

**GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING - BABB
Wednesday, May 26, 2010**

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2010. Commissioners Michael DesRosier, Ron Rides At The Door and Tony Sitzmann were present. Commissioner Michael DesRosier called the meeting to order. Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder was present.

Present throughout the day: Patrick Strand, VFD; Joleen Weatherwax, BEMS Director; Pat Thorson, VFD/EMS; Steven Lock, VFD/EMS; Georgia Burns, VFD/EMS; Dave Schulz, EMT-Babb; Joy Duff Shulz, RN; Annette Armstrong, Earl Armstrong, Myrna Mooney, Albert Vaile, DeAnne deMarigold, Lila J. Evans, Ross Mooney, Public; Amie Allison, GC EMS Captain; Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder, Minutes;

11:00 a.m. Discussion: Babb EMS Services

(11:30 a.m.) Joleen Weatherwax, BEMS received a letter from Amy Allison, Glacier County EMS Captain stating that Babb would have someone stationed in Babb after May 16, 2010. Weatherwax believes that the problem lies with dispatch and the lack of communication. Allison agreed that there is a lack of communication. Commissioner DesRosier stated that these type of issues need to be worked out with dispatch and possibly work towards a central 9-1-1 system. Weatherwax added that she is working with Nora Kennedy and Northern Tier to add the Glacier County EMS radio frequency to the ambulances. Allison told the Babb community that NRMCC donated a new \$30,000.00 Lifepak Defibrillator to the Babb EMS. Allison explained that the AED can only be done by a paramedic and the EMS will be holding monthly business meetings followed by training/workshops with the first meeting/workshop to be held on June 28, 2010.

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 p.m. Open Discussion: Babb Community Issues

Commissioner DesRosier reviewed the annual meeting schedule and he stated how happy he was to be able to reach out to the constituency and address their concerns. He explained the government to government working relationship and the projects that are being worked on and the some of them are moving slower than other.

Allison, GC EMS Captain stated that her department would be holding a first responder course for the Babb area. This course will help to have local people that are trained and available during the winter months. Ross Mooney, Babb community member recommended that the course be offered in May so they are trained and ready by the summer time. Commissioner DesRosier discussed how flexible the county is willing to be on arranging training opportunities and providing this service year round.

Annette and Earl Armstrong, Babb residents are concerned that no one was attending the meetings because of what was happening. Someone recommended to them not to get involved with Glacier County. They explained that they gradually drifted away from the fire hall. They want to be assured that there are fire truck(s) available in case of a fire in the Babb area. Annette described a recent incident where she needed an ambulance and she had to wait for an ambulance to come from Browning. She expressed that she would like to see the next commissioner meeting to be held in the evening time. Commissioner DesRosier explained that the Babb/St. Mary's fire departments are separate entities not part of county government. The Babb community requested an ambulance service, a new 4x4 ambulance and the fire hall was too small to house the ambulance. That is why the county provided the Babb EMS building to house the ambulance. He stated that staffing EMS personnel is more easily justified during the summer months but in the winter we need the locals to step up.

Myrna Mooney, Babb resident showed interest in snow removal for the winter months. Some of the Babb residents would like to see a snow plow for the Babb area with someone that is trained and can operate the machinery. Commissioner DesRosier told the Babb residents that the county road department has a list of priority where the main county roads are plowed first. During the winter months BIA doesn't help much, they are primarily a summer operation. There are

prescriptive easements on roads that we are not responsible for, but the county voluntarily helps maintain.

Albert Vaile, Babb resident asked if the tribe is paying property taxes. Commissioner DesRosier replied that this is an ongoing court case because they are not paying now, but trust property is exempt.

The commission advised the Babb residents to conduct a community forum. They recommended that they use this time to brainstorm the issues facing the Babb community and prioritize these issues. The next step would to form committees to develop a community action plan.

There being no further business for the day, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 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

Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder

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