asked what is with saving all this paperwork (paper trail). Hall stated that it is a State requirement. Glenda Hall added that if we can find an office for the driver's examiner, it would make more cents to move Hartwell's office into the old driver's examiner's office. Commissioner Rides At The Door stated that he and the other commissioners will work with the DMV to move the driver's examiner's office. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve that Peggy Hartwell moves her office into Bonnie Martin's office (old Justice Court) until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. By April 1<sup>st</sup> the commissioners need to find an office for the driver's examiner's office so that each department has adequate office and storage space. Included in the motion is for Sheriff Dusterhoff and Bonnie Martin to clean out their storage in the vault for elections to use for storage. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Wayne Dusterhoff stated that Peggy Hartwell works very hard in her position and he appreciates all of her hard work. Diane Proefrock stated that she was very glad that the office space situation has been resolved.

#### **11:00 a.m. Discussion – Law Enforcement Update – Wayne Dusterhoff**

Wayne Dusterhoff, Sheriff, started by telling the commissioners that the Sheriff's office is again having problems with the Tribal Law Enforcement (Public Safety). Public Safety is calling the county's dispatch requesting that we send out a deputy to Seville Housing, when they have five guys that aren't busy. Deputy Napi is going to talk to Henry. We need to know who's responsible, we have no jurisdiction, and we have to work out an agreement. Commissioner Rides At The Door stated that the commissioners are going to contact the tribe to work on the

agreement and “light a little fire”. Commissioner Sitzmann would like to see the public get involved and voice their opinions. Dusterhoff added that the tribe is required now to register all sex and violent offenders. We offered to send Tim Siefert up to help him get the system set up. There is no reason to re-invent the wheel when we already have a system up and running.

Dusterhoff told the commissioners that the Sheriff’s department received the JAG grant money. The city needs to submit a claim minus the expenses for their share of the funds.

Sheriff Dusterhoff spoke to the commissioners about the claims he received back from the Clerk & Recorder’s office. There are written comments on the claims. If my employees are not filling out the forms properly, Mandi Kennerly needs to flag the claim with a sticky note. It doesn’t look good when the auditors come in and see comments like that on my departments claims. If I know that anyone from my department is making a mistake, I will hold them accountable and make sure that it is done right the next time.

Wayne Dusterhoff told the commissioners of an incident where the city arrested a disorderly woman on a \$125.00 ticket and her medical bill was over \$1200.00. The city officers need to think about some of their arrests. Dusterhoff had a meeting with Jeff Kraft later today to discuss this and some other issues.

Dusterhoff stated that the Sheriff’s Department received a grant for the amount of \$178,000.00. Glenda Hall stated that she needs a project and a budget to submit for this grant. Dusterhoff thought about adding on to the new jail. The new building would be used for storage, a conference room, a weight room, and an office for the Dispatch Supervisor. Hall is going to send an email to see what the deadline is so we don’t lose the funds.

#### **11:45 a.m. – Non Agenda Item – NaturEner – Aaron Boles**

Aaron Boles, NaturEner, came in to talk to the commissioners and Sheriff Dusterhoff about parties out in the wind farm. Boles and his crew are picking up after the parties on Monday. Boles wanted a point of contact to help eliminate the parties.

Sheriff Dusterhoff told Boles not to confront the individual(s), call 911 or the Sheriff’s Department. Dusterhoff also stated he would dedicate his deputies to make more runs thru the wind farm during Friday and Saturday when the parties are believed to be taking place.

Aaron Boles thanked the commissioners and Sheriff Dusterhoff for their help in this situation.

#### **12:00 pm Lunch**

#### **1:00 p.m. Approval – Purchase of Server, Backup and Hardware Upgrade**

Discussion regarding the server, backup and hardware upgrade took place during previous commissioner meetings. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve the purchase of a new server, backup and hardware upgrade. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

#### **1:30 p.m. Discussion – GPI Hotel Drive behind Glacier Park Lodge**

The commissioners received a letter from Glacier Park, Inc. regarding the GPI Hotel Drive behind the Glacier Park Lodge. Both Commissioner Rides At The Door and Sitzmann read the letter. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann called Cindy Ognjanov, GPI, to discuss the GPI Hotel Drive. Both Commissioner Sitzmann and Cindy Ognjanov were in consensus to do more checking into the background of the road. Commissioner Sitzmann will reply to the letter in a timely fashion. There will be no action taken today by the commissioners regarding the closure of GPI Hotel Drive.

#### **2:00 p.m. Discussion – Update Policy & Procedure Manual (all afternoon)**

The commissioners reviewed the policy and procedure manual. The commissioners corrected typos; however there were no amendments to the policy and procedure manual. Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder would like to have the manual out to print next week January 15, 2010.

**3:00 p.m. Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve commissioner meeting minutes from 12/14/09, 12/21/09, 12/22/09 and 12/24/09. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**4:00 p.m. Discussion & Approval – Resolution: Commissioner’s 2010 Schedule**

This agenda item was CANCELLED. This agenda item was rescheduled for Monday, January 11, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business for the day, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. with a motion by Commissioner Tony Sitzmann and a second by Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door. The motion passed by Board vote.

**BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder

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