

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA  
Held in December, 2014**

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on December 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2014. Unless indicated, all Commissioners were present.

SWEETGRASS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE – December 3, 2014

Sarah Converse was in attendance to give a report on Sweetgrass Development’s recent events. With the Legislative Session starting next month, they are meeting with other organizations regarding economic development issues that will be brought up during the Legislative Session. Sarah has been also been working on a Brownsfield Assessment Grant. The next meeting for Sweetgrass Development is scheduled for March 2015. Commissioner Kuka was Absent.

Also attending: Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent Observer.

SECTION 125 PLAN (FLEX PLAN) CONTRACT MODIFICATION APPROVED – December 3, 2014

New IRS Rules allow Section 125 Flexible Spending Account holders to carry over up to \$500 of unused health FSA amounts remaining at the end of a Plan Year to reimburse medical expenses incurred during the following Plan Year. The modification has an effective date of the first day of the current Plan Year (July 1, 2014).

Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve the Section 125 plan contract allowing a carryover of up to \$500 of unused money. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kuka was Absent.

Also attending: Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent Observer.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET – ADOPTED – December 3, 2014

**PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA  
RESOLUTION #14 - 2014/15  
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 errors 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:

Expenditure	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
2235-402-440210-946	Medical Equipment (Intercap Loan \$ available)	\$65,471	\$312,820

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2014 as moved by Commissioner Hoppes, seconded by Commissioner Broesder, and passed on a 2-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

PONDERA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Sandra J Broesder  
Sandra J. Broesder, Chairman

/s/ Janice Hoppes  
Janice Hoppes, Member

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

Absent  
Thomas A. Kuka, Member

**ELEVENTH DRAWDOWN FOR BRADY COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT  
CDBG APPROVED** – December 3, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve the Drawdown #11 on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) #MT-CDBG-11PF-07 for the Brady County Water & Sewer District in the amount of \$25,791.05. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kuka was Absent.

Also attending: Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent Observer.

**OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER MINUTES APPROVED** - December 10, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the Commission Minutes for October and November, 2014. Motion carried. Also attending: Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

**ADDENDUM TO LEASE WITH PONDERA MEDICAL CENTER APPROVED** – December 10, 2014

Annually, the Pondera Medical Center and Pondera County participate in a State of Montana Intergovernmental Transfer program for “at risk” nursing homes whereby PMC receives a payment to compensate for Medicaid reimbursement lower than actual cost for services. The program requires matching funds. An Addendum to the Lease Agreement with Pondera Medical Center was needed to designate the matching money for the Intergovernmental Transfer as rent to the County. The County Attorney has reviewed the document. Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the Addendum. Motion carried.

Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

**DECISION TO REMAIN IN AREA III AGENCY ON AGING** – December 10, 2014

The Commissioners received a letter from the Department of Public Health and Human Services, Senior and Long Term Care Division, advising that the County could remaining in the planning and service area served by Area III Agency on Aging (offices located in Conrad) or request to be moved to a different area. Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to remain in Area III. Motion carried.

Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

**PORT AUTHORITY LOAN REQUEST APPROVED** – December 10, 2014

The County has budgeted the Blue Sky Villa payment in lieu of taxes for economic development. A letter was received from the Pondera Regional Port Authority requesting a loan of those economic development funds for use in its operations and revolving loan fund. Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the loan request of Pondera Regional Port Authority in the amount of \$14,962.50. Motion carried. The Commissioners will request the County Attorney prepare the loan agreement for signatures.

Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

**MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF PONDERA COUNTY CANAL AND  
RESERVOIR COMPANY** – December 10, 2014

Bob Sill, Jerry Johns and Gerald Miller, all representing the Pondera County Canal and Reservoir Company, met with the commissioners regarding the Company’s request that the Commissioners enter into an Acknowledgement Of Boundary Of Lake Frances Reservoir. The PCCRC anticipates a district court action to quiet title to the property described and depicted on Certificate of Survey filed as Document No. 318160 and the Addendum to the Certificate of Survey, filed as Document No. 320531, in the records of Pondera County, Montana. PCCRC maintains the certificate of survey is a redrawing of the original boundaries of Lake Frances. Pondera County owns land adjacent to the property described in the survey. The PCCRC is requesting all the adjacent landowners to execute acknowledgement documents to expedite the process. The Commissioners will take this matter under advisement.

Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

APPROVAL FOR ADVERTISING EXTENSION AGENT POSITION – December 17, 2014

Pondera County Agricultural Extension Agent Erik Seilstad submitted his resignation effective January 2, 2015.

Commissioner Hoppes moved to accept the Extension Agent job announcement written by MSU Extension Service and give written approval to advertise the job announcement. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – IT SERVICES-REVIEWED – December 24, 2014

Four proposals were submitted for IT Services for the County:

1. *DIS Technologies* - \$1,395 per month, which includes the 9-1-1 Dispatch System. DIS currently maintains the 9-1-1 system.
2. *First Call* – Basic \$740 per month, \$1,400 basic service plus support
3. *Jathco* - \$840 for the first six hours each month plus \$70 per hour each additional hour
4. *Morrison-Maierle* - \$1,976 per month

Commissioner Kuka moved to take the proposals under advisement until proposals can be reviewed in detail. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

FAA NON-FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED – December 24, 2014

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve a FAA Non-Federal Reimbursement Agreement for a flight inspection in the amount of \$8,808.60, to be paid by the County. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

SWIMLEY LAW LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT APPROVED – December 24, 2014

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve a contract with Swingley Law for legal services, pending County Attorney approval. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

9-1-1 GENERATOR AT BELGIAN HILL QUOTES APPROVED – December 24, 2014

Two quotes were received for a generator for the 9-1-1 system at the Belgian Hill tower site. EC Power and TW Enterprises each submitted a quote for \$15,900 and \$15,901 respectively. TW Enterprises quoted a larger generator, however.

Commissioner Kuka moved to purchase a generator from TW Enterprises, due to the larger size. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

IMMUNIZATION ACTION PROGRAM (IAP) TASK ORDER CONTRACT APPROVED – December 24, 2014

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the IAP Task Order Contract with the MT Department of Public Health and Human Services for January 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015. Total amount of the contract is \$4,863. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

Also attending Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer

CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT – December 31, 2014

FUND	DEC
GENERAL	\$ 42,966.23
ROAD	14,802.16
BRIDGE	10,347.65
WEED	412.99
COUNTY FAIR	
PREDATORY ANIMAL	5,930.50
AIRPORT	1,084.32
AMBULANCE	194.23
COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE	

COUNTY HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME	
SENIOR CITIZENS	12,000.00
DEBT SERVICES HOSPITAL 95	
LIBRARY	117,250.00
EXTENSION SERVICE	4,938.12
PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	8,268.85
HEALTH INSURANCE - EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION	225.00
RECORDS PRESERVATION	
BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	337.84
NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL	214.87
DUI PREVENTION	15.99
GAS APPORTIONMENT TAX	
EMERGENCY DISASTER	
911 EMERGENCY	1,611.36
PUBLIC SAFETY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	2,295.12
LAND USE PLANNING	426.75
STATE ALLOCATED FEDERAL MINERAL	
BUCKLE UP MT	150.36
VICTIM & WITNESS ADVOCATE	
DRUG FORFEITURE	
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT	602.98
PERFORMANCE MGT GRANT	121.32
BREAST & CERVICAL SCREENING	157.55
WIC GRANT	183.83
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	29.71
IMMUNIZATION ACTION PROGRAM	79.00
TOBACCO USE PREVENTION GRANT	340.84
NAPA GRANT	25.33
HEALTHY CHILD (LEAD POISONING) GRANT	
IMMUNIZATION BILLING GRANT	
JUNK VEHICLE GRANT	42.49
NOXIOUS WEED GRANTS	
MCC GRANT - PURCHASE TASERS	
ROAD/BRIDGE EQUIP PURCHASE	3,040.85
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	
PAYROLL FUND	
REFUND FUND	15,354.96
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TOTAL CLAIMS	\$ 243,451.20
TOTAL PAYROLL	231,440.90
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TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS	\$ 474,892.10
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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on December 31, 2014. Pondera County, Montana.

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Sandra J Broesder, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kody Farkell, Clerk & Recorder