

GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Town of Browning City Hall
Tuesday, March 23, 2010

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 23, 2010. Commissioners Michael DesRosier, Ron Rides At The Door and Tony Sitzmann were present. Commissioner Michael DesRosier called the meeting to order.

Present throughout the day: Mike Waite, Congressman Denny Rehberg Field Representative; Bill Bandel, Road Supervisor; Les Monroe, Facilities; Don White, Blackfeet Transportation Director; Lockley Bremner, Browning Mayor; John McGill, Press; John Ray, Blackfeet 4-H Fair Committee; Jim Kennedy, IHS Service Unit Director; Jolene Weatherwax, Blackfeet Tribal EMS Department; Nikki Lako, Minutes.

9:00 a.m. Approval: Cash Report for February 2010

The commission reviewed the Cash Report for February 2010 presented by Treasurer Kate Salois with a cash total of \$28,346,154.62 for all county funds.

Revolving	\$5,424.50
A101	\$2,745,073.14
A2	\$53,154.98
Motor Vehicle	\$116,791.15
Taxes	\$57,766.75
Co Tax Sale	\$0.00
Warrant Correction	\$0.00
MSR	\$0.00
Warrants Paid	(\$3,765,553.72)
Treasurers Disbursements	(\$205,112.27)
County Payroll ACH	(\$120,346.56)
Warrant No GL County	\$0.00
Misc.	\$0.00

Total Cash was derived with the beginning balance of \$29,458,956.65, plus receipts and charges of \$2,978,210.52 less payments and credits of \$4,091,012.55 to equal the ending balance of \$28,346,154.62. Bank Balances were as follows:

Native American Bank	\$145,960.68
NH Bond- Bank of Gl Cty	\$0.00
Bank of Glacier County	\$48,465.20
Stockman bank	\$8,617,608.76
SMITHBARNEY	\$0.00
RBC	\$7,532,769.98
WACHOVIA	\$7,000,000.00
DAD	\$5,000,000.00
Cash in Safe	\$1,350.00
 TOTAL	 \$28,346,154.62

Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve the February 2010 Cash Report. Commissioner Ron Rides AT The Door second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

9:30 a.m. Bob Keller's Request

Bob Keller hasn't replied to the commission regarding their request asking Keller to provide additional information regarding his situation. Keller's request has been tabled until he provides the requested information.

10:00 a.m. Road Issues (10 am – Noon)

Bill Bandel, Road Supervisor spoke of a demonstration for the road department for the new Zipper Milling machine later this week. Bandel is enthusiastic about the demonstration. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door asked Bandel to take photos in order to upload them onto the county's new website.

Don White, Blackfeet Transportation Director spoke with the commission regarding the CTEP project for Browning and the need to hold a public hearing. Bill Bandel, Don White and Michael DesRosier met with the BIA regarding a MOU. The BIA continues to work on the MOU and keeping it simple. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door suggested looking at MOU's drafted in the past in order to help avoid keeping the MOU from getting tied up. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann suggested possibly putting an article in the paper to help explain the situation to the people of Glacier County. Bandel reminded White that the county shop will be available to for the truck & maintenance. White added that if the Two Medicine Bridge project goes thru that should help with the funding.

Commissioner Sitzmann asked if there was any more talk about the Heart Butte cut across and identifying each subdivision. White replied that the long range goal is to do the whole road. Commissioner Sitzmann asked if millings could be used to build the road up. Bandel said no. Commissioner DesRosier asked if you could use the millings like gravel. Bandel replied that it depends on how it is milled; if it is done in a hurry the chunks will be too big. Bandel explained that the road is not an all season road. Commissioner DesRosier told White that by the Tribe purchasing a blade that will help the county with plowing roads. White and the commission agreed that it would be beneficial to meet regularly during the Browning commissioner meeting which is the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 p.m. City/County/Tribe Summit Meeting

Browning Mayor, Lockley Bremner was present for the City/County/Tribe Summit Meeting. Commissioner Michael DesRosier explained that this is a time for the three entities to collaborate kick around thoughts & ideas and a way for all three forms of government to work together. Mayor Bremner agreed that this is a good idea. Commissioner DesRosier introduced Mike Waite and Mayor Bremner. Commissioner DesRosier explained the outreach that Waite does for Congressman Denny Rehberg. Commissioner DesRosier added that the county is creating a partnership with the City of Browning and the county is providing services from the Treasurer's office, Driver's Examiner and soon from the Clerk & Recorder's office. The county is grateful for the City of Browning providing the county with office space in order to provide these services.

A project that the county is getting started on is to possibly house an office for the Montana Department of Corrections with long range goal of keeping individuals from going back to prison. This would be a great opportunity for our Blackfeet Reservation. The county is currently looking for office space in Browning.

Mayor Bremner asked the commission how the cross jurisdiction agreement was coming. Commissioner DesRosier replied that it is on hold. The BIA and Blackfeet Tribe are working on their end of the agreement. Once that is done, we will have to sit down with the sheriff's office. The Tribe is still committed to reaching an agreement and to get this in place. Mayor Bremner would like to see the city contract with the county to provide law enforcement for the town of Browning. The duties as a municipal law enforcement is to provide protection. Commissioner DesRosier agrees and he believes it would strengthen our sovereignty.

Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door told Mayor Bremner to let the commission know if there are any projects that the county would be able to help with. Bremner would like to see the Tribe meet with the housing authority to discuss an MOU regarding the local dog issues. Bremner would like to have the county involved in this matter. Commissioner DesRosier stated that predator control is a county wide problem. Mayor Bremner agreed this is a town, tribe and county issue. Commissioner Rides At The Door added that the county will be able to help with the MOU language. Commissioner Rides At The Door told Bremner that this is Glacier National

Park's 100th Anniversary, if you have any ideas let's work together and do something special. Bremner replied that Browning loses out on tourism and the money tourism generates. Businesses just don't want to invest in our community. Mayor Bremner is looking forward to positive change for the town of Browning, Blackfoot Tribe and Glacier County. He wished the commission luck with the jurisdiction agreement. Commissioner DesRosier told Bremner that once the commission began working on the agreement they would include Bremner in the process.

2:00 p.m. Approval: 2010 Fair Contributions – John Ray

John Ray, Blackfoot 4-H Fair Committee explained to the commissioners that this would be the first year that the Blackfoot 4-H Committee would be putting on their own 4-H fair. The children participating have the option to choose which fair they would like to participate whether the Marias Fair or the Blackfoot 4-H Fair. The main goal is to have a local fair with local buyers. In the past, Browning at one time held fairs for many years. Commissioner DesRosier added that every county has access to a couple of mills for local fairs. John Ray expressed that in no way are we trying to take away from the Marias Fair, we just want to create opportunities for our local communities. The fairgrounds are owned by the tribe and the tribe has offered to help fix up the existing barn. The county helps with the roads, water, asphalt, sand for the rodeo grounds etc. Commissioner Sitzmann asked how much do we pay for the Marias Fair. Commissioner DesRosier replied, \$2,500.00 a year. Commissioner Sitzmann asked Ray how much would you like for the Blackfoot 4-H Fair. Ray replied, a matching amount of \$2,500.00. Commissioner DesRosier asked Ray to make sure that it is all inclusive, open to everybody. Ray said yes, we have invited everybody. We are excited to start fixing up the existing facilities and prepare for our opening year. Commissioner Sitzmann asked when will you be holding the 4-H fair. Ray replied during the Blackfoot Indian Days in order to correlate with the rodeo and other events during this holiday. Commissioner DesRosier asked if this was just a 4-H fair? John Ray replied yes. Commissioner DesRosier expressed interest in working towards a full county fair in the future for Glacier County. John Ray explained that any entity that donates time, money or services will have a 4 ft x 8 ft thank you sign in the livestock barn. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve \$2,500.00 for 4-H Fair in Browning and continue funding to the Marias Fair in Shelby. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door second the motion. Commissioner DesRosier added in further discussion to really reach out to other groups and invite them to this 4-H Fair. All in favor, motion carried. John Ray thanked the commissioners for their time and generosity.

2:30 p.m. Discussion: EMS Issues – Jim Kennedy

Commissioner Michael DesRosier explained to Jim Kennedy, IHS Service Unit Director that James Laidlaw Glacier County EMS Chief was out on leave. Commissioner DesRosier stressed the county's interest in enhancing the services on the reservation. The services are to include ALS services, transfers, Babb's ambulance services, etc. Jolene Weatherwax, Blackfoot Tribal EMS Department explained that Blackfoot EMS is a reservation wide service. Commissioner DesRosier added that one emergency call justifies the need; the county is interested in enhancing the emergency services. Weatherwax stressed that the EMS crews are getting burned out due to the volume of calls and transfers. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door stated that with the burnout rates of the EMS crews on a higher level, we need to evaluate what needs to be done to lower and/or eliminate the stress level.

Commissioner DesRosier touched on the training issue of the EMS crews for Glacier County. He would like to see some focus on our local EMT's and their training in hopes that they would want to stay and serve our communities. Jim Kennedy agreed and would like to have continued discussions regarding a future partnership for paramedics, ALS services, etc. Kennedy believes that a partnership of this nature would be a wise investment for both parties. Commissioner DesRosier added that once James Laidlaw is back we can all sit down and work on all of these ideas to better our emergency services in Glacier County and he thanked everyone for their valuable input.

There being no further business for the day, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with a motion by Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door and a second by Commissioner Tony Sitzmann. The motion passed by Board vote.

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder

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