

**Glacier County Commissioners
Monday, September 20, 2021
Regular Meeting (GoToMtg)
Cut Bank, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021. Commissioners Mary Jo Bremner, Michael J. DesRosier, and John B. Overcast were present. Clerk & Recorder Mandi Bird Kennerly taking minutes.

Present at the meeting: Carol Larson, Public; Linda Luther, Public; LeAnne Kavanagh, Press; Twila Pyette, Clerk of District Court; Laurie Elhard, Public; John “Snoop” Evans, Glacier County Roads Department Head

Present via GoToMeeting: (2) callers; —; Elaine; Claire Stone; Gloria; Not Applicable

A. Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Overcast motions to approve the September 20, 2021 agenda; Commissioner Bremner seconds the motion; motion carried.

C. Approval of the Minutes: 6/21, 6/22, 6/23 & 6/24/2021

Commissioner Overcast motions to approve the minutes for 6/21, 6/22, 6/23 & 6/24/2021; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

D. Discussion/Approval: Resolution #2021-06 BARSAA FY2021-2022 – Glacier County Commissioners & John “Snoop” Evans, Glacier County Road Supervisor

**GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION
BARSAA FY2021-2022**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROAD
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE MATCH PROGRAM FUNDS
RESOLUTION #2021-06**

WHEREAS, the Bridge and Road Safety and Accountability Restricted Account created by HB473 requires the Montana Department of Transportation to allocate accrued funds to cities, towns, counties and consolidated city-county governments for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of rural roads, city or town streets and alleys, and bridges; and

WHEREAS, a city, town, county or consolidated city-county government that requests funds under the Bridge and Road Safety and Accountability Account must match each \$20 requested with \$1 of local government matching funds; and

WHEREAS, a city, town, county, or consolidated city-county government requesting distribution of allocated funds may make such a request to the Department of Transportation between March 1 and November 1 of the year the funds were allocated; and

WHEREAS, Glacier County intends to utilize their allocation of funds for purchase of magnesium chloride for application and maintenance of County roads; and

WHEREAS, the local match for the allocated funds and roads to receive magnesium chloride application are identified in Appendix A.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Glacier County Board of Commissioners requests distribution of its share of the allocated Bridge and Road Safety and Accountability funds to be used for purchase of magnesium chloride to be used for application and maintenance of County roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Commission of Glacier County is hereby empowered and authorized to execute such further documents as may be necessary to facilitate the distribution of said funds.

ADOPTED this 20th day of September, 2021

ATTEST:

GLACIER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Mandi Bird Kennerly, Clerk & Recorder

/s/ Mary Jo Bremner, Chair

/s/ Michael J. DesRosier, Vice-Chairman

/s/ John B. Overcast, Member

APPENDIX A

PROPOSED GLACIER COUNTY BARSAA PROJECT 2021-2022

Description and Scope of Work:

Glacier County plans to use the funds gained from BARSAA program to buy and spread magnesium chloride on as many of our highly travelled gravel roads in the county as possible. The magnesium chloride helps keep dust down and also protects the road's condition, keeping the road from getting as many washboard areas and potholes as it would without this treatment. This makes for better and safer travel for the residents who must travel these roads daily.

The scope of work for the project is as follows:

1. Spread magnesium chloride on gravel roads in Glacier County. Work done by County Road Dept. personnel.
2. Haul and spread approximately nineteen (19) loads of magnesium chloride on as many gravel roads as possible in Glacier County.
3. Magnesium chloride to be purchased and delivered to Glacier County by Brenntag Pacific Inc. of Billings.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN: Purchase magnesium chloride at approximately \$7384/ load.

1. Each load is about 7200 gals.
2. Each load covers about 3 miles @ 2400 gals. per mile.
3. 3 mi./ load X 19 loads @ \$7384/ ea. = \$140,296.00

DISTRIBUTION REQUEST	
GLACIER COUNTY BARSAA FUEL TAX ALLOCATION	\$133,630.05
COUNTY MATCH (5%) from Road Dept. Budget	\$6,681.50
TOTAL PROJECT ALLOCATION	\$140,311.55

John “Snoop” Evans, Glacier County Roads Department Head, explains that each year the State of Montana distributes funds for each county for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of rural roads, city or town streets and alleys, and bridges. The Glacier County Roads Department intends to utilize these funds to purchase magnesium chloride to spread on gravel roads within the county which will reduce dust and protect the road’s condition. The required match is 5% of the Glacier County BARSAA Fuel Tax Allocated amount of \$133,630.05, which is \$6,681.50 that must come from the Road Department’s budget to go towards the total project amount. The total project allocation is \$140,311.55.

These funds will be utilized next spring and the funds must be used within three (3) years. These funds cannot be used to purchase equipment and must be spent on materials. There is additional discussion between Commissioner DesRosier and John “Snoop” Evans on using the funds for other projects.

Public Comment:

LeAnne Kavanagh, Press, asks if the 5% match needs to be spent before the funds are released. John “Snoop” Evans, states that they release the funds and then the match is already budgeted for each year. This is part of the funding that the State of Montana is withholding each year from Glacier County.

Commissioner DesRosier motions to approve Resolution #2021-06 BARSAA FY2021-2022; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.

E. Discussion/Approval: Glacier County Clerk of Court – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Bremner would like to recommend that Twila Pyette, Interim Clerk of District Court, be appointed to Clerk of District Court to fulfill the remainder of the term until it can be put on the ballot in 2022. She states that this does not set precedent for any other elected official positions.

Commissioner DesRosier mentions that his original suggestion for applications for the Clerk of District Court position was initially because of the feelings of the political parties involved. Since the elected official filings are coming soon for the upcoming 2022 election it will be in the best interest of time to appoint Twila instead of going through a lengthy application process.

Commissioner Overcast states that he has always been for the idea of Twila being appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term for the position. Appointing Twila will keep the office running efficiently as she does a great job in the position currently.

Commissioner Overcast motions to appoint Twila Pyette to Clerk of District Court until December 31, 2022; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.

F. Discussion/Approval: COVID-19 Hazard Pay under ARPA – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Bremner starts the meeting by explaining that Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO and Michael Kittson, Glacier County HR Director were unable to make the meeting due to other business they need to attend to. She states that the ARPA funds haven't been spent on anything to date. Glacier County will be doing a few projects, but not at this time. What we would like to do is give our employee's that were here from April 2020 through March 30, 2021 hazard pay for the time they were working during COVID-19. The amount that we would like to look at is between \$500 and \$1500 and this would be across the board for anyone that is still employed at this time. It wouldn't include any employee that departed the county during this timeframe. Commissioner DesRosier states that he talked with Chancy & Michael and he is in support. Commissioner Overcast is also in support.

Commissioner DesRosier motions to pay all current employee's \$1,500.00 Hazard Pay with ARPA funds; Commissioner Overcast seconds the motion; motion carried.

G. Discussion/Approval: Projects Manager for ARPA – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Bremner states that she would like to appoint Michael Kittson, Glacier County Human Resource Director to the position of ARPA Manager with an addition to his current pay of either \$22,000 to \$27,000 and this amount would be paid out of the ARPA funds. There is a lengthy discussion on this position.

Commissioner DesRosier motions to hire Michael Kittson to the Project Manager through ARPA funds with additional pay of \$25,000.00 per year as long as the ARPA funds are available; Commissioner Overcast opposes the motion; Commissioner Bremner seconds the motion; motion carried.

Commissioner Overcast would like the other commissioners to know that he had to oppose the motion due to the fact that this is the first time he heard of this decision to appoint and he doesn't feel comfortable voting for it without further information.

LeAnne Kavanagh, Press asks when is this appointment effective? Commissioner Bremner states immediately. LeAnne also asks if he will answer to himself or will he answer to the commissioners? Commissioner Bremner states that he will report to and be under the commissioner's supervision. There is a request for a job description that Commissioner Bremner states she will provide.

OTHER BUSINESS:

H. Public Comment

Elaine Mitchell, Public asks if the Department of Treasury is going to be auditing the ARPA money? I'm concerned about the motion to the employee's for incentive pay. My other concern is that if the ARPA funds are not spent properly they carry large penalties. Commissioner Bremner stated the COVID-19 Hazard Pay is the correct term and that they will make sure that everything is in order and by the law.

Sanford Stone, Public asks if every employee was essential during COVID-19. Commissioner Bremner states "Yes." Sanford states to the commissioners that he just wished the commissioners had given more notice to the public for comment on the Hazard Pay and also use of the ARPA for small businesses.

I. Next Meeting Cancelled – Tuesday, September 28, 2021 – Browning (cancelled on 9/14/2021)

J. Next Meeting – Thursday, September 30, 2021 – Cut Bank

Commissioner Overcast motions to adjourn at 10:38 a.m.; Commissioner DesRosier seconds the motion; motion carried.