

**GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
EAST GLACIER WOMENS CLUB, EAST GLACIER PARK  
Wednesday, September 22, 2010**

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 22, 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 not present, she was out of the state on personal leave. Commissioner Michael DesRosier was not present; he was out of the state on personal leave.

**Present throughout the day:** Sheriff Wayne Dusterhoff; John & Ali Ray, Jane Sherwood, Marcy Gallup, Gisela Andrejeff, Keri Jenkins, Ursula Mattson, Ed & Fay Tucker, Eva Wall, Ann & Rayne Pilgram, Greg Strutz & Terry McMasters, Citizens of East Glacier Park; John McGill, Press; Nikki Lako, Minutes

**10:00 a.m. Community Issues**

Commissioner Tony Sitzmann thanked everyone for coming. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door added that this meeting is to allow the community to have an opportunity to discuss and concerns they might have.

Rayne Pilgram asked about the maintenance to the streets and alleys in East Glacier Park. Pilgram would like to see the commissioners put pressure on the road department to get the pot holes fixed and streets maintained on a regular basis. Pilgram also touched base on the water board and East Glaciers county water district. Pilgram wanted to know why the approximately fifty (50) people that don't pay their bills why they don't get shut off. Commissioner Sitzmann replied that when the district was originally formed it was no longer a county issue. Sheriff Wayne Dusterhoff added that an unincorporated town doesn't have jurisdiction to shut a tribal member's water off since their property is on the reservation. Marcy Gallup asked that there is no legal backing. Dusterhoff replied that is correct, you choose to live here.

Ed & Fay Tucker stated that the work on the streets to fill in the pot holes doesn't make sense. The road department fills in the holes and within a week the pot holes are back. Commissioner Rides At The Door told the community that they would discuss the street concerns and maintenance with Bill Bandel, Road Supervisor. Fay Tucker complimented the county and the road department that last winter was much better; however there is room for improvement.

There was concern from the community regarding the Two Medicine Bridge Project. Commissioner Sitzmann stated that it will be concrete bridge, take approximately 3-5 years from beginning to end (weather pending), the project will progress with very little disruption to the local community and Ralph Wadsworth from Utah the company constructing the bridge. Sitzmann added that this bridge project is the largest bridge project in Montana.

Greg Strutz and other citizens of East Glacier Park expressed their concern regarding the environment and environmental studies regarding the impact the bridge project may cause. Commissioner Rides At The Door told Strutz that information is available thru MDT (Montana Department of Transportation). This particular project has been in the planning stages for 7-8 years. This is a rigorous and very detailed process. Commissioner Sitzmann added that MDT had mentioned that before any tree is cut down; it will be checked for nests and only cut in the fall season. This is a very environmentally sound road project that will benefit our local community and tourism. Strutz also stressed concern about the damage to Highway #2 from the additional traffic for the project. John Ray replied that MDT and Wadsworth have already taken that into consideration during the planning stages of the project. Being this is a MDT project they will consider these specific details in their management and maintenance of the state highway.

Greg Strutz complimented the road department on the work completed on the Heart Butte Road. Thank you, it is much nicer.

Marcy Gallup again brought up the streets of East Glacier Park. Commissioner Rides At The Door said that the commission would speak to Bill Bandel, Road Supervisor and give him guidance in order to repair and maintain the streets and roads effectively. Gallup addressed two

tribal streets. Commissioner Rides At The Door replied that with an easement or right of way it becomes a liability. Over the last couple of years the commission has instructed the road department to follow state statute. We are currently working with other entities to create a project to help maintain private roads.

Fay Tucker asked the commission about the trash issue in East Glacier Park. She feels that the current system is the “worst in the world”, its sloppy and the area needs gravel. Commissioner Sitzmann explained that the trash site is on private land. Tucker expressed her appreciation to the Fortune’s for providing the community with the site. Sitzmann continued by telling the community that Gerald Wagner of Blackfeet Solid Waste had stated there is additional funding for individual bear proof containers. No exact date was given as to when they will be installed.

Ali Ray addressed the community and she told them that she and John are currently adding on to their establishment and it is disturbing the grass. The Ray’s will be replacing the grass in the spring.

Marcy Gallup added what the advantages and disadvantages of East Glacier Park becoming incorporated. Commissioner Sitzmann stated that the advantages are there is plenty of funding available, the county will provide law enforcement and sewer and water will be available also. The disadvantages are that it will hurt the county, it isn’t advantageous and it will take 60% of the voters to sign a petition in order for it to go the ballot. Sheriff Dusterhoff added that a major issue is law enforcement. East Glacier Park couldn’t afford to fund it. Having law enforcement would require a jail, justice of the peace, etc.

The commissioners are going to set up a special meeting with MDT and Wadsworth for the East Glacier Park community in order for all of their concerns to be addressed properly. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door and Tony Sitzmann thanked the community for their time. They reminded the community to keep the lines of communication open and their door is always open for any issues that may arise.

There being no further business for the day, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.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