

**Glacier County Commissioners
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Regular Meeting
Cut Bank, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 am Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Commissioners Michael DesRosier, Tom McKay and John B. Overcast was present and Clerk & Recorder Mandi Bird Kennerly taking minutes.

Present at the Meeting: Kyla Presnell, Public; Elaine Mitchell, Public; Ray Muscarella, Montana DOR; LeAnne Kavanagh, Press; Marlene Luedtke, Public; Donna M. Taylor, Public.

Meeting called to order @

- A. Roll Call**
- B. Approval of Agenda**
- C. Reading of the Minutes: 8/6, 8/8, 8/13, 8/19, 8/21, 8/22, 8/26 & 8/27/19**
Commissioner Overcast motions to accept the minutes; Commissioner McKay second; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- D. Discussion/Approval: FY2020 CASA Contribution**
CASA is an ongoing item until the budget is approved. We still would like to contribute as it's an important program for our county.

NEW BUSINESS

- E. Discussion/Approval: St. Michael's Cemetery-Kyla Presnell, Public**
Kyla stated that since July 9th, she had been looking into who owns St. Michael Cemetery. She has went into the records room and found corporate warranty deed dated March 13, 1969 between the Blackfeet Tribe and Glacier County. She also presents several documents into her research. Commissioner DesRosier explains the blocks in Irvin Tract CAP (Community Action Program) Mr. Howard was in charge of this joint venture & initiated building the CAP buildings.
Kyla stated that she hasn't found anything that shows the entire ownership. Carol Neil, DOR also provided information on the land. At this point in time it shows that the county owns. She also stated that we are responsible and liable for the portion the county owns. Kyla also stated one of the oldest graves was 1907. There is a lot of knapweed and is really in need of clean up. There was several discussions back and forth between Kyla and Commissioner DesRosier about the specifics of the cemetery. They talked about one of the oldest graves in 1907 and Commissioner DesRosier states the records aka minutes would be Teton County then. Commissioner DesRosier asked Kyla if she had considered talking to the Tribe. Kyla stated no that she didn't want to put the county and the tribe in an awkward position. Commissioner DesRosier stated that he thought it would be a great

idea, they have meetings for community issues. It may spur some interest and it would help us to start working on solutions. Kyla stated that she was thinking if we went in and cleaned up our portion it would help our cause with the tribe. Kyla and Commissioner DesRosier talk about the knapweed problem and other options on how to destroy the knapweed. Commissioner DesRosier stated that they have asked the County Attorney to look into the Special District for the cemetery. Maybe if we can get a meeting we would welcome you to come as you have done the research. It would be great to reach out to the tribe. Kyla asked if they could get a survey done, so that we are on firm ground of what we own. Commissioner DesRosier stated to Kyla that she has certainly done an extensive job on researching this. He will try to get in touch with the Tribe, he refers to Stacy Keller, Council Woman at the Blackfeet Tribe. Commissioner McKay commends Kyla, states that she put a lot of work into this. He also stated that he always wondered about the old cemetery as he has family there. He believes that we need a caretaker and to continue in the future the care of this cemetery. Kyla talks about Blackfeet Housing Authorities role in the old cemetery, she states that a person needs permission from the Blackfeet Housing Authority to bury in St. Michaels Cemetery. Commissioner McKay explains the role of the Blackfeet Housing Authority, they will go and dig a grave for a private plot in St. Michaels Cemetery. The housing does not have the full authority to say yes or no. Kyla asks the commissioners if she goes to the tribe, does Glacier County want ownership of the cemetery? Commissioner DesRosier stated that they would like to talk with them first before they make any commitment. He also stated that they would like to see it maintained. Kyla and Commissioner DesRosier talks about who may know some history on this, the commissioners who were apart of this may not be alive. Commissioner DesRosier mentions Larry Epstein may know a little history as he liked this sort of stuff. Kyla stated that she talked with Erin LaFromboise of the BCC Library and they didn't have information. Kyla asks how much a survey will costs, Commissioner DesRosier states that it varies largely on all sorts of specifics. Kyla then asks about the East Glacier Cemetery survey and the cost, Commissioner DesRosier stated that he was not totally sure but was thinking 4 or 5k. Commissioner DesRosier stated that the tribe does have their own surveyor so this might help with cost. Kyla asked what the commissioners are going to do so that she knows. Commissioner DesRosier stated that they will continue to work with the tribe, they will look into the cost of survey with Triangle or Stahly to get an idea of what it costs. They will also be looking into the definition of the cemetery. Kyla also asked if there will be clean up this year, Commissioner DesRosier stated probably not this year. Commissioner McKay stated unless Vernie does what he has done for years of getting the Fire Cache permission for the Hot Shots to burn.

F. Discussion: Montana Department of Revenue-Browning Site Visits-Ray Muscarella, Montana DOR

Ray stated he just wanted to give commissioners a heads up on site visits in the Browning area. They are going to have 5 teams of 2, in the general area of Browning starting the 9th of September. Commissioner DesRosier asks if this will change tax revenues, Ray replied

that he cannot say it will increase your revenues but that the values are where they need to be. Commissioner DesRosier asked Ray if their office can get them a statement to release. Ray stated that he will talk with Bryce to get a statement to them.

**G. Approval: Zoll Extended Warranty & Preventative Maintenance Contract-GC
Commissioners**

The cost of the extended warranty and preventative maintenance contract is \$6,588.75. Commissioner DesRosier stated that Tauna did talk with Chancy Kittson, CFO and this is necessary. They have it figured out were to pay.

Commissioner McKay motions to approve the Zoll Extended Warranty and Preventative Maintenance Contract; Commissioner Overcast second; motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

H. Public Comment

There was discussion back and forth on the FY 19-20 budget and permissive levies between Elaine Mitchell, Clerk & Recorder Mandi Bird Kennerly, LeAnne Kavanagh, Kyla Presnell, Commissioner McKay and Commissioner Overcast.

I. Next Meeting-Thursday, September 5, 2019-Cut Bank

Commissioner Overcast motions to adjourn @ 10:58 am; Commissioner McKay second; motion carried.