

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA
Held in May 2024

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2024.

MAY 1, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Road/Bridge Superintendent Frosty DeBoo, Public – Angela Otero, Paul Anderberg

CONTRACT WITH CIRCLE B SAW & TREE

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded the approval of a contract with Circle B Saw & Tree to trim trees at the Pondera County Courthouse, at the total of \$9,900.00. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500 APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the purchase of a 2025 Midland Gravel Trailer for the Road and Bridge Department, for the amount of \$64,431.25. Funds will be used from the Road/Bridge Capital Improvement fund. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ON AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA
RESOLUTION #37 – 2023/24

AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006, 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 meeting; and

WHEREAS the Montana Department of Transportation has notified Pondera County of an amended contract for Bridge Rapid Repair projects, with grant revenues of \$49,000. The grant will incur expenditures for said purpose not to exceed such funds to be paid from the revenue received; and

WHEREAS the Pondera County Commissioners conducted a hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on May 13, 2024 and there were no objections; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the budget for Fund 2131, be amended to show the receipt and expenditures, as follows:

Revenues Amount	Description	Prior Amount	New
2131-330443	Bridge Rapid Repair	\$0	\$49,000
Expenditures Amount	Description	Prior Amount	New
2131-303-430243-354	Engineering Services	\$0	\$49,000

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024, as moved by Commissioner Drishinski, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

PONDERA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Chairman

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

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

/s/ Zane Drishinski
Zane Drishinski, Member

CAMERA SYSTEM HARDWARE CONTRACT

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the purchase of 2 camera systems from DIS Technologies. One system will be set-up in the Commissioner's office and the other will be set-up in the Election Office. For the amount of \$10,500.00. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500 APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the purchase of bit cutting blades for the Road and Bridge Department, for the amount of \$5,300.00. Funds will be used from the Road/Bridge Capital Improvement fund. Motion carried.

DATE, TIME, AND PLACE SET FOR COUNTY COMPENSATION BOARD

Commissioner Drishinski moved to set the County Compensation Board meeting for Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Office. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR SHORT TERM POST CERTIFIED DEPUTY SHERIFF

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded the approval of the job description for a short term Post Certified Deputy Sheriff. Motion carried.

MAY 8, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Undersheriff Bob Bender, Public – Paul Anderberg

Commissioner Kuka and Commissioner Drishinski toured roads with Road/Bridge Superintendent Frosty DeBoo, on May 7, 2024, for possible travel routes for Calumet/Montana Renewables, for the waste water disposal by Valier.

TASK ORDER - PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP) GRANT APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the PHEP grant through the Montana Department of Health & Human Services. The grant provides funding of \$29,910.00 for the year July 1, 2024 through June, 30, 2025. Motion carried.

MAY 15, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Rob Cook – Port Authority, Public – Noah Jackson, Aaron Kensinger – Stahly Engineering, Robie Culver – Stahly Engineering, Tiffany Christensen – Growth Policy Committee, Becky Kujava – Growth Policy Committee, Gale Gustafson

PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED ON THE GROWTH POLICY

The notice of the hearing was published in The Independent-Observer and The Valerian in the May 1 and 8, 2024 issues.

Commissioner Morren called the hearing to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Pondera County Courthouse. Morren stated the intent of the hearing is to hear public input on the Pondera County Growth Policy. There was public comment but no written comments. The comments were about the final draft and the changes that needed to be made. Setting goals and objections, why there might be a loss of agriculture land, adding the bibliography.

The hearing was closed at 10:55 a.m.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 PONDERA COUNTY GROWTH POLICY

PONDERA COUNTY
RESOLUTION #38 – 2023/24

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 PONDERA COUNTY GROWTH POLICY

WHEREAS, the Pondera County Planning Board has prepared a Growth Policy for the County; and

WHEREAS, the Pondera County Planning Board did conduct public hearings of the Growth Policy on April 13, 2023 and May 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, comments received were considered by the Pondera County Planning Board and addressed in the final version of the document; and

WHEREAS, after considering the discussion from the public hearings, the Pondera County Planning Board recommended the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County, Montana to adopt the Pondera County Growth Policy and to pursue the goals, objectives, and policies therein.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County, Montana to pass a Resolution to adopt the Pondera County Growth Policy, and to pursue the goals, objectives, and policies therein.

ADOPTED this 24th day of May, 2024 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Drishinski, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Chairman

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

Attest: /s/ Kody L. Farkell
Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

/s/ Zane Drishinski
Zane Drishinski, Member

ELECTION JUDGE APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACES

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to appoint the following as election judges for the June 4, 2024 Federal Primary Election:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Michelle Holland | Jennifer Styren |
| Donna Minarik | Alice Garman |
| Becky Haworth | Kim Hofstad |
| Sheron Curry | Terry Aakre |
| Ron Widhalm | Diana Agre |
| Diana Felton | Tami Haynes |
| Mary Jean Brophy | Mourine Grubb |
| Cody Seccomb | Bonnie Hjelm |
| Clint Rouns | Monica Taylor |
| Angela Brown | Kisha Cook |
| Brenda Cook | Lindsey Weaselhead |
| Bev Widhalm | Carol Johns |
| Ali Broesder | Terri Peters |

And to designate the following polling places for the 2024 Federal Primary Election:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Brady Community Hall | 12:00pm – 8:00pm |
| Pondera Center (Conrad) | 7:00am-8:00pm |
| Valier Civic Center | 12:00pm-8:00pm |
| Heart Butte High School | 7:00am-8:00pm |

GRANT AGREEMENT FOR MONTANA FOR CRISIS NOW PLANNING-APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the Montana for Crisis Now Planning Contract with the Montana Healthcare Foundation in the amount of \$75,000 for May 15, 2024 through May 14, 2027. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION DECLARING PROPERTY SURPLUS AND SETTING SALE
PONDERA COUNTY
RESOLUTION #39 – 2023/24

DECLARING PROPERTY SURPLUS AND SETTING SALE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-8-2211, MCA, Authorization to sell and exchange county property, the Board of Pondera County Commissioners declares the following personal property belonging to the County as surplus property which is not necessary to the conduct of county business or the preservation of its property:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Konica Minolta BizHub Copier | 20 Bookshelves |
| 1970's Ford Tractor | Sickel Bar Mower |
| Concrete Fuel Tank | |

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have determined it is in the best interests of the County to sell the items through Public Surplus Auction.

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

- 1) hereby declares the property listed above as surplus property which is not necessary to the conduct of county business or the preservation of its property,
- 2) agrees to sell the listed items through Public Surplus Auction

ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2024 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Drishinski, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Chairman

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

Attest: /s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

/s/ Zane Drishinski
Zane Drishinski, Member

COUNTY ASSISTANCE TO CASA

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded the approval of donating \$2,500 to CASA for the fiscal year of 2024-2025. Motion carried.

MAY 22, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Road/Bridge Superintendent Frosty DeBoo, Public – Tiffany Christensen, Cathy Brandvold, Paul Anderberg

Public Comment –

Valier and Conrad Library representatives were present to update the Commissioners on the mediation before the upcoming 2026 Library Levy.

TASK ORDER CONTRACT FOR STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE GRANT-APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the fiscal year 2024 Strengthening Public Health Workforce task order contract with the Montana

Department of Health & Human Services in the amount of \$40,000 for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Motion carried.

TASK ORDER CONTRACT FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT GRANT-APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the Community Health Assessment task order contract with the Montana Department of Health & Human Services in the amount of \$10,000 for April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025. Motion carried.

APRIL COMMISSION MINUTES APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the April 2024 Minutes of the Commission. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500 APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the purchase of an 2009 Kenworth T800 from Bouma Truck Sales for the Road and Bridge Department amount of \$49,995.00. Funds will be used from the Capital Improvement fund. Motion carried.

MAY 29, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Jim Morren, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Sheriff Robert Skorupa, Public – Paul Anderberg

CONTRACT WITH RELIANCE SYSTEMS

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the contract with Reliance Systems for an Inmate SMS & Phone Location Agreement. The inmates will be charged \$.21 per minute, and in return, the County will receive 35% of that charge. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500 APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the purchase of three DS300 Pull Place Scanner & Tabulator for the Election Office in the amount of \$22,210.00. Including an Annual Post-Warranty Hardware Maintenance & Support fee of \$810.00. Motion carried.

CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

<u>FUND</u>		
Fund	Fund Description	
1000	GENERAL	45,442.23
2110	ROAD	21,723.53
2130	BRIDGE	902.52
2131	MDT BRIDGE RAPID REPAIR	2,697.00
2140	WEED	1,007.78
2170	AIRPORT	640.66
2230	AMBULANCE	229.88
2290	EXTENSION SERVICE	9,638.17
2300	PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	7,328.86
2401	BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	309.94
2830	JUNK VEHICLE	12.89
2850	911 EMERGENCY	825.96
2862	PONDERA CO GROWTH POLICY	1,181.50
2866	NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL	2,854.34
2958	EP (DES) GRANTS	612.19
2963	ORAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT	478.23

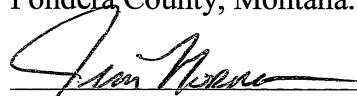
2964	ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH	682.14
2971	WIC GRANT	255.50
2973	MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	192.89
2976	IMMUNIZATION ACTION GRANT	215.14
2978	CHRONIC DISEASE GRANT	500.86
4012	GENERAL FUND CAPITAL IMP	3873.49
4013	ROAD/BRIDGE EQUIP PURCHSE	109,426.25
4016	HOSPITAL CAPITAL IMPROV	197,834.85
7920	REFUND FUND	67.51

TOTAL CLAIMS	408,934.31
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$ 296,703.89
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS	\$ 705,638.20

ADJOURNMENT

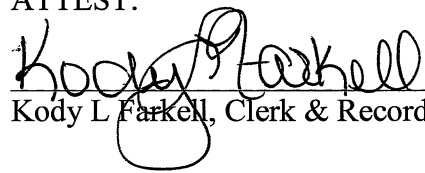
The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2024

Pondera County, Montana.



Jim Morren, Chairman

ATTEST:



Kody L Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

