

**Glacier County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday, August 10, 2021**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Browning, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular meeting scheduled meeting at 9:00 am on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Commissioners Mary Jo Bremner, Michael DesRosier, and John B. Overcast was present.

**Present for the meeting:** John McGill, Press; Michael Kittson, Glacier County Human Resource Director/Public; Tom Seifert, Glacier County Sheriff's Department; Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Glacier County Sheriff; Jody Hickey, Glacier County Sheriff Civil Secretary; Don Wilson, Glacier County Treasurer/Public;

**A. Roll Call**

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

**B. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner DesRosier motions to approve the agenda; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion;

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**C. Discussion: West End Cemetery Sexton Update –**

The commissioners have a discussion on West End Cemetery. They talk about their budget, concerns of overtime and what needs to be done to help them stay within their budget. Commissioner Desrosier states that he would like to see the commissioners sit down with the West End Cemetery Board and see what their by-laws, budget and operation looks like. It is decided that they will ask the board to meet with them at a later date. At a later time within the meeting Nick Whitcomb, West End Cemetery Sexton arrives to the meeting. There is a lengthy discussion on everything happening at West End Cemetery.

**D. Discussion/Approval: Glacier County Sheriff Department Salary Adjustment – Michael Kittson, Glacier County Human Resource Director & Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Glacier County Sheriff**

Michael Kittson, Glacier County Human Resource Director asks the Glacier County Sheriff Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux to the table for this item. Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, GC Sheriff introduces Maurice Redhorn, GC Undersheriff, Tom Seifert, GC Sheriff Captain and Jody Hickey, GC Civil Secretary which are all present for this discussion. It is stated that the wages are set and referenced in Montana Code Annotated 7-4-2503. Michael K. explains how the Sheriff & his staff's wages are determined and that the law changed in this last legislative session that will require that they will be entitled to their longevity each year. There is a lengthy discussion regarding the pay over the years and the frustration that they have missed out on their longevity in the year's where there wouldn't be an increase in pay. We've talked with the CFO & MACo regarding the wage increase. It was determined that the commissioners can increase the sheriff's salary without compensation board approval. There is also talk about the detention staff & dispatchers getting an increase as well as the sheriff & deputies.

Commissioner DesRosier motions to raise the Glacier County Sheriff's wage so that it reflects the 3% raise of the deputies; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried. Motion was withdrawn by Commissioner DesRosier & Commissioner Overcast due to no public comment before the motion was approved.

Don Wilson, Glacier County Taxpayer states that he would like to make a public comment on the wage increase. He has always been a proponent of law enforcement & public safety. He states for the record that he is in disagreement with the increase.

**Commissioner DesRosier motions that the Glacier County Sheriff Deputies will get a 3% increase in wage and this will reflect accordingly in an increase in the Sheriff's wage as well; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried**

**Commissioner Overcast motions to raise the wage of the Communications Supervisor \$0.50 per hour and staff will receive \$1.00 per hour increase also with Night Pay Differential going from \$0.63 to \$0.75 and Sunday Night Pay Differential going from \$0.93 to \$1.00; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.**

**Commissioner DesRosier motions to raise the Detention staff \$1.00 per hour; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.**

**E. Discussion: Browning Community Issues**

Commissioner Bremner asks if there are any issues and seeing that we don't have any. Commissioner Bremner talks about the webpage and the need to get it updated.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**F. Public Comment**

Michael Kittson, Public talks about an incident that happened within the boundaries of the Blackfeet Tribe. Their employee's that were held at gun point, and one of the employee's happen to be my family. I as a taxpayer and citizen commend our Glacier County Sheriff's department and show full support to them. There is discussion on the gun situation in this day in age and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. No decisions were made.

**G. Next Meeting – Monday, August 16, 2021 – Cut Bank**

Commissioner DesRosier motions to adjourn at 11:12 a.m.; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.