

Glacier County Commissioners
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Regular Meeting
Browning, MT

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 am Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at the Browning Satellite Office. Chairwoman MaryJo Bremner, Commissioners Michael DesRosier, and John Overcast was present; HR Director Michael Kittson taking minutes.

Present at the Meeting: Thomas McKay, John McGill, Mike Kittson, GC Human Resource Director,

A. Roll Call

Meeting called to order @ 9:00 am by Chairwoman Bremner. All members present. Pledge of Alliance recited.

B. Approval of Agenda: Chairwoman Bremner ask for any changes or additions to the agenda. No additions or changes voiced. Chair ask for Motion to approve agenda, Mr. DesRosier motions to approve the agenda, Mr. Overcast seconds, Agenda approved for business.

C. Reading of the Minutes: none present for approval

NEW BUSINESS:

Item D: Discussion/Approval: Emergency appointment of Deputy Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator-HR Director Michael Kittson

Human Resources Director Michael Kittson notified the board the Glacier County DES Coordinator Lanaina Upham was recalled for a short assignment back to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). DES Upham request the board appoint Mr. Curtis Harper as a Deputy DES Coordinator. Mr. Harper has a vast amount of background in DES operations and currently assists county DES. The wage will be \$25.00 per hour, part time appointment, not to exceed 32 hours per week (can exceed in emergency or per order of DES Coordinator). Cost will be bill out of the DES fund. Commissioner discussion. Commissioner DesRosier, added he received welcome comments from searchers and the Two Medicine search (1 person has 20 years of experience), the searchers added very positive comments on how organized and well run the search was on Two Medicine (search for the missing little girl in the river and area). Chair Bremner adds she thinks Lanaina (DES Upham) has been doing invaluable work on behalf Glacier County. Discusses the fire operation organization and other DES operations. Chair Bremner asks for a motion to approve the hiring of Deputy DES Coordinator Curtis Harper, wage of \$25.00 per hour (not to exceed 32 hours minus an emergency) for a 90-day appointment, Mr. Overcast makes the motion, Mr. DesRosier seconds the motion. Motion passed.

Item E: Discussion / Approval: Appointment of acting Clerk of District Court

Chair discusses the retirement of Janine Scott (Clerk of District Court) and how sad it was to accept her letter. Chair adds the commissioners need to have discussion on the replacement and the process to follow on the position. Chair wants to add this decision is only the temporary acting replacement and not the permanent selection. Commissioners discussion. Mr. DesRosier

adds, there is 3 ½ years in the term of Mrs. Scott, maybe two options would be a “special election” or the party central committee could make a recommendation on replacement. Add there needs to be further discussion because the length of the term a permanent replacement on the elected official. HR Director adds the advice from Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Legal suggests the Commissioners could appoint someone to hold the office until the next general election, but recommends advertising and interviewing candidates (as was done with the Glacier County Attorney vacancy) (MCA 7-4-2206). Discussion continues regarding process and needing clarification on questions. Chair adds that Twila (Pyette) will be placed as the acting if the process is unclear and carries past the June 30 date. Chair asks for a motion to appoint Twila to the position of acting interim Clerk of District Court start the date of retirement of Janine Scott, until the Board of Commissioner finalize the process for permanent replacement, Mr. DesRosier makes motion, Mr. Overcast seconds, motion approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Item F: Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Item G: Next Meeting-Thursday, May 13, 2021-Cut Bank, Montana

Chairwoman asks for motion to adjourn at 9:36 a.m. Commissioner Overcast makes motion to adjourn, Commissioner DesRosier seconds. Motion carried; meeting adjourned at 9:37 am.