

**December 3, 2024**

**The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in a regular session in the Commission Office of the Granite County Courthouse with Commissioner McLure and Commissioner Adler attending. Also attending was Clerk Brandi Galiher, and Granite County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw, who attended a portion of the agenda items in-person. The session was livestreamed through the Zoom internet-based program available for the public to view the session and provide public comment. The public was also allowed to attend in person and provide comment. The session convened with the pledge of allegiance.**

**Also, in attendance were members of the general public Elena Gagliano, who attended via Zoom.**

**BOARD MINUTES; Commissioner Adler moved to accept the board minutes for November 26th, 2024. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There were no public comments received. The motion passed unanimously.**

**CORRESPONDENCE;**

**Mail was received from Caterpillar in regards to the protection plan expiring November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commissioner Adler read it and spoke with Paul Alt. Paul Alt will talk with the salesman in regards to options. Commissioner McLure asked that this be put on next week's agenda.**

**Electronic mail was received from numerous customers of Commercial Roof Consulting & Inspections with letters of recommendation for the company. Brief discussion on this letter of support. This does not need to be on a further agenda.**

**Electronic mail was received from the MT DEQ with a public notice for the General Permit for Sand and Gravel Operations that discharge to state surface waters. Commissioner Adler questioned if this needs to be on our agenda to discuss bids. Commissioner McLure advised it is an acknowledgement that it is a statewide permit.**

**Mail was received from Citizens Alliance Bank for the Granite Justice Court Disbursement detail for November with a total of \$5, 335.**

**Mail was received from Montana Forest Consultants introducing the Forestry Financial Assistance Program (FFAP). This offers project financing and grant funding for forestry projects in Montana.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was received.**

**ROAD & BRIDGE WEEKLY REPORT; & SOLID WASTE UPDATE WITH ROAD & BRIDGE SUPERINTENDENT PAUL ALT; Granite County Road & Bridge Superintendent Paul Alt was excused from the meeting as he was handling an important equipment matter. Commissioner Adler stated that there was a call regarding icy spots up Henderson Creek. Commissioner Adler stated that the crew has been doing a good job. Paul is looking to rent a skid-steer while the county's is broken down. The skid-steer is still under**

warranty. Paul Alt called-in during the meeting and updated Commissioner Adler stating they did get a skid-steer to use for free in the meantime. Commissioner McLure asked if there is a bridge update but Commissioner Adler did not think so. Commissioner Adler suggested we check in with Great West in order to decide what needs to be done. Commissioner Adler stated that Solid Waste seems to be doing well. No updates. Commissioner Adler stated that all trucks should be good to go when the snow flies. Commissioner Adler also mentioned there was discussion about shutting a gate up Bear Gulch but it has been ruined again. He suggested possibly a “Drive at Your Own Risk” sign.

County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw made the Commission aware an issue that may need on a further agenda. There is a statute in which a separate financial trustee (appointed by District Court via application from the County) is required for certain cemetery district finances in addition to the District Board. This would require creating separate trustee with the funds held in trust. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated that the county commission could be a good choice for this. He has researched the issue, but a financial trustee has not been set up in the past and will need to be discussed on a further agenda (between Commission and Cemetery District Boards) in January for discussion.

**GEORGETOWN LAKE OUTFLOW; DAM TENDER’S REPORT;** The lake level was reported at 6428.18 feet; 15.84 inches below full pool, according to the USGS lake level gage and the dam tender’s report for the week. Commissioner Adler moved to continue releasing 6 CFS which matches the estimated inflows; in alignment with the current FERC Order in place. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There were no public comments and the motion passed unanimously.

**NUISANCE DOG ORDINANCE RENEWAL;** County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw says it has been good having this ordinance, it is one more tool in the toolbox for the Sheriff’s Office. Commissioner Adler stated that he is unsure about the ordinance and is not for it. Commissioner Adler has concern on its benefits in regards to costs of enforcement. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated that it does help the Sheriff’s Office in certain cases. Commissioner McLure stated that there was only one county-wide nuisance dog incident and the others seem to be within town limits of Philipsburg and Drummond. Commissioner McLure stated that she agrees with Commissioner Adler and questions the benefit of the ordinance. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw explained that depending on the scenario it could be more beneficial that citing with Disorderly Conduct, under the state criminal code. Commissioner Adler moved to let the existing ordinance sunset. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated Ordinance 2023-1 terminates at the end of the current year if not renewed so the motion is sufficient to let the ordinance (Granite County Ordinance 2023-1) sunset. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw will let the sheriff know.

Public comment was received by Elena Gagliano and questioned if it is being renewed or not. There was a delay with the conversation due to some technical difficulties hearing one another. Commissioner McLure advised Elena Gagliano that a motion was made to sunset the ordinance. She questioned the resolution number and stated that it did not look right.

County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw clarified that if passed, the proposed ordinance would be Granite County Ordinance 2024-1 and reiterated that this is an ordinance and not a resolution. There were no further public comments received. The motion passed unanimously.

**SECOND AMENDED BYLAWS OF THE GRANITE COUNTY DUI TASKFORCE;** Commissioner McLure had a question about the last paragraph on the last page with a wrong date noted. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated there must have been a typo and the date will be corrected. Commissioner McLure questioned what was being amended and County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw advised that it is that the quarterly meetings will now be on Wednesday instead of Tuesday. Commissioner Adler motioned on this with the correction being made. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There were no public comments received. The motion passed unanimously.

County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw noted to the Commission that in regards to the lease agreement with Edwards Tract A Marina, as they have a new president, so Blaine Bradshaw will make a correction to the recently amended lease. This will be added to the agenda for next Tuesday for discussion and decision.

**GRANITE COUNTY RESOLUTION 2024-17 AMENDING COUNTY BUDGET TO USE CARES ACT FUNDING TO FUND STUDY COMMISSION BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025;** Commissioner McLure stated that the budget is being amended because it was not certified to put \$12,000 in the study commission fund taken out of CARES Act. It was inadvertently missed on the certification of the budget. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated that there is language in the draft resolution stating that any unused money goes into the general fund, and this is consistent with state statute.

**LETTER TO THE STATE TO LOWER SPEED LIMIT NEAR BEARMOUTH ON I-90;** Commissioner Adler stated that he thinks this should be postponed for now, as more information should be obtained to move forward. Commissioner McLure asked County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw if a letter needs to be written in regards to this issue. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw stated that a letter could be written to have a speed study done. He also suggested that it could be encouraged a letter to request more sanding be done in the canyon (I-90) west of Drummond. Commissioner Adler agreed with that and inquired what it would take to move forward. Commissioner McLure questioned if it is worth writing a letter and who would write it. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw advised that sending a written letter would be advisable so there is a record of the request and he was willing to draft the letter for the Commission to sign and send. Commissioner Adler expressed that he wants to move forward with getting a draft letter written up. Commissioner McLure advised to put this on the agenda next week to review the draft letter and decide upon it by motion. This will be tabled until next week for further discussion and decision.

The Session Adjourned at 10:30 A.M.