

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
188 WESTERN DRUG INC	83078	2,286.98
190 WILLS OFFICE WORLD/RADIO SHACK	83079	1,860.95
	83165	9,330.04
6091 YELLOWSTONE NARCOTICS	83085	600.00
6092 YOGO INN	83086	2,740.39
	Total:	800,767.21

Payroll for the month of September 2023 was approved in the amount of \$664,614.19.



October 2, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Commissioner Fahlgren DocuSigned Amendment #1 with the DNRC for the Valley County Hinsdale Water District (HWSD) System Upgrades project. HWSD is adding a water well amendment to their preliminary engineering report.

Lucas Locke, Airport Manager advised the Commissioners that he will update his business phone today.

It was 61° F in the Courthouse this morning. Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that both boilers are now engaged so the Courthouse should warm up soon.

Dylan Jensen, Valley County Attorney, and Brenda Anderson, Valley County Treasurer, came into the office to discuss the question of the State of Montana's ability to request that the County levy 95 mills to Valley County taxpayers. The Department of Revenue has provided a calculation of their actual mill levy authority of 77.9 mills. It appears that if the County bills 77.9 mills, it opens the possibility of the State of Montana suing the County, conversely, if the County bills 95 mills, it opens the possibility of the citizens suing the County.

Greg Disney, Joint Powers Trust, dropped in to offer to meet the health insurance needs of Valley County. The Commissioners were in a meeting, his information was taken. Mr. Disney will stop next time he is in town.

Joy Guttenberg called and stated that the Town of Nashua has not notified anyone of a public hearing to review and comment on the Town of Nashua budget. She is sending out a letter to the entire town of Nashua informing them of the situation. Tim Guttenberg later dropped off a copy of that letter for the Commissioners to review.

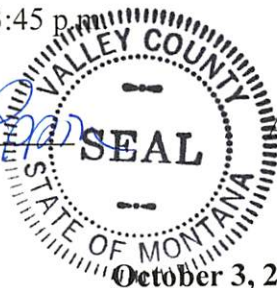
Todd Mandeville, Loaded Toad Medicinal Gardens, stopped by the office to pick up a letter stating that Valley County has not adopted any regulations, zoning or ordinances related to marijuana businesses in their jurisdiction and that Valley County does not license marijuana businesses within their jurisdiction.

Tom Fauth came into the office and stated that Skylark Road has been bladed. He hopes that the Road Department can put some water on it or that it rains on it in the near future.

Carolyn Taylor called to advise that she is authoring a national article and questioned where the requirements for public meetings originated. Commissioner Armstrong advised that local government entities in Montana are required to hold public meetings by Montana statute. Carolyn also wanted to let the Commissioners know she is happy to hear that Hugh Franzen is on the Valley County Council on Aging Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST: 
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 3, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

David Mix, Valley County Road Supervisor, stopped into the office to discuss what was accomplished on the road and bridge work over the weekend.

The Commissioners contacted Autumn Holman, Grant Administrator for Great West Engineering concerning an invoice from North Valley County Water and Sewer District (NVCWSD). Autumn advised that the County pays the NVCWSD who then pays the contractors for work performed by contractors.

Doris Moore, St. Marie, called to get information concerning the Water Boil Advisory for the North Valley County Water and Sewer District.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST: Marie L. Pippin
Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST: Mary Armstrong
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Vern Buerkle dropped by to visit with the Commissioners.

Search and Rescue has recently been the recipient of a new boat. Sheriff Boyer called to state that he plans to offer the previously used Search and Rescue boat for sale.

Chairman Armstrong began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m. In attendance were Stan Ozark, KLTZ, Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, Mark and Char Arneson, Casey Burke, Valley County Planner, and Dylan Jensen, Valley County Attorney,

Added to the agenda was to approve the addition of bidder protest procedures to the Procurement Policy while using Federal money and the draw request from DNRC for the North Valley County Water & Sewer District for ARPA funds in the amount of \$7,029.20.

Deletions to the agenda included signing the Environmental and Historic Preservation Screening form. Per the 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), the newly awarded 2023 State Homeland security Program (SHSP) grant for the Valley County Courthouse Access Control Project doesn't require an Environmental Historic Preservation (EHP) screening. The Commissioners will delay action on the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Bridge Quick Fix Contract pending contract documents from the State of Montana. Adopting Resolution #29-2023 is delayed pending the final operating budget information from the Clerk & Records office. The final deletion was the draw request from DNRC for the North Valley County Water & Sewer District because it was previously approved.

Commissioner Armstrong asked for comments on agenda items.

Hearing no comments, the first actionable item on the agenda was employment/termination notices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren to approve a Termination notice for Melvin Waldner as a Blade Operator effective September 29, 2023, (Fund Number 2110-29-430-240), seconded by Commissioner Tweten, and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten to approve an Employment notice for Kendall Vaughn as Mechanic/Welder/Truck Driver Operator effective September 24, 2023, increasing pay to \$24.23 per hour (Fund Number 2130-31-430200-111), seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren, and passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was accepting the award of the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program for the Valley County Courthouse Access Control Project Phase in the amount of \$94,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren and seconded by Commissioner Tweten to authorize the Chairman to sign the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program for the Valley County Courthouse Access Control Project in the amount of \$94,000.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that this grant will complete the third and final phase of the Access Control Project. Previous phases covered the doors that were prioritized as high risk.

The motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was accepting the award of the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program for the Valley County Cybersecurity Project in the amount of \$28,632.44.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten and seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren to authorize the Chairman to sign the award of the FY 2023 State Homeland Security Grant Program for the Valley County Cybersecurity Project in the amount of \$28,632.44.

The purpose of the Cybersecurity project has been to reinforce the infrastructure in the Courthouse, and to ensure that the State of Montana has their own dedicated computer access separate from the County access.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Accepting the TransADE Agreement between Valley County Transit and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) for MDT to provide matching funds for operating grants for FY 2024 for transportation services to persons at least 60 years of age and to persons with disabilities in the amount of up to \$149,171 was next on the agenda. This is a yearly agreement that offsets some of the operating costs associated with running Valley County Transit.

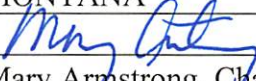
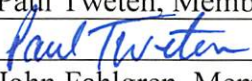
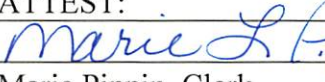
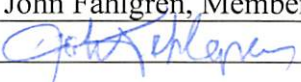
A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren, seconded by Commissioner Tweten and passed unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign the FY 2023-2024 TransADE Agreement between Valley County Transit and the Montana Department of Transportation.

Adopting Resolution #27-2023 Setting County Levies for FY 2023 -2024 was next on the agenda.

The resolution is as follows:

Resolution No. 27-2023			
RESOLUTION SETTING COUNTY			
LEVIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024			
WHEREAS, all County proposed budgets for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for all Valley County Officials and institutions have been filed in the office of the Clerk and Recorder; and			
WHEREAS, no person appeared to protest the increased levies;			
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners hereby set all County levies as follows:			
COUNTY-WIDE LEVIES		Mills	Budgeted Expenditure
General		70.46	5,409,007
Bridge		5.66	337,111
Noxious Weed		2.62	124,744
Fair		1.96	221,265
Airport		0.00	2,707,612
District Court		5.23	255,365
Library		5.17	214,716
Extension Service		3.27	148,506
TOTAL COUNTY WIDE LEVIES		94.37	9,418,326

Permissive Medical		19.50	596,220
COUNTY-WIDE TAXABLE VALUATION	30,587.04		
ROAD AND RURAL FIRE VALUATION	24,670.01		
		Mills	Budgeted Expenditure
Road		42.58	1,987,063
Rural Fire	voted	2.76	182,572
SPECIAL DISTRICTS		Mills	Budgeted Expenditure
Predatory Animal Control			
Sheep	\$.60 per head		1,723
Cattle	\$.50 per head		33,894
Valley T.V. District No. 1	\$30.00 per assessment		547,148
Hinsdale T.V. District No. 1	\$20.00 per assessment		9,956
Glasgow Mosquito Control		7.30	190,592
Nashua Mosquito Control tax value in 13N	\$35.00 per unit and	7.74	69,075
Hinsdale Mosquito Control	\$75.00 per unit		52,478
Conservation District tax value class 3,4,12,14 exclude 1G, 13N		2.14	
Conservation District Permissive Medical		0.28	3,508
Refuse Disposal District No. 1	\$145.00 per unit		1,079,210
Valley View Home Hospital District	\$300,000 voted	9.81	300,000
Noxious Weed \$57,075	voted	1.87	57,075
Library 2 mills	voted	2.00	61,174
Museum (permanent 1 mill)	voted	1.00	122,000
St. Marie Fire District		406.32	128,870
Hinsdale Cemetery District tax value class 3,4,12,14, Sch dist 5,7,7H		4.50	33,797
Opheim Cemetery District tax value class 3,4,12,14 Sch dist 9,9-0		2.29	34,619
Nashua S.I.D. No. 1		96.51	
Richland S.I.D. (9-R)		1338.20	7,122
Rural S.I.D. No. 2 \$500.00 per household, \$500.00 per business			177,311
Pines R.I.D. No. 1 \$75.00 per household,			22,274
OTHER LEVIES		Mills	Budgeted Expenditures
City of Glasgow		320.40	
City of Glasgow Permissive Levy		4.61	
Town of Nashua		174.48	
Town of Opheim		202.54	
Town of Fort Peck		72.19	
Hinsdale Lights		36.32	14,591
Hinsdale Fire		53.18	57,067
STATE LEVIES		Mills	
University Millage Fund		6.00	
State Equalization Aid		32.90	

Dated this 4 th day of October, 2023			
	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		
	VALLEY COUNTY,		
	MONTANA		
			
	Mary Armstrong, Chairman		
	Paul Tweten, Member		
			
ATTEST:	John Fahlgren, Member		
			
Marie Pippin, Clerk			

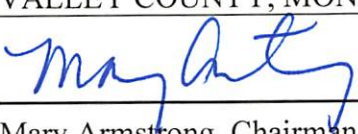
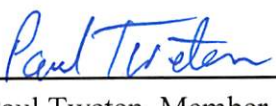
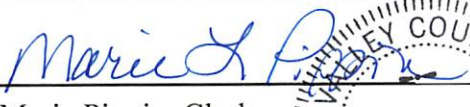
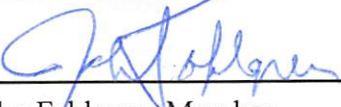
A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten and seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren to sign Resolution #27-2023 Setting County Levies for FY 2023 -2024.

The State of Montana has requested that counties levy 95 mills instead of the authorized 77.9 mills. Had the Commission voted for 95 mills, the State Equalization Aid would be 40 mills instead of 32.9 mills.

The motion passed unanimously.

Adopting Resolution #28-2023 Setting All School Levies for FY 2023-2024 was next on the agenda. The resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2023		
RESOLUTION SETTING ALL SCHOOL LEVIES		
WHEREAS , all proposed budgets for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for all Valley County School Districts have been filed in the office of the Clerk and Recorder/County Superintendent;		
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners hereby sets all School District levies as follows:		
DISTRICT SCHOOL LEVIES		Mills
1A	Glasgow	260.50
2	Frazer	393.77
5	Beaverton (Hinsdale 7C)	167.27
7A	Hinsdale	211.20
9D	Opheim	238.96
13E	Nashua	159.40
23	Lustre (Frazer 2B)	272.23
COUNTY-WIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT LEVIES		Mills
County Elementary Equalization & Tuition		27.00
Elementary Retirement		8.15
TOTAL VALLEY COUNTY ELEMENTARY		35.15
County High School Equalization & Tuition		18.00
High School Retirement		38.99
TOTAL VALLEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL		56.99
TOTAL VALLEY COUNTY TRANSPORTATION		3.81

Dated this 4 th day of October 2023		
	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	
	VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA	
		
	Mary Armstrong, Chairman	
		
ATTEST:	Paul Tweten, Member	
		
Marie Pippin, Clerk	John Fahlgren, Member	

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten and seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren to sign Resolution #28-2023 Setting All School Levies for FY 2023-2024.

The State of Montana has requested that counties levy 95 mills instead of the authorized 77.9 mills. Had the Commission voted for 95 mills, the County Elementary Equalization & Tuition would have been 33 mills instead of 27 mills, and the County High School Equalization & Tuition mills would have been 22 mills instead of 18 mills.

The motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the addition of bidder protest procedures to the Procurement Policy while using Federal money.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten and seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren to authorize the following revision to the procurements policy to include: "Any bidder who wants to protest a bid action shall deliver the protest in writing to the Commissioners Office within two days of the bid opening. The Commissioners will take the protest into consideration and will respond in writing within 10 days after receiving the protest letter."

Discussion: This is a requirement for using the Procurement Policy for federal money. Previously there was not a section for bidders who wanted to protest the bidding action.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Armstrong asked for any additional comments.

There were questions concerning 77.9 mills vs. 95 mills.

Commissioner Armstrong explained that 77.9 mills are calculations from the Department of Revenue. Ninety-five mills are what the State of Montana requested. The estimated tax saving to Valley County when assessing 77.9 mills instead of 95 mills is \$500,000. The money from the State mills goes into the State General Fund.

Commissioner Fahlgren attended the MACo Conference last week where there was considerable discussion over mills. If there had been any effect on school funding, none of the Commissioners would have voted for 77.9 mills. When levies are reduced, it does not reduce school funding. The State is still obligated to pay the equalization out of the State General Fund. He stated that if there is a court process to settle this, hopefully it happens quickly. Most of the other counties are also assessing 77.9 mills.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that per statute the State has the same limitation on raising taxes that the County does. The County can only raise taxes by the amount actually assessed in the previous year plus half the inflation rate. The 95 mills would take it well above the ceiling rate. The State General Fund will still get an increase of \$20 to \$25 million.

Commissioner Armstrong asked for additional comments, hearing none, the Discussion and Decision meeting adjourned at 10:46 am.

The Commissioners received a phone call from Alyson Taylor to see if Valley County is going to participate in the FEMA flood claim. Subsequently the Commissioners let Ms. Taylor know that at this time they do not see an advantage to Valley County in participating in the program.

Chris Washington, Nashua Clerk called Commissioner Armstrong concerning the letter that Joy Guttenberg sent to the residents of Nashua. Commissioner Armstrong suggested that Ms. Washington and Ms. Guttenberg get together to discuss the contents of the letter.

Bob Sivertsen stopped to see Commissioner Armstrong to see how things are going in Valley County. Mr. Sivertsen is a proponent of 4 for 2, a grassroots effort to enhance the viability of communities in the Hwy 2 corridor.

Rick Kinzell dropped by to pick up address numbers for a residence at the Pines.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST: Marie L. Pippin ATTEST: Mary Armstrong
 Marie Pippin, Clerk Mary Armstrong, Chairman



The seal is circular with "VALLEY COUNTY" at the top and "STATE OF MONTANA" at the bottom. In the center, it says "SEAL". Below the seal, the date "October 5, 2023" is stamped.

Commissioner Tweten was in the office today.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that she will be setting up chairs at the Senior Center to prepare for the employee appreciation BBQ at 5:00 pm. at the Senior Center.

Dr. Carolyn Taylor called to say that she is authoring a book and would appreciate some assistance from Commissioner Armstrong.

The Commissioners are preparing the Employee Appreciation BBQ this afternoon.

October 6, 2023

Commissioners Armstrong, Tweten, and Fahlgren were in the office today taking care of paperwork.

Commissioner Fahlgren prepared for the Montana Natural Resource Coalition, (MTNRC) meeting being held in Billings next week.

Commissioner Armstrong prepared for the State Workforce Innovation Board meeting being held in Billings next week.

October 9, 2023

The Courthouse was closed today.

October 10, 2023

Commissioner Tweten was in the office today.

Commissioner Fahlgren is attending the Montana Natural Resource Coalition, (MTNRC) meeting in Billings.

Commissioner Armstrong came into the office before heading to the State Workforce Innovation Board meeting in Billings.

David Mix, Valley County Road Supervisor stopped in to visit with Commissioner Tweten and advised him that he is resigning effective immediately.

David Castleberry dropped by the office to discuss rumors he heard concerning the Senior Citizens Center.

Commissioner Tweten advised that the Seniors set up a meeting with JoAnn Zieger, Council on Aging (COA) Coordinator, and Commissioner Armstrong to discuss usage of the Senior Center. No Senior Citizens were present for the meeting.

Commissioner Armstrong commented that the Senior Citizens agreement that is being considered does not include a monthly charge for use of the Senior Citizens Center as required in the past. The proposed agreement addresses subjects such as storage, housekeeping, and a \$35 fee for use of the kitchen per event.

Matt Ulberg, Local Technical Assistance Program, (LTAP) called to speak with Commissioner Tweten.

Virgil Vaupel, Hinsdale TV District, dropped in to visit with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Tweten approved timecards this morning.

The Commissioners received a phone call from Carrie Perry at 21 Construction in Malta concerning the status of a right-of-way that was submitted by Texakoma for an approach in the Lustre area. She was informed that to date, Valley County has not received the right-of-way request from Texakoma. Ms. Perry stated that she intends to overnight the request for review at next week's Discussion and Decision meeting.

Nancy Gallaher dropped by concerning her and another Council on Aging (COA) Board member's reimbursement for travel to and from the COA Board meeting. She was advised that checks were cut today and will be in the mail on Thursday.

Commissioner Tweten attended the Airport Board meeting at 6:00 pm.

October 11, 2023

Acting Chairman Paul Tweten and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell were present today.

Commissioner Armstrong is attending the State Workforce Innovation Board meeting in Billings today.

Commissioner Fahlgren is attending the Montana Natural Resource Coalition, (MTNRC) meeting in Billings today.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that she will be at the Senior Center fixing the lights in the women's restroom.

Levi Capdeville, Weed/Mosquito Supervisor, came in to discuss one of his employees applying for an Airport job, and will have several employees following the mowers with water trucks if the Road Department continues to need them.

Levi was advised to speak with Curt Storlie, Interim Road Supervisor to see if that is a possibility.

Acting Chairman Tweten began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Fahlgren joined the meeting via telecon.

There was no public in attendance.

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Resolution #29-2023 A Resolution Adopting the Final Operating Budget and Setting Appropriation Authority for FY 2023-2024 was postponed pending further information from the Clerk and Records office.

There were no comments.

The first actionable item on the agenda was employment/termination notices.

Commissioner Fahlgren made a motion to approve Termination Notices. Termination notices for Marie Pederson as a Groundskeeper for the Fair effective September 20, 2023, and Termination notice for David Mix as Road Supervisor effective October 10, 2023, (Fund Number 2110-24-400200-11). Commissioner Tweten seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Action on the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Bridge Quick Fix Contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren to authorize the Chairman to DocuSign the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Bridge Quick Fix Contract. Commissioner Tweten seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Tweten asked for additional comments, hearing none, the Discussion and Decision meeting adjourned at 10:41 am.

Mark Arneson dropped by with questions concerning the levy of 77.9 mills vs. 95 mills.

Commissioner Tweten advised that currently there are 33 counties including Valley County in Montana that have voted for 77.9 mills.

Commissioner Tweten attended the Mosquito Board meeting at 4:00 pm.

October 12, 2023

Commissioners Tweten and Fahlgren were in the office today.

Commissioner Armstrong was in the office this afternoon to sign claims.

Valley County received an email stating that the Montana Quality Education Coalition, (MQEC) is seeking a Writ of Mandate requiring Montana counties to levy 95 mills for FY 2024.

Wayne Waarvick dropped by the office to visit with the Commissioners.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, said that along with the 5-year annual load test on the elevator. The elevator also needs a rupture valve test. The cost of both tests combined will be approximately \$7,460. Joleen stated that the cost of the rupture valve test was not included in her budget for FY2024.

Commissioner Fahlgren replied that the cost for the unexpected elevator maintenance will be paid for with Local Option Tax.

October 13, 2023

Commissioners Armstrong and Fahlgren were in the office today.

At 10:00 am, Commissioners Fahlgren and Armstrong attended a MACo meeting via zoom to discuss the litigation issues associated with levying 95 mills versus 77.9 mills from the State of Montana. The Montana Quality Education Coalition has filed a Petition for Writ of Mandate with the Montana Supreme Court. All 56 counties in Montana are named as a Respondent in the Petition. Over 100 elected officials across Montana attended the meeting. The consensus of the participants was to allow MACo to intervene on behalf of the counties and represent their

interests in the litigation. MACo will forward a draft resolution to the counties for their consideration and action.

Isabella from the Department of Commerce called to set up a meeting with the Commissioners and Director Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce, for Friday October 20th at noon.

The Commissioners received paperwork from a law office in reference to the Montana Quality Education Coalition, (MQEC) seeking a Writ of Mandate requiring Montana counties to levy 95 mills for FY 2024. The paperwork was forwarded to Dylan Jensen, Valley County Attorney.

October 16, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

The Commissioners called James Gibson to offer him the position of Valley County Road Supervisor effective Wednesday October 18, 2023, at \$27 per hour with reviews at six and twelve months.

Levi Capdeville, Weed/Mosquito Supervisor, dropped in to advise that he will be in training the next two weeks: weed training in Livingston, followed by State Fund training in Billings, and mosquito training in Kalispell.

Brenda Anderson, Valley County Treasurer, discussed State Fuel Taxes and their allocation. Previously the Transit Department was allocated funding from the State Fuel Taxes, but the allocation of funds from the State of Montana is no longer broken out into Road and Transit Departments. Brenda will research the issue further to determine if current funding should be split between the two departments.

Greg Olsen, Bureau Chief, Public Water Supply, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), called concerning the boiled water notice at St. Marie. He states that he has been trying to reach North Valley County Water and Sewer District (NVCWSD) directly but hasn't had any response. Mr. Olsen advised that communications from NVCWSD are referencing a DEQ phone number, but DEQ is not in charge of the NVCWSD water system.

The Commissioners supplied Mr. Olsen with NVCWSD President, Chris Helland and Terry Kolpin, NVCWSD Administrative Assistant's phone numbers.

Carly Lacock, GNDC, called the Commissioners to find out if Valley County had any ordinances pertaining to removal and disposal of derelict buildings within towns. The Commissioners advised Ms. Lacock that she should contact the incorporated towns directly to discuss the procedure.

Steve Schuster, Opheim Cemetery District, called to say that Steve Shadday will replace him on the Opheim Cemetery District Board.

Lucas Locke, Airport Manager dropped in to visit with the Commissioners.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST:   ATTEST: 
Marie Pippin, Clerk Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 17, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Curt Storlie, Interim Road Supervisor dropped off a signed Right of Way for 21 Construction Inc. The Commissioners will vote on it during the Discussion and Decision meeting on Wednesday.

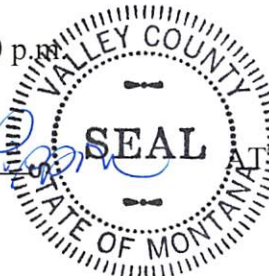
The Commissioners left the office to attend the final walk-thru of the North Valley County Water improvements project with Greg Lukasik from Great West Engineering.

The afternoon was spent reviewing the final budget documents.

The Commissioners attended the Refuse District #1 meeting at 3:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST: Marie Pippin
Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST: Mary Armstrong
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 18, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

The Commissioners left the office to attend the Department Head meeting at 9am. In attendance were Commissioner Armstrong, Commissioner Tweten, Commissioner Fahlgren, Ruth Dowell, Commissioners Administrative Assistant, Brian Austin, Refuse District Supervisor, Colleen Pankratz, Valley County Transit Supervisor, Curt Storlie, Valley County Interim Road Supervisor, Lucas Locke, Airport Manager, Marie Pippin, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, Leanne Fontaine Valley County Extension Administrative Assistant, Shelley Brian, Clerk of District Court, and Tom Boyer, Valley County Sheriff.

The Health Department, Weed/Mosquito/Safety Department, and Sanitarian are making plans for the Holiday Party. Department Heads were reminded that they are responsible for reaching out to retirees from their respective departments to invite them to the Holiday Party. The Clerk and Records office is in charge of the lobby decorations this year. In keeping with tradition, the department that decorates the lobby is in charge of the Holiday Party the following year.

In an attempt to improve safety and security, Department Heads are to turn in all keys, fobs, and termination notice to Ruth in the Commissioner's office. Workplace security cannot be maintained when access keys and fobs are transferred directly from a terminated employee to a new employee.

Discussion turned to appropriate use of County funds for food.. Transit provides food when they are doing trainings (Federal funds used); Clerk and Recorder provides food when they are counting votes (General Fund); Refuse District does a twice-yearly lunch with contractors for safety meeting, County Commissioners have an employee/retiree BBQ and Holiday appreciation event for employee/retirees and families (General Fund) etc.

Commissioner Armstrong will contact Olness & Associates for clarification on all allowed food expenses.

Department Heads were asked to include the event that the food was purchased for on all claims.

Department Heads were asked to log on and review their department homepage on the Valley County website, valleycountymt.net. The website is improving, but there are some departments that are lacking in material. Commissioner Fahlgren suggested putting pictures of the elected officials and department heads on the website. That suggestion was met with a resounding no thank you from some of the attendees.

If Department heads are not able to attend the Department Head meeting they have been asked to send a representative from their department when possible.

The majority of departments are getting prepared for winter.

Leanne mentioned that they are wrapping up the 4-H year.

Lucas and Sheriff Boyer are working to get their departments fully staffed.

Commissioner Fahlgren mentioned that there are now 19 counties involved in Montana Natural Resource Coalition (MTNRC), the newly formed coalition of counties arising from a need for local governments to have a more unified voice when responding to federal agencies dealing with federal lands in their jurisdictions. Commissioner Fahlgren is the former president of the MTNRC.

Commissioner Tweten stated that James Gibson was hired as the Road Department Supervisor. The Commissioners are meeting with Valley County Superintendents on Tuesday, October 24th to discuss the State levied mills.

Colleen said they are rolling out a new software dispatch system for Transit. Once in place, customers will be able to book their Transit ride via an app. Customers will still be able to book via telephone.

Marie stated that there was a 62% turnout for the election yesterday. The bond failed. The Valley County budget is done and has been submitted.

Moving forward, claims will be due on the first and third Friday of each month, with checks being cut the following Wednesday.

The Department Head meeting adjourned.

Chairman Armstrong began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m.

Added to the agenda were ROW 885 between Valley County and 21 Construction Inc. for an approach, and appointing Steve Shadday to the Opheim Cemetery District, to replace Steve Schuster.

There was no public in attendance.

The first actionable item on the agenda was employment/termination notices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren to approve Employment notices for James Gibson as Road Supervisor at \$27.00 per hour effective October 18, 2023, (Fund Number 2110-29-430200-111) Bill Haynes as Blade Operator increasing pay to \$20.50 effective October 16, 2023 (Fund Number 2110-29-430240) and Chris Richter as Deputy Sheriff increasing pay by 40¢ per hour having acquired his instructor certificate effective September 22, 2023, (Fund Number 1000-18-420100) the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tweten and passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was Adopting Resolution #29-2023 A Resolution Adopting the Final Operating Budget and Setting Appropriation Authority for FY 2023-2024. The resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2023

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL OPERATING BUDGET AND SETTING APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-4030, MCA, provides that the governing body shall adopt the final budget by resolution. The resolution must:

- (a) Authorize appropriations to defray the expenses or liabilities for the fiscal year;
- (b) Establish legal spending limits at the level of detail in the resolution; and
- (c) Include any increase in property taxes, including an increase authorized under 15-10-420(1) and the amount by which property taxes will increase on homes valued at \$100,000, \$300,000 and \$600,000.

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-4020 requires that a preliminary annual operating budget must be prepared for the local government; and

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-4021 requires that the governing body shall cause a notice of public hearing on the preliminary or amended budget to be published, and

WHEREAS, Section 7-6-4024, provides that the governing body must hold a public hearing in accordance with the notice given pursuant to 7-6-4021; and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing July 19, 2023, through September 27, 2023, where residents of the County were allowed to express their concerns about the proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has reviewed the proposed budget, received the estimated ending cash balances for all county funds, made changes to the budget as deemed necessary following the public hearing(s) and from input by elected officials and department heads, and computed the estimated taxes, fees and assessments needed to fund the fiscal year 2024 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Valley County that:

The final budget after any amendments to the preliminary budget and after considering any public comment is adopted.

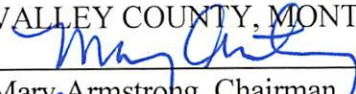
This resolution authorizes:

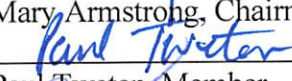
- (a) Appropriations to defray the expenses or liabilities for the fiscal year.
- (b) It sets the legal spending limits at the county fund level. Fund level detail is stated in the formal budget document and established in the County's accounting system.
- (c) An increase(decrease) in property taxes due to (15-10-420 calculation), permissive and/or voted levies of \$4.01, \$12.06, and \$24.13, respectively for a home valued at \$100,000, \$300,000 and \$600,000 is included in this fiscal year budget.

The effective date of this resolution is July 1, 2023, even if the resolution is adopted after that date.

PASSED and APPROVED this 18th day of October 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA


Mary Armstrong, Chairman


Paul Tweten, Member


John Fahlgren, Member

ATTEST:


Marie Pippin, Clerk



A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren and seconded by Commissioner Tweten to sign Resolution #29-2023 A Resolution Adopting the Final Operating Budget and Setting Appropriation Authority for FY 2023-2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Adopting Resolution #30-2023 A Resolution Authorizing MACo to Represent the Interests of the County in Seeking a Declaratory Judgement from the Montana Supreme Court Regarding Statewide Mills was next on the agenda. The resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION 30-2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MACO TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY IN SEEKING A DECLARATORY JUDGEMENT FROM THE MONTANA SUPREME COURT REGARDING STATEWIDE MILLS

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing dispute regarding the calculation and levying of statewide mills authorized by Mont. Code Ann. §§ 20-9-331, 333 and 360 which now requires a judicial resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Quality Education Coalition has filed OP-23-0592, a Writ of Mandate, with the Montana Supreme Court listing all 56 counties as Respondent; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana has filed an action for declaratory relief against Missoula County and its Commissioners and Treasurer, in the Fourth Judicial District Court; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers and other parties have made public statements indicating an intent to initiate additional lawsuits against various counties; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing dispute regarding the proper calculation and levying of statewide education mills is an issue of statewide importance, impacting every property taxpayer in the State, which can and should be more efficiently resolved by an original action before the Montana Supreme Court than separate lawsuits in different courts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 7-5-2104 the board of county commissioners has jurisdiction and power, under such limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law, to direct and control the prosecution and defense of all suits to which the county is a party; and

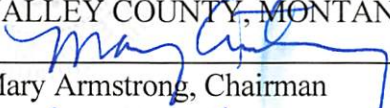
WHEREAS, Valley County is a member of the Montana Association of Counties (MACo); and

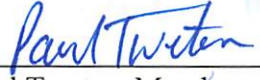
WHEREAS, MACo has proposed to pursue an original action at the Montana Supreme Court on behalf of its member counties seeking a declaration as the proper interpretation of Mont. Code Ann. § 15-10-420 and the Counties' legal rights and obligations regarding levying of the statewide mills authorized by Mont. Code Ann. §§ 20-9-331, 333 and 360;

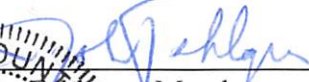
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Valley County Board of County Commissioners authorize MACo to take all steps necessary to file and prosecute an original action before the Montana Supreme Court regarding the statewide mill levy calculation issues and to represent interests of Valley County in that action.

PASSED and APPROVED this 18th day of October 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA


Mary Armstrong, Chairman


Paul Tweten, Member

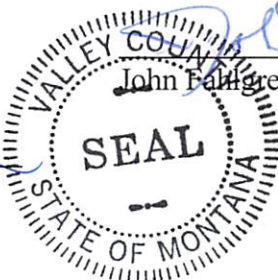

John Fallgren, Member

ATTEST:


Marie Pippin, Clerk

I have read this resolution.


Dylan Jensen, County Attorney



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A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten and seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren to sign Resolution #30-2023 A Resolution Authorizing MACo to Represent the Interests of the County in Seeking a Declaratory Judgement from the Montana Supreme Court Regarding Statewide Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

Signing 2023-2024 Inmate Excess Medical Insurance and/or Claims Administration Management was next on the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren and seconded by Commissioner Tweten to authorize the Chairman to sign the 2023-2024 Inmate Excess Medical Insurance and/or Claims Administration Management agreement upon the recommendation of the Sheriff. The motion passed unanimously.

ROW 885 between Valley County and 21 Construction Inc. (Carrie Perry) was next on the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten authorizing the Chairman to execute an Application and Permit to Use Right-of-Way No. 885 between Valley County and 21 Construction Inc. for an approach described as:

380 FNL 2145 FWL NE ¼ NW ¼ Section 36 T31N R43E

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fahlgren and passed unanimously. The said Document, No. 182381, was filed in the office of the Clerk and Recorder on October 18, 2023.

The final item on the agenda was appointing Steve Shaeday to the Opheim Cemetery District, replacing Steve Schuster.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fahlgren and seconded by Commissioner Tweten to appoint Steve Shaeday to the Opheim Cemetery District, filling the unexpired term of Steve Schuster effective immediately. The term expires on 6/30/2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Armstrong asked for public comment on non-agenda items, hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

The Commissioners received a call from a gentleman concerning multiple things going on in the County. The caller was referred to Ravalli County where he resides.

Richard Miller stopped in and said that channel 5 is out. He was informed that they are aware of the outage and are waiting for parts.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST:

Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 19, 2023

Commissioners Tweten and Fahlgren were in the office today.

Lynn Miller, Valley County Health Department Director, stopped in to have Commissioner Tweten sign paperwork to allow the shipment of Covid vaccine to the Health Department. The vaccine should be delivered next week.

October 20, 2023

Commissioner Fahlgren was in the office today.

Commissioner Tweten attended the Action for Eastern Montana meeting in Glendive today.

Mayor Rod Karst stopped by the office. He stated that the City of Glasgow will send a Memorandum of Understanding to the County pertaining to snow removal on several roads. He also invited the Commissioners to an open house at the Cottonwood on November 15th between 5 and 7 pm. to discuss the Vandalia Rest Area Restoration. Mayor Karst also mentioned that Ruthanne Hutchison is planning a Community dinner at the Senior Center for Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Fahlgren invited Mayor Karst to a meeting with Director Scott Osterman from the Department of Commerce at noon today in the Commissioner's office.

Jeri Neumiller came into the office and stated that she is having difficulties verifying her address due to the update of addresses through the 911 GPS system. The 911 coordinator is not currently available, so Ms. Neumiller was referred to the Clerk and Records office to solve her addressing concerns.

Commissioner Fahlgren was invited to a November 1st meeting concerning the April flooding. Paul Skubinna, City of Glasgow Engineer, will host the informational meeting. Andrew Long, Mitigation Coordinator, Montana Disaster & Emergency Services (DES) will discuss the availability of funding for competitive grants to replace culverts, bridges, or rip-rap.

Director Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce, is on a tour of eastern Montana and dropped in to visit with Commissioner Fahlgren. Director Osterman is working with Commissioners to help develop business in Montana. He noted that most of the big business start-up money goes to the western side of the state, but he is looking for ways to get money to the eastern side of the state. Director Osterman stated that Glasgow and Miles City are the two Eastern Montana cities best positioned to attract businesses. Commissioner Fahlgren informed him that two major subdivisions are being developed or planned, which is a selling point.

October 23, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Jared Fast from Lustre called and said that semis cannot get up the hill east of Zerbes, they have been pulling the semis up the hill with a loader.

Karen Fauth called and questioned if the Road Department is going to haul out the trees that they took down on Golden Valley Road. Commissioner Tweten advised her that the Road Department will haul the trees off. After discussion with the Road Supervisor, Commissioner Tweten called Ms. Fauth and informed her that Mike Fauth asked the Road Supervisor to leave the downed trees so they could burn them this winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST: 
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 24, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that all of the locks at the Senior Center have been changed.

Commissioner Armstrong delivered Meals on Wheels for the Senior Center this morning. Commissioner Armstrong called the meeting about State Levied Mills to order at 11:00 am. In attendance were Superintendents; Adam Zopp, Hinsdale, Jeanine Sundby, Nashua, Wade

Sundby, Glasgow, Melanie Blount-Cole, Frazer, Jennifer McAllister, Opheim. Also in attendance were Michelle Bigelbach, Glasgow Courier, Marie Pippin, Valley County Clerk and Recorder.

Attendees are concerned that they will have a decrease in school funding if the County levies 77.9 mills instead of 95 mills as have been levied in the past. They are concerned that their funding may be ok for the next two years but are worried that if the County levies 77.9 mills moving forward the schools will suffer due to the reduction of approximately \$500,000 annually.

The Commissioners explained that they voted to levy 77.9 mills, not 95 mills. They were provided with that number, (77.9) by the Department of Revenue (DOR) as their current taxing authority. The law constrains the Counties to ½ of the three-year CPI, and the law subjects the State of Montana to the same constraints. The three levies that comprise the collected mills levied are referred to as school equalization funding. All of the monies collected go directly into the State General Fund and then are dispersed to the schools by the State of Montana. The question of whether to levy 77.9 mills or 95 mills is going to the Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court determines the correct levy is 95 mills, the additional mills will be assessed in May of 2024. Even if the funding from the mills decreases, the State of Montana has funds to make up the difference out of the General Fund.

The Commissioners explained that the Montana Quality Education Coalition filed a petition against all 56 counties in the State of Montana. Valley County has authorized MACo to represent the interests of Valley County. The Supreme Court has the final say and the Commissioners will respond accordingly. None of the Commissioners want to have a negative impact on schools.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 am.

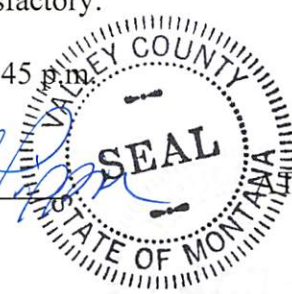
The Commissioners left the office to unload commodities at the Senior Citizens Center.

James Gibson, Valley County Road Supervisor, dropped by the office to discuss the job openings at the Road Department. James currently has several applications on hand. Commissioner Tweten stated that he would like to see members of the Road Department trained in flagging and signing. There is a MACRs conference in March where James will have the opportunity to meet and collaborate with other road supervisors.

Sara Bryan, Long Run Fire Chief advised the Commissioners that there will be a new agreement between BLM and Long Run Fire Department. She would like the Commissioners to review the agreement and sign it if it is satisfactory.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Marie Pippin, Clerk



TEST: 
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 25, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, member Paul Tweten, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Chairman Armstrong began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m. No public attended.

There were no Additions/Deletions to the agenda and no public comment.

The first actionable item on the agenda was employment/termination notices.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten to approve a Termination notice for James Wilson as a Refuse District Laborer effective October 16, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Armstrong and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten to approve an Employment notice for Robert Rodriguez as an Airport Worker effective November 1, 2023, at \$17 per hour. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Armstrong and passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was action on remaining a member of the MT Association of Reservation Counties for an annual membership due of \$550.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten to authorize \$550 for annual membership dues to the Montana Association of Reservation Counties. Commissioner Armstrong seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Action on the Nashua Sr. Citizen request for funds to assist with utilities was next on the agenda. Last year the Nashua Sr. Citizen Center received \$1,500 to assist with the utilities.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tweten to authorize \$1,500 paid out of PILT to assist with utilities for the Nashua Sr. Citizen Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Armstrong and passed unanimously.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32.

Melanie Blount-Cole, Superintendent of Frazer School, called Commissioner Tweten to see if the County plows were out because they have parent teacher conferences. Commissioner Tweten advised her that the Road Department is not currently plowing County roads because people are getting through the roads.

The Commissioners received an email from Paul Skubinna, City of Glasgow Engineer, who advised that the City of Glasgow is applying for a CDBG grant to update their System Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) planning document for their flood control levee. He is requesting a letter of support from the Valley County Commissioners.

Commissioner Tweten contacted Leta Godwin, Pioneer Museum Supervisor, to discuss the need to replace the roof at the museum. The Commissioners received an estimate that was approximately \$170,000 more than expected. In order to have the roof replaced, the job will have to go out for bid. Leta will contact the Museum Board and set up a meeting to discuss options.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Marie Pippin, Clerk



ATTEST: 
Mary Armstrong, Chairman

October 26, 2023

Commissioners Tweten and Fahlgren were in the office today.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that the new tractor was dumping hydraulic fluid. She contacted James Gibson, Valley County Road Supervisor, who will send a trailer over so it can be hauled to John Deere for maintenance. Meanwhile, Joleen will put the broom on the old tractor so she can be ready to clear the additional snow that is expected within the hour.

Matt Page called to see if there is a written policy on cattle guard maintenance in Valley County. Commissioner Fahlgren advised him that all costs of furnishing and maintaining the cattle guard shall be borne by the permittee. Commissioner Fahlgren emailed Mr. Page a copy of resolution #13-2008 which addresses the standards for permitting and installation of cattle guards on Valley County roads.

Virgil Vaupel stopped in to visit with the Commissioners.

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Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, advised that it will cost \$4,000 to install a new broom on the old tractor. The new 60" broom will be interchangeable onto the new tractor.

Commissioner Tweten made a motion to purchase a new broom for the tractor at the cost of approximately \$4,000. The broom will be paid for out of the PILT facilities fund. Commissioner Fahlgren seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

October 27, 2023

Commissioner Fahlgren was in the office this morning working on MTNRC paperwork.

Commissioner Tweten was in the office this afternoon.

A meeting with Valley County, Great West Engineering, and the Commissioners was set up on November 7, 2023, at 2 pm. for the Valley County "Quick Fix" bridge repairs.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, came into the office to have a telecon with Bailey Elliot, Granite Technology Solutions to look at options to reduce expenses and work to fully secure the 911 lines.

Richard Garsjo dropped by the office to thank the Commissioners for the \$1,500 donation for utilities for the Nashua Senior Center.

Wayne Daley called Commissioner Fahlgren to advise him that Whatley Lane off of Whatley Road needs plowed. Commissioner Fahlgren told him that there would not be any plowing until next week, but at that time they would be plowing the priority roads such as the bus routes first. Commissioner Fahlgren will check to see if Whatley Lane is a County road.

Sherri Turner, Friends of the Pioneer Museum called to set up an appointment to discuss the museum plaques that are hanging in the Courthouse hallway. She and Kim Woulf will meet with the Commissioners at 10 am. on Monday, October 30th.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, and Commissioner Fahlgren went to John Deere to pick up the snowplow tractor. Commissioner Fahlgren will flag for Joleen when she drives the snowplow on Highway 2.

October 30, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman Mary Armstrong, members Paul Tweten, and John Fahlgren, and Recording Secretary Ruth Dowell present.

Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, said that a representative from Generac will be here to work on the generator today.

Matthew from Michelotti-Sawyers Funeral called to get a contact number for Lawndale Cemetery in Opheim. He was provided the number for board member, Walt Nelson.

Commissioner Tweten called Craig Erickson, Great West Engineering, to find out the status of the Montana Coal Endowment Program, (MCEP) grant that Valley County applied for to conduct a rate study for Valley County Refuse District #1.

Mr. Erickson advised that all of the grant requests for MCEP were forwarded to the Governors office from the Department of Commerce, approximately a month ago. He expects to see the award letters any day.

Roubie Younkin, Valley County Extension Agent advised that the Extension office will be closed most of this week.

Kim Woulf and Sherri Turner, Friends of the Pioneer Museum, came to the office to discuss the historical plaques that are located in the hallway at the Courthouse. The purpose of the plaques is to bring in the history of homesteaders and to enhance the Pioneer Museum through supplemental funding. Each plaque was sold for \$300 and thus far, The Friends of the Pioneer Museum have been able to donate \$114,000 from the sale of the plaques to the Pioneer Museum.

The Commissioners are planning to paint and carpet the Courthouse this winter and asked that the 53 plaques that are hanging in the Courthouse hallway be removed. Previously both sides of the hallway had plaques hanging on them, but most were removed leaving holes in the walls. All of the plaques except for the 53 at the Courthouse are hanging in the Remembrance Room at the Pioneer Museum. The Commissioners would like to have all of the plaques moved to the Pioneer Museum and offered to assist with the expense of redesigning the Remembrance Room to accommodate all of the plaques.

The Museum is in the process of getting a computer to download all of the histories related to the plaques so patrons can review them online,

The Commissioners would like to see something related to the history of Valley County government on the wall and plan to reach out to Leta Godwin, Pioneer Museum Supervisor.

The security gate at the office of the Department of Revenue (DOR) spontaneously dropped closed. There is also a window at the Treasurer's office that does not have a security gate. The Commissioners have asked Joleen Cotton, Maintenance Supervisor, and Ron Canen, Maintenance Assistant, to assess the situation and see if they can come up with a viable fix to both issues.

Leta Godwin, Pioneer Museum Supervisor, dropped by the office and discussed options for hanging the plaques at the Pioneer Museum with Commissioner Armstrong. They also discussed historical ideas for decorating the hallway at the Courthouse.

Commissioner Armstrong attended a Duck Creek Road telecon this afternoon.

October 31, 2023

The Commissioners were in the office today.

Commissioner Fahlgren attended a telecon with MTNRC this morning.

Commissioner Armstrong and Commissioner Tweten met with Tori Matejovsky, Executive Director, Great Northern Development Corporation. Tori summarized the programs they are administering.

Michael Borgreen, BLM Field Manager, dropped by the office to discuss priorities and projects with the Commissioners.

Claim Fund claims for the month of October 2023 were approved as follows:

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
5496 ADVANCED SOLUTION CONCEPTS	83172	5,940.00
	83305	5,985.00
1798 AGLAND CO-OP	83173	69.24
2853 ALL SEASON HOME CENTER	83174	127.99
184 AMERICAN WELDING & GAS INC	83175	322.40
	83306	627.73
5347 AMY GOLTZ	83176	2,457.00
6095 ANDREW KOVAL	83177	119.25
6096 APRIL SEAT	83178	370.55
558 ARCH'S TIRE, LLC	83179	1,069.00
	83307	109.50
5911 AT&T	83308	444.65
5723 AXON ENTERPRISE INC	83309	399.85
4613 B & B PUMPING	83180	175.00
2629 BARRY DAMSCHEN CONSULTING, LLC	83181	1,475.00

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
6111 BIG STATE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY INC	83310	226.86
75 BIG VALLEY WATER	83311	51.00
2826 BRENDA ANDERSON	83182	719.06
4427 BS CENTRAL INC	83183	120.00
	83312	104.00
5341 C&B OPERATIONS, LLC	83184	592.61
	83313	301.64
5984 CANDACE ROBERTS	83185	31.00
6112 CARDIO PARTNERS, INC	83314	256.50
182 CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	83186	350.84
	83315	603.81
5752 CENTER FOR DISEASE DETECTION-16456	83187	19.92
4761 CENTURY LINK	83188	172.12
3360 CENTURY LINK ACCT 407878239	83316	790.02
5965 CHARACTER STRONG	83189	2,014.00
5051 CHARM-TEX INC	83317	1,232.98
4786 CHRIS RICHTER	83190	30.50
4814 CHRISTINA HILLMAN	83278	544.56
4976 CINTAS CORPORATION	83191	178.13
677 CITY OF GLASGOW	83318	45.00
4723 CITYSERVICEVALCON	83319	38,203.40
6072 CNH INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTS	83192	144.56
548 COLLEEN M PANKRATZ	83279	79.99
	83320	8.48
5376 CONCORDANCE HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS	83193	169.84
36 COTTONWOOD INN, INC	83194	5,579.25
6097 D'ANTHONY WILLIS	83195	180.00
3157 DACOTAH PAPER CO	83321	454.71
39 DALE PLUMBING & HEATING INC	83196	2,280.58
6088 DEFY	83197	200.00
4573 DIAGNOSTIC PEST SOLUTIONS	83198	119.00
	83322	86.50
5663 DOWL LLC	83199	22,765.98
6098 DUANNE SNOW	83200	3.00
2724 ECOLAB	83201	233.04
801 ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	83323	187.19
6086 EMCMHC	83324	824.52
5460 EPSILON SIGMA PHI	83202	132.00
812 EZZIE'S WHOLESALE INC	83203	51,414.42
	83325	487.46
1369 FIRST INTERSTATE BANK WM	83204	949.80
6110 FMDH PHARMACY	83205	50.62
6113 GARSJO CONTRACTING	83326	50.00
66 GLASGOW AUTO SAFETY CENTER	83206	1,129.00
	83327	2,557.00
71 GLASGOW COURIER INC	83328	706.00
762 GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS	83329	5,165.02
5702 GRANITE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS	83330	37.27
5037 GRIT	83207	200.00
4226 HAL BUERMAN	83208	46.00
5960 HEALTHY IS WELLNESS LLC	83209	1,000.00
392 HI LINE FORD INC	83210	2,379.92
	83304	27,200.00
	83331	326.91
4900 HI TECH ELECTRIC INC	83212	465.52
5980 HIRERIGHT, LLC	83211	53.00
5242 HOME CARE SERVICES, LLC	83213	370.50
	83332	351.00
3453 HUGH FRANKSON	83214	58.52
2885 INTERSTATE BATTERIES	83215	147.95
1033 INTERSTATE ENGINEERING INC	83333	6,500.00
5714 ION MYSTERY	83244	200.00
5735 IRON STAKE CONSULTING LLC	83216	3,500.00
6099 IZABEL BOWERS	83217	49.50
6100 JANICE REICHEL	83218	192.85
5977 JEREMY ERTEL	83219	28.00
6101 JOAN NELSON	83220	457.35
3923 JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	83334	2,050.00
5055 JOHN FAHLGREN	83221	564.61
5072 JOLEEN COTTON	83223	21.95
6070 JONATHAN OSBORNE	83222	31.00
6102 JOYCE ENGLISH	83224	79.80
6103 KATHERINE PATTON	83225	411.06
6104 KEVIN BLAGG	83226	965.33
368 KLTZ/KLAN INC	83227	220.50
5520 KRISTIN K MCCOLLY, FNP	83228	4,917.00
2619 L N CURTIS & SONS	83230	2,552.18
5641 LAFF	83299	200.00
99 LAWSON PRODUCTS INC	83335	383.28
4983 LEADER AVIATION LLC	83229	620.00

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
6118 LEVI CAPDEVILLE	83376	130.50
1688 MACAA	83242	125.00
3133 MAPPING & PLANNING SPECIALISTS, INC	83232	1,257.75
101 MARKLE'S INC	83233	971.72
	83336	896.91
6105 MARY HUGHES	83234	287.25
413 MERCK SHARP & DOHME LLC	83235	16,215.86
6106 MICAH SCOTT	83236	24.25
6090 MICHELE HEALY	83237	13.00
6051 MICHELLE OZARK	83337	1,762.99
4417 MIDWEST LABORATORIES INC	83238	411.80
4617 MILK RIVER MOTORSPORTS	83241	900.00
3042 MOGAN'S SPRINKLERS	83239	400.00
	83338	75.00
6114 MONTANA AIR CARTAGE	83339	130.45
5013 MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	83231	98.10
2399 MONTANA CORRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES	83340	500.00
113 MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	83240	1,216.63
43 MONTANA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	83341	2,269.51
697 MONTANA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY DCI	83245	220.50
239 MSU EXTENSION SERVICE	83243	5,738.42
3144 NANCY GALLAHER	83246	57.64
5729 NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION	83342	288.00
183 NEMONT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC	83247	4,664.20
	83343	106.93
6107 NORTH VALLEY COUNTY WATER & SEWER DIST.	83248	7,029.20
121 NORTHERN MONTANA TEXTILES SERVICES	83249	74.80
	83344	68.43
115 NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	83251	949.72
	83345	11,215.75
120 NORVAL ELECTRIC CO-OP INC	83250	2,099.52
4792 OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	83300	138.21
	83346	66.86
5390 OSTLUND'S FIRE PROTECTION, INC	83301	460.00
5835 PAMELA SALACUP	83252	1,624.00
2768 PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS	83253	1,595.08
5731 PRO CO-OP OPHEIM	83347	88.36
201 QUILL CORPORATION	83348	375.31
3900 R & S NORTHEAST LLC	83254	378.03
6115 RADARSIGN LLC	83349	4,435.00
5962 RANDY G. BARNETT	83255	812.50
	83350	753.85
2620 RDO EQUIPMENT TRUST #80-5800	83256	4,195.36
	83351	497.50
5548 RDT SERVICES LLC	83257	500.00
5487 RED LODGE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	83258	5,000.00
2789 RENE CLAMPITT	83352	112.50
574 ROY JIMISON DBA	83353	5,007.70
3910 SCOTTIE EXPRESS WASH INC	83354	11.94
5421 SECURE WARRANT	83259	125.00
6116 SHERRI TURNER	83355	137.39
5726 SHIRLEY BAUMGARTNER	83356	625.00
6081 STOWAWAY BAR & GRILL	83357	1,524.00
162 SYSCO MONTANA INC	83260	2,688.25
	83358	3,840.90
428 SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANTS	83359	4,395.00
163 T & R TRUCKING INC	83261	27,937.92
	83360	180.00
5997 TAYLOR STORAGE	83262	25.00
788 TERRY L LIGHTHIZER	83361	369.95
5154 THOMAS BOYER	83362	51.22
2996 THOMPSON & SONS, INC	83263	1,232.49
	83363	125.00
6108 TOBIN NOVESIO	83264	201.18
5572 TORGERSONS	83265	6,999.70
	83364	1,224.84
6109 TORI MARKS	83266	484.35
680 TOWN OF OPHEIM	83365	66.00
172 TRI STATE TRUCK-EQUIP INC	83367	218.34
174 TRIPLE A GLASS INC	83267	6,587.65
	83366	256.25
787 U.S. POSTAL SERVICE/PITNEY BOWES	83368	2,848.39
179 UNITED INSURANCE & REALTY INC	83268	1,503.33
77 VALLEY BUILDERS GLASGOW, INC	83269	171.00
	83369	74.83
852 VALLEY CO REFUSE DISTRICT	83370	12.00
614 VALLEY CO TRANSIT	83270	651.00
	83371	94.00
765 VALLEY CO WEED DISTRICT	83271	761.86
	83372	1,636.77

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
810 VAN DIEST SUPPLY CO	83273	1,123.50
3247 VAXSERVE	83272	32,504.57
6117 VIRTUAL ACADEMY	83373	790.00
1087 VISA 0135	83277	238.49
5075 VISA 0143/1935/3964	83280	750.55
4547 VISA 7644	83281	108.65
5527 VISA 0705	83282	18.10
5526 VISA 0713	83283	45.70
5534 VISA 1059	83284	802.41
5485 VISA 1737	83285	408.63
5497 VISA 1745	83286	534.20
5484 VISA 1752/4814	83298	748.90
5483 VISA 1794	83287	1,125.00
5486 VISA 1836/4301	83288	1,806.89
5481 VISA 1844	83289	1,247.35
5578 VISA 2248	83290	593.87
5530 VISA 2412/4880	83291	57.46
5584 VISA 2461	83292	98.95
3023 VISA 2529	83303	4,020.31
5482 VISA 2750/4863	83293	2,499.61
5529 VISA 3147/3972	83302	1,726.10
5517 VISA 3329	83294	608.19
5537 VISA 4856	83295	9.99
5569 VISA 8477/3717	83296	96.04
5528 VISA 9277	83297	165.71
188 WESTERN DRUG INC	83275	690.98
190 WILLS OFFICE WORLD/RADIO SHACK	83274	828.92
	83374	805.91
6092 YOGO INN	83276	1,374.57
5453 ZEE CREATIVE INC	83375	417.08
Total:		428,366.34

Payroll for the month of October 2023 was approved in the amount of \$476,872.70.