

**GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Town of Browning City Hall**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2011**

The Board of Glacier County Commissioners met at a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Commissioners Michael DesRosier, Ron Rides At The Door and Tony Sitzmann, Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder were present. Commissioner Michael DesRosier called the meeting to order.

**Present throughout the day:** Charles Farmer, DES; John McGill, Press; Lockley Bremner, Browning Mayor; Julie & Jean McDonald & Tim Hawke, Public; Bob New Breast, Town of Browning; Brandon Kipp, Myles Murray, Jose R Lopez, Dillon Conway, Glenn Hall, Jeff Rutherford, Aaron Patterson, Gary Matt, Quintin Morgan, Brendon Running Wolf, Whitney Bremner, Julia Thomas, Douglas Hall, Dusti Boyce, Shay Tatsey, Jon Heavy Runner, Robert Webber, Marcus Cobell, Ethan Foote, Talissa Tatsey, Kiana McClure, Lynn MP, Randy Cruz, Shanaya Michael, Jessyca Ollinger, Alexander Calloway-Nation, Kelly Kipp, Sarah Horn, Taylor Bremner, Haylee Gobert, Raylen Burns, Stephanie Goss, Michelle Arrowtop, Katie Bennett, Danielle Tatsey, Robert Juarez; Ashley Gilham, Ralph Bull Calf, Marty Meineke, Vince Vielle, Cynthia Bostwick, John Kipp, Keli Ann Kennedy, EJ Gobert, Roger Zentzis, Curtis Litis, Rick Borst, Juanita Cole, Carl Little Dog Sr & Lorrie Tatsey, Browning High School; Nikki Lako, Minutes

**9:00 a.m. Discussion to be held at the Browning High School Cafetorium (a.m.)**

The Commissioners, Clerk & Recorder Glenda Hall, and Administrative Assistant Nikki Lako introduce themselves to the student body and staff of Browning High School. During this time the Commissioners explained the rolls the Commissioners and Clerk & Recorders play in local government. Commissioner DesRosier added the continued and growing relationship with the Blackfeet Tribe. In Montana government the public is encouraged to participate. With that, the commission is required to publicly advertise forty-eight (48) hours in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner DesRosier spoke of parliamentary procedure and the Robert's rules of order is a way to keep the running smoothly and according to the agenda. The commission chair is equal to the vice-chair and member positions of the board. The purpose of the chairman position is conduct the meeting and be a tie breaker if a motion calls for it.

Clerk & Recorder Hall requested that the Commission discuss the Browning High School Pathway which is a current CTEP project for the county. Hall explained that CTEP projects are Community Transportation Enhancement Projects. These projects need to be directly involved with transportation and enhancing the community while doing so. Hall added that the CTEP project for the pathway is estimated according to the engineering design to cost \$236k. The engineering firm designs and manages the project from start to finish. Public hearings are used to allow the community to choose the project that they think would best benefit them and their local area. CTEP projects are at no cost to the county. The county applies for the funds thru the state. If approved the state holds the funds until the process is underway. Hall stated that there is a project for each commissioner's district. Glacier County is broken into three (3) districts. Each commissioner representing their district in which they reside in. District No. 1's project is landscaping for the Parkview Senior Center, District No. 2's project is Welcome signs for Browning & East Glacier and District No. 3's project is the Browning High School Pathway. The CTEP funds are split according to the current projects needs. We don't want to spend all the money at once. G Matt asked how long the project will take. The commission replied that from start to finish, including paperwork and the construction process approximately a year. R Cruz asked about the possibility of a skate park in Browning. Chairman DesRosier encourages Mr. Cruz to keep informed thru local papers to watch for future public hearings for CTEP projects. The current projects need to be completed first before starting a new project. Commissioner Rides At The Door added that once construction is underway, we'll start the process for the next project. He too encouraged the student body to get themselves and their families involved in the process to help bring new ideas to the table.

**10:00 a.m. Approval: Resolution 2010-14 (Mock)**

Clerk & Recorder Hall explained that the mock Resolution 2010-14 Public Library Unanticipated Revenues needed to be approved by the commission. She read the resolution to those present. She explained the resolution process. Commissioner DesRosier entertained a

motion for Resolution 2010-14. Commissioner Tony Sitzmann motioned to approve the mock Resolution 2010-14 Public Library Unanticipated Revenues. With no further discussion, Commissioner DesRosier called for those in favor, the vote pass by a unanimous vote, the motion carried. The commissioner's explained that they work for the citizens of Glacier County and public participation starts with the community. Hall stated that her office's main purpose is to record and preserve those recordings according to state law.

One of the students asked what could be done to review the process of getting a street light at the corner of West Boundary & US Hwy 2-89. Commissioners will take this request to the next MDT quarterly meeting.

E Gobert asked how old you had to be to run for commissioner. Hall explained that the requirements vary a little according to each elected position. You must be eighteen (18) years of age and a registered voter of Montana. For a commissioner position, it's required that you live within your district, six (6) years term if elected. The other elected positions are four (4) year terms. Gobert asked if elected officials get paid. Commissioner DesRosier replied yes. Our wages are set by a compensation board for the county. Mrs. Tatsey thanked the Commissioners and Clerk & Recorder Hall for their time to explain local government to the students of BHS.

### **10:30 a.m. Discussion: Election Process**

Glenda Hall, Clerk & Recorder explained to the students the election process. Those students whom are eighteen (18) years of age and were interested in registering to vote, she reviewed their voter registration cards to help them fill them out correctly and entirely to ensure the process.

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

### **1:30 p.m. City/County Summit**

Commissioner DesRosier updated Mayor Bremner on their morning with the students of Browning High School and the student council. He stated that the students posed great questions. Mayor Bremner is also interested in seeing the process started thru MDT on traffic issues at West Boundary & US Hwy 2-89.

There was continued discussion on their potential improvements/projects that participants would like to see for safety. Charles Farmer, DES interjected that North Western Energy would like assistance with the land by gas line on West Boundary. They will construct a barricade with the proper structure. Commissioner Sitzmann inquired on how you would abandon an alley within city limits. Mayor Bremner will check into the requirements. Bremner also wants to extend the pathway by the schools to run to the corner by the administration building. It wouldn't be fair to Ed Anderson's (NHPO) business to go all the way to the main highway.

Commissioner DesRosier brought up the ongoing concern of the over payment for the fire protection from entities outside of city limits and under the auspice of the tribe (Glacier Peaks). The county will certainly support the Town of Browning fire protection.

Commissioner Sitzmann asked for an update on the dog catcher and the ongoing dog problem. Bremner is working with a group to get a spay/neuter clinics (8 possible) set up.

Bremner asked about the Johnny's Supper Club property and the procedure for doing a tax deed. Commissioner Sitzmann explained the process and advised him to call Treasurer Kate Salois.

### **2:30 p.m. Discussion: Personal Property Taxes – Jean/Julie McDonald**

Julie McDonald wasn't aware until she got a notice taped to the door of the house because she was living out of state. Both McDonald's were confused about real vs. personal property. Their property is real property. McDonald stated that she was receiving the annual tax notice, but was unaware that there was a tax deed from 2007. Commissioner Sitzmann stated that the Treasurer's office sent the certified letter to PO Box 1488 and it was returned from the Browning Post Office because it wasn't picked up. It was then sent to 1824 South Grant, Missoula. Jean McDonald asked the Commissioners to have the \$480 dropped because they can't pay it. The

commissioners advised both Jean & Julie McDonald that amount was for the title company, and at this stage in the process that amount is due, there is no action from the commission that can be taken.

**3:00 p.m. Discussion: Subway – Cut Bank Taxes – Tim Hawke**

Tim Hawke, Subway owner for Cut Bank & Browning businesses. Hawke stated that there is a huge difference between the taxes from the Browning store and the Cut Bank store. It is the lowest annual sales in the state. He asked to have this checked into. Hawke was under the impression that his taxes were in an escrow account. He admitted it was his fault for not knowing, but having to pay this is going to cut into what he can pay for the Cut Bank business. Commissioner Ron Rides At The Door referred him to JoAn Printy, DOR assessor to look at the assessed value or request it to be r-assessed. Hawke thinks there might be a mix up between the two stores because he went in to pay for Cut Bank's (\$6,700) but was told by the Treasurer's office that he owed over \$14k for Browning's. He disagrees with that amount, but got the delinquent notice that was published and has to get them paid now and find out what happened later.

There being no further business for the day, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 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

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Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder