

**Glacier County Commissioners  
Thursday, December 10, 2020  
Regular Meeting (GoToMtg)  
Cut Bank, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 am Thursday, December 10, 2020. Commissioners Michael DesRosier and Tom McKay were present. Commissioner John B. Overcast was absent and Austin Parrent taking minutes.

**Present at the Meeting:** Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development; Laurie Elhard, Public; Marlene Luedtke, Public; Brenda Schilling, Glacier County Regional Port Authority Executive Director; Randy Flammond, Public; Corey Hagerman, Sweetgrass Development

**A. Roll Call**

Meeting called to order @ 9:27 a.m.

**B. Approval of Agenda**

**C. Approval of the Minutes: n/a**

**D. Review/Sign: Payroll/Claims**

**Dated for 12-10-2020  
Claims approved for payment.**

<i>FUND</i>	<i>ACCOUNT</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>
1000	General Fund	\$ 49,856.74
2110	Road Fund	\$ 15,797.20
2140	Weed Control	\$ 116.27
2180	County District Court	\$ 1,604.46
2220	Library	\$ 1,048.68
2230	Ambulance	\$ 257.73
2300	Public Safety (Law)	\$ 16,260.02
2850	911 Emergency (Sheriff)	\$ 689.32
2960	Health Grants - Emerg Prep	\$ 7,462.88
2971	WIC	\$ 18.48
7302	West End Cemetery	\$ 236.99
	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$ 93,348.77</b>
	<b>PAYROLL</b>	<b>\$ 195,445.51</b>
	<b>TOTAL PAYROLL &amp; CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$ 288,794.28</b>

**Commissioner McKay motions to approve payroll and claims for pay date 12/10/2020; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**E. Discussion/Approval: Resolution No. 2020-26 Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation Grant – Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development & Brenda Schilling, GCRPA**

- Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development, presents an application for the Big Sky Trust Fund Grant which allows a business operating locally to receive funding to hire employees and create jobs. Glacier County will operate as a pass through for the

- funds. This is a reimbursement program which means in order for the local business to receive funds they will need to prove they are hiring. Glacier County can contract with Sweet Grass and the Glacier County Regional Port Authority to keep track of the quarterly reporting that is required by the local business.
- There was discussion had on a few larger counties who received funding in advance and how this had created issues in the past. This is a reimbursable program for this reason and the local business entity cannot receive funding without first submitting quarterly reports to the appointed management and getting them approved. If the reporting is erroneous then the jobs are not created to be reimbursed.
  - It was discussed that Brenda Schilling, Glacier County Regional Port Authority Executive Director, would likely be the appointed manager of this reporting and would be trained by Sweet Grass Development to oversee the quarterly reports. It was mentioned that a separate contract between Glacier County and the local business could be created to hold the business liable in case of any inaccurate or false reporting, further minimizing Glacier County's liability.
  - After further concerns were brought up by Commissioner DesRosier about Glacier County's liability, Sarah Converse mentions that the county would only be liable if they aren't checking the reports that get sent to the state. If the management that is appointed is not doing their due diligence, then that opens up a liability for the county. Sarah states that if the county does its due diligence with the reporting and use the grant as it is intended to be used, then the county will be fine.
  - Terryl Matt, Glacier County Attorney, questions if Glacier County would be liable for the grant match funds that would be required if the local business were to fail to supply this funding. She states that the document attached to the application obligates the county and asks what other counties do to safeguard themselves against this liability.
  - Sarah Converse states that if there are any questions about the quarterly reporting, those requests can be put towards the business since the county is a pass through for the funding. For every \$2.00 the state gives the business, the business only has to match \$1.00 since Glacier County is a poverty county. She states that when the reports come in, the county or the appointed management does not have to submit any report that they are uncomfortable with. They can be sent back to the business and they can be required to submit them.
  - There was discussion had on who handles the oversight on behalf of other counties. Sarah Converse stated that it depends on the county. The Great Falls Development Authority does it for Cascade County. For Pondera County, the Pondera Regional Port Authority takes care of it. The pass-through entity for the funds has an agreement with whoever does the management and also with the business.
  - There was a discussion had on the amount of the grant and over what period. The business is currently planning on hiring 14 workers for \$105,000.00 total over a two-year period. The person managing would receive administration funds totaling 8% of that amount, or approximately \$8,000.00.
  - Commissioner DesRosier asks who the business is. Sarah Converse states that it is a subsidiary named AgriOne, who is owned by LinkOne.

- There was discussion had on the business and how similar it was to the previous owner's operation. Sarah Converse states that it will be similar but run slightly differently.
- There was also mention of a tax abatement and how it is tied to the land, however, Sarah Converse states that the business would be a totally new entity taking over the infrastructure with a different tax ID. Treasurer Don Wilson was going to check to see if the abatement was tied to the property itself and if it would affect the new business through the Department of Revenue.
- Laurie Elhard, Public, questions who LinkOne is.
- Sarah Converse states that they haven't yet signed a contract which is why they haven't done a press release yet. The owner is in Missouri and they have been successful in the North West. With this grant it is required that the business be 51% American owned to apply for the funds. Reimbursement requests will go through the county and since this is just the application there is no penalty for withdrawing from the grant.

**GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION**  
**Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation Grant**  
**Resolution No. 2020-26**

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION FOR A BIG SKY TRUST FUND  
 GRANT FOR JOB CREATION

WHEREAS, Glacier County is applying to the Montana Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation for financial assistance for work force development for LinkOne Solutions.

WHEREAS, Glacier County has the legal jurisdiction and authority to request assistance from Sweetgrass Development and/or Glacier County Regional Port Authority in the application to the Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation.

WHEREAS, That Glacier County agrees to comply with all State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation Application Guidelines and those that will be described in the Project Administration Manual;

WHEREAS, That LinkOne Solutions commits to provide the amount of matching funds as proposed in the Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation application; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Glacier County Commissioners, in partnership with Sweetgrass Development and Glacier County Regional Port Authority, is authorized to submit this application to the Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation, on behalf of LinkOne Solutions, and provide such additional information as may be required.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF GLACIER COUNTY, MONTANA, AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2020.

ADOPTED this 10th day of December, 2020.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY  
 COMMISSIONERS:



Michael J. DesRosier  
 Michael J. DesRosier, Chairman

Tom McKay  
 Tom McKay, Vice-Chairman

John B. Overcast  
 John B. Overcast, Member

**Commissioner McKay motions to approve Resolution No. 2020-26, authorizing submission of an application for the Big Sky Trust Fund Grant for job creation; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.**

**F. Discussion/Approval: Purchase 20' New Open Side Storage Container for Elections (\$7,340.00 – CTCL Grant Funds) – Crystal Cole, Glacier County Assistant Election Administrator**

One of the grants that has been received this year was the Center for Tech and Civic Life grant totaling \$263,830.00 to be spent on elections. Commissioner DesRosier states that Glacier County was not entirely prepared to spend all of the money given to it. He further states that the county is still working with the agency in order to spend that money. This item is to approve a storage container purchase as the elections department is in need of extra storage.

Crystal Cole, Deputy Elections Assistant Administrator, states that she asked about spending the grant money after the election and that they got back to her on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and said it would need to be spent between June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The mobile shed was also approved for purchase by them. The side doors for this type of shed would make it easy to access all of the elections supplies. If it is approved, the elections department would need to find a place to put it. Crystal says she would like it next to the voting center. She had the records clerk look up the property that the voting center is on and it is owned by the City of Cut Bank, so it is unclear if Glacier County only owns the building or what the arrangement is. She further states that it would not be used for counting machines because it would be too cold.

**Commissioner McKay motions to approve the purchase of a 20' New Open Side Storage Container for Elections totaling \$7,340.00 using CTCL Grant Funds; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**G. Public Comment**

**H. Next Meeting – Monday, December 21, 2020 – Cut Bank**

**Commissioner McKay motions to adjourn the meeting @ 10:55 a.m.; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; meeting adjourned.**

GLACIER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Michael J. DesRosier, Chair

ATTEST:

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Mandi Bird Kennerly, Clerk & Recorder