

GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Town of Browning City Hall
Tuesday, December 28, 2010

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 28, 2010. Commissioners Michael DesRosier and Tony Sitzmann were present. Commissioner Michael DesRosier called the meeting to order. Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder was present. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door was not present for he was sick.

Present throughout the day: Bill Bandel, GC Road Supervisor; Pat Calf Looking, Crystal Creek; Jerilee Wilkerson, Economic Development; Bob New Breast; Town of Browning Mayor Lockley Bremner

9:00 a.m. Discussion: Prisoner Trust Account

Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder explained her meeting with Robert Snyder, Detention Sergeant for the Glacier County Detention Center. They discussed an outside checking account for prisoner monies held in trust. The current system is having all the prisoners belongings are sealed in a bag including their money. When a prisoner needs commissary items they have to unseal the property bags. The current system is becoming problematic. Hall will meet with the auditors and create a procedure for the prisoner trust account. Once a procedure is established the commissioners will be asked to review and approve the new procedure.

9:30 a.m. Approval: St. Mary's Rural Working Group Invoice

Glacier County received the annual invoice for annual membership of \$7,000. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve and pay the St. Mary's Rural Working Group invoice. Commissioner Michael DesRosier seconds the motion, the motion carried.

9:45 a.m. Non-Agenda: Pat Calf Looking, Crystal Creek

Commissioner Sitzmann discussed the Hi-Line Recovery (HLR) program and its current financial situation. The program has gone thru a few administrators and their plan for bailout is to hire more employees for more billing opportunities. The commission asked Pat Calf Looking if he could assist them with providing these services so Glacier County can opt out of HLR. Calf Looking explained that there was some duplication of services and HLR does take clients from us; however we are still working on being able to third party bill the state. Commissioner Sitzmann asked Calf Looking if Glacier County opted out of HLR if his program could service all of Glacier County. Calf Looking was absolutely definite that his program could handle the work load. He stated that his program is state certified and they do get court ordered clients from other jurisdictions that attend classes, in return his program notifies the other jurisdiction of compliance.

10:00 a.m. Discussion: Property Taxes – Teri Hensley

Teri Hensley explained to the commission that she had a bombshell dropped on her. She thought that all along her taxes were coming out of her mortgage. Her house burned down and when her accountant needed the paperwork she received this notice showed up and showed that she was over three years behind. Her question to the commissioners was if they could waive or forgive her penalties and interest, which would save her a couple of thousand dollars.

Commissioner Sitzmann informed Hensley that the commission doesn't want to get into that practice because it sets a precedent and they would be bombarded with similar requests. At this time Commissioner Sitzmann called Treasurer Kate Salois to verify. Salois confirmed that prior to September 17, 2010 the notices were returned as undeliverable. There was an address change since then. This was clearly not the fault of the property owner, so the commission is able to abate these penalties and interest. They informed Hensley that someone can still come in and pay these taxes on a tax deed. The commission will approve the abatement for 2007, 2008 & 2009 for Hensley during one of their upcoming agendas.

10:30 a.m. Approval: Health-e-Web Contract

Commissioner DesRosier stated that this Health-e-Web contract would be strictly a trial basis until August. We will revisit the issue for a long term contract then.

11:00 a.m. Discussion/Approval: DEQ Grant – Courthouse Windows

Jerilee Wilkerson, Economic Development presented the recent concerns with the DEQ grant. The concern is the DEQ grant wants to see Glacier County to list our buildings on the national historic registry. The Commission isn't sure of the drawbacks of taking such a step. So the commissioners asked Wilkerson to contact Stahly Engineering & Associates to help arbitrate and get back to us on the pros and cons of taking such measures.

The commission also spoke with Wilkerson regarding a recent discussion with Bob New Breast on grants and opportunities available to the Town of Browning.

11:30 a.m. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve the minutes with the changes as noted for the minutes from 6/21/10, 6/23/10, 6/24/10, 12/7/10 & 12/23/10. Commissioner Michael DesRosier seconds the motion, the motion carried.

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 p.m. Discussion: City/County Summit

Mayor Lockley Bremner introduced Robert (Bob) New Breast as the newly hired Director of Public Works for the Town of Browning.

The commission discussed with Bremner regarding the expansion of city limits of Browning and what benefits and cost to do the expanding. The water, sewer and garbage services are already being provided.

Mayor Bremner updated the commission on the water treatment plant. It is coming along as planned. The pipe is being laid. The tank has been bid. They are receiving training on the aerators and filters.

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 Michael DesRosier. The motion passed by Board vote.

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder