

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA
Held in December 2022**

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on December 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2022.

DECEMBER 7, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Dale Seifert, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch

NOVEMBER COMMISSION MINUTES APPROVED

Commissioner Morren moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the November 2022 Minutes of the Commission. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 14, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Dale Seifert, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Treasurer Elaine McLean, Deputy Treasurer Shaunna Graham, Zane Drishinski, Seth Lutter (Montana Facility Finance Authority), McKenzie Graye, Sarah Converse (Sweetgrass Development), Sean McGuire (Sweetgrass Development), Lisa Schmidt

C-PACE PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Seth Lutter from Montana Facility Finance Authority presented the C-Pace program. The mission is to enhance Montana healthcare and community capabilities through access to cost-effective capital financing and development services. C-Pace covers the costs of improvements that save energy, save water, and generate renewable energy. The role of Pondera County is to establish a special district and bill and receive property taxes, and in turn forward the funds to C-Pace, that serves as the agent of the county in respect to C-Pace projects. Much discussion was made on C-Pace. No action was made.

FOURTH DRAWDOWN FOR FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PROJECT PAYMENT

Commissioner Morren moved to approve drawdown #4 for the Federal Aviation Administration Project for the Pondera County Airport in the amount of \$13,538.63. The funds will pay Robert Peccia & Associates to be used towards the Pondera County airport planning grant. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AIRPORT RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL

Chris Sullivan of Sullivan Brothers Construction submitted a bid to clear the runway of snow and ice at the Conrad Airport for 2023. It is an "as needed per FAA requirements" agreement as it has been in the past. For the amount of \$600 per time. Commissioner Kuka moved to continue the agreement with Sullivan Brothers Construction. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA

RESOLUTION #20 – 2022/23

AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006(4), grants the Board of County Commissioners the power and authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year by conducting public hearings at regularly scheduled meetings; and

WHEREAS Pondera County Commissioners approved the appropriations budget for the Pondera County during its regular budget approval process and correction in revenues and expenditures budget have been identified; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the budget be corrected as follows:

December 2022

Revenues	Description	Prior Amount	NewAmount
4009-362005	Insurance Claim	\$0	\$13,200
2976-331146	Grant Revenue	\$5,161	\$57,682
2811-365000	Contributions	\$0	\$250
2390-351013	Drug Forfeiture	\$250	\$1000

Expenditure	Description	Prior Amount	NewAmount
2830-308-521000-501	Operating Transfers Out	\$2,500	\$0
2830-308-521010-501	Transfer to 1000-Admin Fee	\$0	\$2,500
2230-207-520001-820	Transfer	\$25,000	\$0
2230-207-521011-820	Transfer to 4011	\$0	\$25,000
1000-521-521017-820	Transfer Econ Dev	\$12,963	\$0
1000-521-410100-790	Contribution	\$0	\$12,963
2170-304-490512-603	Principal-MT Aeronautics	\$2,700	\$15,480
2170-304-490512-619	Principal – Port Auth Loan	\$31,210	\$22,135
2170-304-490512-629	Interest – Port Auth Loan	\$110	\$345
2976-448-440193-210	Supplies	\$6,168	\$57,682

Adopted this 14th day of December, 2022, as moved by Commissioner Morren, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Dale J Seifert
Dale J Seifert, Chair

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

ATTEST:

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Member

/s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L Farkell, Clerk and Recorder

RESOLUTION REQUESTING AUTHORITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY
MINIMUM ALLOCATION GRANTS FOR WATER AND SEWER
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS-VALIER

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA
RESOLUTION #21 – 2022/23

RESOLUTION REQUESTING AUTHORITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY
MINIMUM ALLOCATION GRANTS FOR
WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS - VALIER

WHEREAS Section 4 of Chapter 401 of the Montana Session Laws of 2021 through House Bill 632 Section 4 allocated the amount of \$150 million of the coronavirus state fiscal recovery funds to be used to provide minimum allocation grants for water and sewer infrastructure projects eligible for funding under the American Rescue Plan;

WHEREAS the amount a local government is eligible to receive in water and sewer infrastructure grants under this section is in the same proportion and using the same ratios provided for in 15-70-101 (2)(b), (2)(c), and (3) giving County a minimum allocation of \$606,605;

WHEREAS, HB 632 Section 4 requires that a local government submit an application for a qualifying water or sewer infrastructure project that complies with the uses authorized for the coronavirus state and fiscal funds and pledge matching funds;

WHEREAS Montana's counties do not generally own or operate water and sewer infrastructure;

WHEREAS grant funds must be applied for and awarded or in a pending status by January 1, 2023;

December 2022

WHEREAS, because counties generally do not own water and sewer infrastructure, HB 632 Section 4 allocated grant funds for qualifying water or sewer infrastructure projects within the counties for which it was allocated, but that any local government eligible to receive minimum allocation funds under HB 632 Section 4 could apply for and pledge matching funds for the county's proportion.

WHEREAS, the Town of Valier is a local government as defined in HB 632 Section 4 and has committed to request the funds, if the county's allocation made eligible to them and the county has determined this to be a priority use of the allocated funds.

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Pondera County has determined that the proposed Project is eligible as a minimum allocation project and is a high priority within the county and By this resolution, Pondera County requests the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation allow, through its developed application and distribution processes, the Town of Valier \$210,000 of its share of the allocated Minimum Allocation funds for the town's wastewater system improvement.

Adopted this 14th day of December, 2022, as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Morren, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Dale J Seifert
Dale J Seifert, Chair

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

ATTEST:

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Member

/s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L Farkell, Clerk and Recorder

RESOLUTION REQUESTING AUTHORITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF
COUNTY MINIMUM ALLOCATION GRANTS FOR WATER AND SEWER
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS-CONRAD

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA
RESOLUTION #22 – 2022/23

RESOLUTION REQUESTING AUTHORITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTY
MINIMUM ALLOCATION GRANTS FOR
WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS - CONRAD

WHEREAS Section 4 of Chapter 401 of the Montana Session Laws of 2021 through House Bill 632 Section 4 allocated the amount of \$150 million of the coronavirus state fiscal recovery funds to be used to provide minimum allocation grants for water and sewer infrastructure projects eligible for funding under the American Rescue Plan;

WHEREAS the amount a local government is eligible to receive in water and sewer infrastructure grants under this section is in the same proportion and using the same ratios provided for in 15-70-101 (2)(b), (2)(c), and (3) giving County a minimum allocation of \$606,605;

WHEREAS, HB 632 Section 4 requires that a local government submit an application for a qualifying water or sewer infrastructure project that complies with the uses authorized for the coronavirus state and fiscal funds and pledge matching funds;

WHEREAS Montana's counties do not generally own or operate water and sewer infrastructure;

WHEREAS grant funds must be applied for and awarded or in a pending status by January 1, 2023;

December 2022

WHEREAS, because counties generally do not own water and sewer infrastructure, HB 632 Section 4 allocated grant funds for qualifying water or sewer infrastructure projects within the counties for which it was allocated, but that any local government eligible to receive minimum allocation funds under HB 632 Section 4 could apply for and pledge matching funds for the county's proportion.

WHEREAS, the City of Conrad is a local government as defined in HB 632 Section 4 and has committed to request the funds, if the county's allocation made eligible to them and the county has determined this to be a priority use of the allocated funds.

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Pondera County has determined that the proposed Project is eligible as a minimum allocation project and is a high priority within the county and;
By this resolution, Pondera County requests the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation allow, through its developed application and distribution processes, the City of Conrad \$406,605 of its share of the allocated Minimum Allocation funds for the town's wastewater system improvement.

Adopted this 14th day of December, 2022, as moved by Commissioner Morren, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Dale J Seifert
Dale J Seifert, Chair

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

ATTEST:

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Member

/s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L Farkell, Clerk and Recorder

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Morren moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to appoint Dr. Jay Taylor as Pondera County Health Officer for the Board of Health, and Nurse Practitioner Heather Johns as the alternate. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 21, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Dale Seifert, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch

BID FROM EV INSULATION

Commissioner Morren moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to accept EV Insulation bid to install insulation at the Road/Bridge shop in Dupuyer. The total of \$8327.60 will be paid out of the Road Capital Improvement. Motion carried.

TASK ORDER AMENDMENT WITH PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP) GRANT APPROVED

Commissioner Morren moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the amendment of the PHEP grant through the Montana Department of Health & Human Services. The amendment provides the extended date of the grant to June 30, 2023. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 28, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Dale Seifert, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch

MEMBERS APPOINTED TO GROWTH POLICY WORK COMMITTEE

Commission Kuka moved to appoint members to the County's Growth Policy Work Committee as follows: Becky Kujava, Brooke Wheeler, and Carol Green. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

UPDATE OF PERSONEL POLICY

Commissioner Kuka moved to add to the Personnel Policy addressing working remotely. Stating that working remotely will not be a standard practice for Pondera County, unless extenuating circumstances arise. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM MONTANA COUNTIES TO THE STATE

Commissioner Morren moved to approved a letter of support from Montana counties to the State legislature asking to increase Medicaid support for nursing homes in Montana during the 2023 legislative session as the reimbursement rate community facilities receive from the state that accept Medicaid patients lose more than \$100 per day under the state's current funding program. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

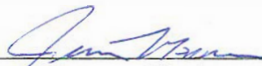
CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

Fund	Fund Description	
1000	GENERAL	27,134.96
2110	ROAD	280,915.31
2130	BRIDGE	29.35
2140	WEED	525.66
2150	PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL	5,875.50
2160	COUNTY FAIR	125.00
2170	AIRPORT	17,446.80
2220	LIBRARY	166,756.50
2230	AMBULANCE	207.13
2280	SENIOR CITIZENS	15,000.00
2290	EXTENSION SERVICE	6,361.59
2300	PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	28,984.87
2370	PERS	228.14
2371	HEALTH INSURANCE - EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION	92.38
2401	BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	327.83
2800	ALCOHOL REHABILITATION	5,669.00
2830	JUNK VEHICLE	75.48
2850	911 EMERGENCY	10,962.96
2851	E-911 & GPS/GIS PROJECT GRANT	3,217.50
2860	LAND USE PLANNING	15,287.25
2866	NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL	297.13
2958	EP (DES) GRANTS	278.60
2961	PERFORMANCE MTG GRANT	290.00
2963	ORAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT	425.00
2971	WIC GRANT	73.78
2972	NCAAA GRANT	323.85
2973	MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	11.85
2978	CHRONIC DISEASE GRANT	511.85
2996	LATCF	35,395.92
4009	PUBLIC SAFETY CAPITAL IMP	38,866.17
7920	REFUND FUND	21,040.80
TOTAL CLAIMS		682,738.16
TOTAL PAYROLL		\$ 295,369.27
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS		\$ 978,107.43

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on December 30, 2022

Pondera County, Montana.


Jim Morren, Chairman

ATTEST:


Kody L Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

