

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

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on November 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2014. Unless indicated, all Commissioners were present.

MEETING WITH DUPUYER COMMUNITY CITIZENS – November 5, 2014

Rita Christiaens met with the commissioners regarding the status of the court action to get the debris cleaned up on the property owned by Peggy Utsler that was destroyed by fire last December. She was told it was not yet on the Judge’s calendar even though the necessary paperwork had been filed. She was advised that we are not aware of the Judge’s schedule and that commissioners would follow-up with the County Attorney. Rita also expressed interest in sitting on the committee to consider the adoption of an ordinance for rural community debris.

Ron Jones met with the commissioners regarding the Utsler property court action along with Rita Christiaens. He also volunteered to serve on the committee to consider the adoption of an ordinance for rural community debris.

Ron Jones also discussed his desire to have the Dupuyer Cemetery Road maintenance extended approximately one-quarter mile inside the gate. It is Ron’s understanding from the meetings several years ago regarding road maintenance that the county was going to maintain the addition quarter mile he is referring to in exchange for the county’s use of his approach to turn the maintainer around. Commissioner Broesder remembers the discussion but her recollection is that the County would maintain the road to the gate, not beyond. Further study will need to be done to determine the process of Jones’ formally requesting the maintenance of the additional quarter mile. In addition, County policy is to not maintain any gated roads, even if the gate is open. Jones would entertain installation of a cattle guard in place of the gate. The commissioners will look into Jones’ requests and will visit with the Road Department Supervisor.

Also attending: Joyce Jones and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer

PURCHASE OF TWO PICKUPS FOR ROAD/BRIDGE DEPARTMENTS APPROVED

– November 5, 2014

Requests for proposals were solicited for the purchase of two pickups for the Road/Bridge Department. Proposals received were:

Courtesy Ford	2015 F-Series	\$27,900.00 each
Van Motors	2015 Chevrolet Silverado	\$31,278.40 each

Commissioner Hoppes moved to purchase two (2) pickups from Courtesy Ford.

Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

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

RESOLUTION #12 – AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET – ADOPTED – November 5, 2014

**PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA**

**RESOLUTION #12 - 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:

Revenue	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
2235-381070	Loan Proceeds	\$0	\$106,130
7160-335095	District Court Reimb.	\$0	\$3,600

Adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 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

APPROVAL OF AIRPORT RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL - November 5, 2014  
Chris Sullivan of Sullivan Brothers Construction contacted the commissioners with a proposal to again clear the runway of snow and ice at the Conrad Airport for this winter. It is an "as needed per FAA requirements" agreement as it has been in the past. Commissioner Hoppes moved to enter into the agreement with Sullivan Brothers Construction. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.

ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED – October 29, 2014  
Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve an Encroachment Agreement requested by Pondera Colony for placement of a sprinkler main line on the Valier-Dupuyer Road. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
Also attending was Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent Observer.

DESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER AS VOTING DELEGATE FOR NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL – November 12, 2014  
Commissioner Hoppes moved to designate Hoppes as Pondera County's voting delegate for the Northern Transit Interlocal Board with Commissioners Broesder as alternate. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
Also attending was Cheryl Curry, Pondera Regional Port Authority and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

YEARLY COMMITMENT FOR NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL'S COORDINATION PLAN – November 12, 2014  
Commissioner Hoppes moved to commit \$5,000 for the FY 2014-15 year to support Northern Transit Interlocal's Coordination Plan. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
Also attending was Cheryl Curry, Pondera Regional Port Authority and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED – November 12, 2014  
Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve an Encroachment Agreement requested by Gary Arnst for placement of a new drain tile on Blair Mine Road. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
Also attending was Cheryl Curry, Pondera Regional Port Authority and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN (WIC) CONTRACT APPROVED – November 12, 2014  
Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve the WIC Contract with Teton County Health Department for October 2014 – September 2015. Total amount of the contract is \$21,689.50. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
Also attending was Cheryl Curry, Pondera Regional Port Authority and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

PONDERA REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITY REPORT – November 12, 2014  
Coordinator Cheryl Curry reported that the Safe Routes To School project is just wrapping up. The new Neighborhood Stabilization Program house is scheduled to be completed by January 1. Information about the selection process for eligible buyers has been distributed to the local realtors. The Port Authority is planning a 2-day Profit Mastery seminar in January for area business owners. Cynthia Johnson has been hired to

job-share with Cheryl Curry. Cheryl will continue to work on her current projects and phase out over an extended period of time.  
 Also attending was Cheryl Curry, Pondera Regional Port Authority and Buck Traxler, Editor of The Independent-Observer.

TAX ABATEMENTS APPROVED: November 19, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve tax abatements/cancellation #977.

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>CANCEL</u>	<u>ADD</u>	<u>PARCEL #</u>
977	City of Valier fees were billed in error	1527.90		485000

Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer

RESIGNATION OF SHERIFF & SHERIFF DEPUTY ACCEPTED – November 19, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Broesder seconded to accept the resignations of Sheriff Tom Kuka and Deputy Sheriff Carl Suta, effective at midnight, November 25. Motion carried.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

APPOINTMENT OF THOMAS A KUKA AS COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND CARL SUTA AS COUNTY SHERIFF/CORONER – November 19, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved to appoint Thomas A. Kuka, Commissioner-elect, to complete the unexpired term of Joseph Christiaens and to appoint Carl Suta, Sheriff/Coroner-elect, to complete the unexpired term of Thomas A Kuka. Both will take effect at 12:01 a.m., November 26. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

RURAL FIRE DISTRICT REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR BRADY FIRE HALL – November 19, 2014

Keith Hruska, representing the Pondera County Rural Fire District, met with the commissioners regarding the expense to retrofit the water lines in the Brady Fire Hall. The building is owned by Pondera County and is used for the fire hall in Brady. Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve payment of the cost to upgrade and retro fit the water lines to the fire hall building at an approximate cost of \$3,995. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

STATUS OF COURT HEARING ON DEBRIS CLEAN UP IN DUPUYER – November 19, 2014

Rita Christiaens was in to check on the status of debris cleanup in Dupuyer. A hearing has been set in District Court for December 15 at 10:00 regarding the default of the owner of the property to clean the debris from the fire last December.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (FMLA) REQUEST APPROVED – November 19, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve a FMLA request from Pam Converse. Commissioner Broesder seconded. Motion carried.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

STATUS UPDATE ON CTEP FUNDS PROJECT – CONRAD DEPOT SOCIETY - November 26, 2014

Roger Keith presented a letter to the commissioners from the Conrad Depot Society regarding the intended use of the Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP) money awarded to the County for use at the Railroad Transportation Museum. The group intends to replace and/or repair the leaking depot roof at an approximate cost of \$36,000. The CTEP grant is in the amount of \$10,000 which will be applied to that cost.  
 Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

FAA NON-FEDERAL REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENT ACCEPTED – November 26, 2014

Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to accept an agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Pondera County for the FAA to provide a commissioning flight inspection of the Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) at the Conrad Airport at a cost of \$8,808.60. Motion carried.

The flight inspection is required in order for the Conrad Airport to remain eligible for FAA funding programs.

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

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVES TO BOARDS – November 26, 2014

The Commissioner representative assignments to County and Regional boards were made as follows:

**County Boards**

Kuka	Airport Weed Pondera County Community Service Park
Broesder	Health Pondera Regional Port Authority Park
Hoppes	Pondera Medical Center Pondera County Council On Aging Park

**Regional and State Boards**

Kuka	Northcentral Regional Detention Center Center For Mental Health
Broesder	Bureau of Land Management Cooperating Agency Northern Montana Joint Refuse Disposal District Sweetgrass Development Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Energy Committee Montana Association of County Road Supervisors (MACRS) Board of Directors National Association of Counties (NACo) Energy, Environment & Land Use Steering Committee
Hoppes	Opportunities Inc Northern Montana Transit Authority North Central Area Agency on Aging Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Health and Human Services Committee

Commissioner Hoppes moved to approve the commissioner representative to boards as named above through December 2014. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried. Also attending: Buck Traxler, Editor of the Independent-Observer.

COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD APPOINTMENT – November 26, 2014

Dan Rouns submitted a letter of interest to the Commissioners for appointment to the County Airport Board. Commissioner Hoppes moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to appoint Dan Rouns to the County Airport Board to fill the vacant position (through December 2014). Motion carried.

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENT – ADOPTED – November 26, 2014

**PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA**  
RESOLUTION #13 - 2014/15

**November 2014**



GAS APPORTIONMENT TAX		0.00
NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL		270.01
STATE ALLOCATED FEDERAL MINERAL		0.00
VICTIM & WITNESS ADVOCATE		0.00
NEIGHBORHOOD STABIL. GRANT		0.00
DUI PREVENTION		0.00
BUCKLE UP MT		907.50
NOXIOUS WEED GRANT		0.00
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT		770.96
PERFORMANCE MGT GRANT		210.00
HEALTHY CHILD (LEAD POISONING) GRANT		0.00
BREAST & CERVICAL SCREENING		702.50
IMMUNIZATION BILLING GRANT		0.00
WIC GRANT		275.49
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH		22.66
IMMUNIZATION ACTION PROGRAM		259.85
TOBACCO USE PREVENTION GRANT		296.89
NAPA GRANT		266.47
JUNK VEHICLE GRANT		0.00
HOSPITAL DEBT SERVICE 95		0.00
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL IMPROV		0.00
ROAD/BRIDGE EQUIP PURCHASE		78,070.00
PUBLIC SAFETY CAP IMPROV		0.00
REFUND FUND		8,625.32
PAYROLL FUND		0.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	\$	342,898.36
TOTAL PAYROLL		<u>217,135.95</u>
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS		<u><u>560,034.31</u></u>

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on November 28, 2014. Pondera County, Montana.

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Sandra J Broesder, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kody Farkell, Clerk & Recorder