

**Glacier County Commissioners
Thursday, October 29, 2020
Regular Meeting (GoToMtg)
Cut Bank, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 29, 2020. Commissioners Michael DesRosier, Tom McKay & John B. Overcast were present and Austin Parrent taking minutes.

Present at the Meeting: Mandi Bird Kennerly, Clerk & Recorder; LeAnne Kavanagh, Press; Carol Larson, Public; Laurie Elhard, Public; Mike Kittson, Human Resource Director; Terryl Matt, Glacier County Attorney

Present via GoToMeeting: (6) Callers; Cut Bank Airport Authority; Gerard Padgett, Public; Gloria, Public; H. Golden, Public; Jim Yeagley, Glacier County Planner; Jimmy Racine, Weed Department; Kim Stoltz, Public; Ron Gray, Public; Stephanie Eney, Public

A. Roll Call

Meeting called to order @ 9:00 a.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

C. Approval of the Minutes: 10/13/2020

Commissioner McKay motions to approve the minutes for 10/13/2020; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.

D. Review/Sign: Payroll/Claims

<i>Dated for October 29, 2020</i>		
<i>CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT</i>		
<i>FUND</i>	<i>ACCOUNT</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>
1000	General Fund	\$ 43,704.56
2110	Road Fund	\$ 10,826.74
2140	Weed Control	\$ 120.37
2180	County District Court	\$ 182.17
2220	Library	\$ 445.65
2230	Ambulance	\$ 911.65
2250	City/County Planning	\$ 1,000.00
2300	Public Safety (Law)	\$ 1,141.32
2410	Glacier Park Lights	\$ 529.37
2850	911 Emergency (Sheriff)	\$ 501.93
2863	Glacier County Transit	\$ 330.16
2960	Health Grants - Emerg Prep	\$ 1,025.20
7302	West End Cemetery	\$ 222.18
	TOTAL CLAIMS	\$ 60,941.30
	PAYROLL	\$ 163,060.31
	TOTAL PAYROLL & CLAIMS	\$ 224,001.61

Commissioner McKay motions to approve payroll & claims; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

E. Discussion/Approval: COVID-19 Update – Glacier County Commissioners

Mike Kittson, Human Resource Director, presents an update on COVID-19 issues Glacier County is currently facing. He states that he was on the phone with the Glacier County Health Nurse, Jenny Krapf. Here are the generalized numbers from their conversation which come from the State of Montana: Sixty (60) new cases today for Glacier County, bring us to a total of One Hundred Four (104) active cases. Nineteen (19) residents are hospitalized, seventeen (17) of which are hospitalized outside of Glacier County. The total active cases in Glacier County are One Thousand One Hundred Forty-Three (1,143) active cases in Glacier County total. Seventeen (17) deaths attributed to county residents. Mike Kittson advises employees to stay home if they are sick. He states that he will be working with department heads to try and make remote work possible.

F. Discussion/Approval: 2020 General Election Update

Commissioner DesRosier states his concern for the requests that have been coming in for ballot drop boxes and the utilization of the CTCL grant in order hire elections workers to work the ballot drop off locations. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states there are not currently volunteers ready to go and work at the drop off locations. Commissioner DesRosier states that there are people available and that Crystal has names. He also states that he can offer names to contact. Commissioner DesRosier states he would like to have the ballot drop boxes up and running today (October 29th, 2020). Clerk & Recorder Kennerly asks Commissioner DesRosier what buildings are ready to be used in order to do so. Commissioner DesRosier states the tribe is letting us use the Stick Game Arbor, the East Glacier Women’s Club, and using the Ambulance Garage in Babb. Volunteers have stepped up and the Babb Fire Hall is being utilized as a drop off site. They are collecting ballots and delivering them to the Satellite Office. They didn’t seem to want an extra site at Babb since they are already using that one. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that one thing that you have to remember is we put in a plan and a timetable to have the mail ballot election. We also did the resolution. That has to be done 60 days before the election. In that plan, we have drop off locations. That has to be filled out. Our drop off locations are our Browning Satellite Office and our Courthouse in our plan. We have an email out asking the Secretary of State if we are going against the law by adding the ballot drop boxes. The other thing that comes into play is whether or not we are going to confuse voters. Commissioner DesRosier states that he spoke with the Secretary of States office and they said we aren’t violating any statutes. They said we can have locations, wherever they are, and to get them open. We can’t get it in the public media now because we missed the deadline. He states this should have been done three weeks ago. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that the first email she received from a voter requesting ballot drop boxes was October 14, 2020, two weeks ago. In person voting started October 2, 2020 and ballots were mailed out on October 9, 2020. Once those two things start, it is a very busy time. A lot of us are not having lunch. Crystal Cole is working past five o’clock. The rest of my staff have very little time to do their jobs as there are constant

phone calls and voters walking in all day to submit their ballots. I have been focusing on elections since September 28th and still have other duties that get put to the side in order to accommodate the increased elections workload. The elections workers that have been hired have also been working past normal working hours because it is just that busy here. We haven't had a lot of time to sit down and plan the ballot drop of locations in extension to what was originally decided when we submitted our plan to the Secretary of State office. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that it is a hard to be able to find workers who are willing to work in Browning right now because of COVID-19. An ad was put in the paper requesting election workers, and only I've only received one phone call since then of someone who was willing to work in Browning. The safety and health of people is my main concern right now. Commissioner DesRosier states that Crystal Cole has two workers that are able to work the Stick Game Arbor in Browning, the Babb site can continue utilizing the Babb Fire Hall. Glacier County Attorney Terryl Matt questions Clerk & Recorder Kennerly about a letter that was sent to her stating that voting was an essential function. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that in the letter it did not state they wanted ballot drop boxes. It just stated voting was an essential service and that elections workers could work. We didn't want to step on toes because of the stay-at-home order issued by the tribe. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that the requests from voters started coming in on October 14th, 2020. Then we received a request from Dawn Gray, the Managing Attorney for the Blackfeet Tribe. In person voting started on October 2, 2020 with ballots being mailed out on the 9th of October. We have been extremely busy since then. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that Deputy Elections Assistant Melanie Heavy Runner had a helper and just recently had two more people start helping her at the Browning Satellite Office. They don't currently have time to sit down and do all the planning that goes into setting up ballot drop off boxes, including finding two people per box to man them. By law they have to be manned by two people. Commissioner DesRosier states that when Glacier County received the Center for Tech and Civic Life grant for elections in response to COVID-19, that he wanted some of that money to go towards putting out ballot drop off boxes. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly responds that we don't currently have volunteers to man those places. Not only that, but will placing these ballot drop off boxes confuse voters even more, especially when they will have to go to the Satellite Office in Browning to register to vote or receive their ballot since they won't be able to do anything other than drop their ballot off at the ballot drop off locations. Commissioner DesRosier states that it won't confuse voters since we will be putting ads out. He states he spoke with the secretary of state's office and that we are following the governor's mandate by opening the drop off locations. However, we can't get the ads into the public media now because we missed the deadline. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states that she received her first notification from concerned voters by email on October 14, 2020, only two weeks ago from today. In person voting started the 2nd of October and ballots were sent out on the 9th of October. Since then the Clerk & Recorder's office has been extremely busy. She continues to state that there is limited time in the day to try and figure out a new plan for ballot drop off boxes when a plan was already submitted to the secretary of state's office several months prior to today. Most election workers who volunteered to be able to man ballot drop off boxes were only doing so for the election day itself. There was further discussion on whether

or not elections workers were available to work the ballot drop off locations considering there would need to be at least two people manning each ballot drop off site. Commissioner DesRosier expressed his concern for getting the drop boxes open to prevent possible litigation down the road. He continues to state that he has seen accusations of voter suppression. He also states that he doesn't want to have to send grant money back because it wasn't being utilized. Commissioner McKay states that COVID-19 has put us in a desperate position. The drop boxes will allow us to prevent transmission. There are people who are looking for pocket money and will sit there and man the drop off sites. He continues to state that they should be paid \$20.00 per hour in order to have ballot drop off boxes for the next 5 days leading up to the election. Clerk & Recorder Kennerly states her concern for paying ballot drop off site workers more than Glacier County staff are currently getting paid and the possibility of setting up potential grievances from county employees. More conversation was had on having drop off boxes available every day versus just on election day itself. Glacier County Attorney Terryl Matt states that the number they are looking for is three to four ballot drop off boxes being active is what would be ideal.

LeAnne Kavanagh, Press, asks what changed from 2013 and 2014 when the commissioners stated they don't have say over another elected official. Over the past years from 2013-2020 it was stated that the commissioners didn't have a say in how the Treasurer did his duties or ran his office. The Clerk & Recorder is an elected official too.

Commissioner DesRosier states his concern for a lawsuit occurring if the demand for ballot drop off boxes isn't met. Commissioner Overcast asks if the other commissioners could give Clerk & Recorder Kennerly some names considering the lack of volunteers readily available to open the ballot drop off box locations. Commissioner DesRosier states he will and that he has also given Crystal Cole, Deputy Elections Assistant Administrator some names as well. Crystal Cole states that she does not have names for workers. She continues to say that Melanie Heavy Runner is working on getting volunteers right now. The Stick Game Arbor as a ballot drop off location is ready to be utilized as we currently have the key. We still need to get with the Sheriff's office and discuss ballot transportation. Commissioner DesRosier states that a drop off site for Babb is currently being taken care of by Western Native Voice. They are working with the Babb Volunteer Fire Department to help with drop off sites and collect ballots. Glacier County Attorney Terryl Matt states that once the ballot drop off locations are open that they can be advertised for. She continues to ask LeAnne Kavanagh, Press, if an ad can be purchased on the Pioneer Press website. Additional discussion about \$20 per hour for ballot drop off site locations was had and whether or not workers would be receiving hazard pay considering the COVID-19 pandemic is happening and how the reservation is currently enduring an increase in coronavirus cases.

G. Discussion/Approval: RFP/Engineering Services (Stahly) – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner McKay motions to advertise for an RFP for engineering services; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.

H. Discussion: Growth Policy & CCIP (Stahly) – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner DesRosier states he has received an update from Stahly, saying they have reached out to establish dates and talk to some department heads. After the department head meetings, they will schedule a public meeting. The Growth Policy & CCIP are plans for the next five years.

NEW BUSINESS:

I. Discussion/Approval: Public Hearing #2: Resolution #2020-24 Budget Amendment – Elections Unanticipated Revenue – Mandi Bird Kennerly, Glacier County Clerk & Recorder

GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION
FY 2020-2021 Budget Amendment – Elections Unanticipated Revenue
Resolution No. 2020-24
AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO
GLACIER COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006(4), grants the Board of County Commissioners the power and authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year by conducting public hearings at regularly scheduled meetings; and

WHEREAS Glacier County Commissioners approved the appropriations budget for the Glacier County during its regular budget approval process and errors in revenues and expenditures budget have been identified; and

WHEREAS Glacier County Commissioners identified due to receiving Unanticipated Revenue in the Elections CTCL Grant Funds; the need to amend revenues and expenditures to Fund #1000.410600 has been identified; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Glacier County that the budget be corrected as follows:

Revenues	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
1000.331116	General Fund- COVID-19 Revenue	\$ 0.00	\$ 263,830.00
Expenditures (Election Department)			
1000.410600.200	Supplies	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 178,380.00
1000.410600.300	Purchased Services	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
1000.410600.320	Prt, Dupl, Typing & Bind	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
1000.410600.330	Publicity, Subscr. & Dues	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
1000.410600.350	Professional Services	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
1000.410600.940	Machinery & Equipment	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 14,450.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Glacier County Board of Commissioners hereby amend the original FY 2020-2021 budget by increasing appropriations in the amount of \$2, and directs the County Clerk & Recorder to allocate the increase to the above identified fund, function, and object codes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above ap propriation shall become effective on October 29, 2020.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Mandi Bird Kennerly, Clerk & Recorder

Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

Tom McKay, Vice-Chairman

John B. Overcast, Member

Fund #	Fund Name	Revenue Expenditure Account #	Description of Revenue/Expenditure	Object Code #	Object Description	FY19-20 Budget	As of 6/30/2020 YTD Amount Received/Expended	% of FY19-20 budget received/expended	FY 20-21 Preliminary Budget	Revisions to FY 20-21 Preliminary Budget *add to increase *subtract to decrease	Final FY 20-21 Preliminary Budget
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	100	PERSONAL SERVICES	100,000.00	84,493.00	84%	100,000.00	-	100,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	140	Employer Contributions	50,000.00	39,027.77	78%	50,000.00	-	50,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	200	SUPPLIES	69,884.23	50,412.61	72%	30,000.00	148,380.00	178,380.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	300	PURCHASED SERVICES	15,000.00	26,423.93	176%	15,000.00	20,000.00	35,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	320	PRT, DUPL, TYPING & BIND.	5,000.00	14,612.84	292%	5,000.00	20,000.00	25,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	330	PUBLICITY, SUBSCR. & DUES	5,000.00	1,805.40	36%	5,000.00	20,000.00	25,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	350	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	20,000.00	1,731.79	9%	20,000.00	50,000.00	70,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	370	TRAVEL	3,000.00	2,195.08	73%	3,000.00	-	3,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	530	RENT - EQUIP & BUILDING	3,000.00	1,800.00	60%	3,000.00	-	3,000.00
1000	GENERAL FUND	410600	ELECTIONS (C&R)	940	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	-	-	#DIV/0!	9,000.00	5,450.00	14,450.00
TOTAL						270,884.23	222,502.42		240,000.00	263,830.00	503,830.00

10/27/2020 - Public Hearing #1 - Browning Commissioner Meeting
10/29/2020 - Public Hearing #2 - Cut Bank Commissioner Meeting

Center for Tech and Civic Life - COVID-19 Grant
\$263,830.00

Commissioner DesRosier states the resolution needs to be modified to accommodate possible hazard pay in the budget for elections workers and has been postponed until the resolution has been updated.

OTHER BUSINESS:

J. Public Comment

LeAnne Kavanagh asks about the board meeting for School District #9 transfer of funds and if the commissioners have heard anything.

Commissioner DesRosier states that he doesn't know what happened at the meeting and that he believes it involved discussions between the Browning Public Schools attorney and the Glacier County Attorney Terryl Matt.

K. Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 10th, 2020 – Browning

Commissioner Overcast motions to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner McKay seconds the motion; meeting adjourned @ 10:42 a.m.