

May 27, 2025

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 Adler, Commissioner McLure, and Commissioner Kulaski. Also attending were Commissioners Assistant Maranda Williams and Granite County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw, who attended a portion of the agenda items in person. The session was live-streamed 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 County Treasurer Ashley Todd and members of the general public, Elena Gagliano.

Commissioner Adler requested that microphones and videos be enabled for Zoom attendees who wish to speak during the meeting.

BOARD MINUTES: Commissioner McLure moved to accept the board minutes for May 20, 2025. Commissioner Kulaski seconded the motion. No public comment was received, and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE;

Electronic Mail was received from Brad Liermann regarding the outflows at Georgetown Lake and encouraging lesser outflows to make sure the reservoir fills this year.

Electronic mail was received from Ben Grass with an update on the permitting for the Pintler Classic 2025 Bike Race, an annual road bike race, and also asking if the County could grade and compact Rock Creek Road prior to the race on July 12, 2025.

Electronic mail was received from Laura Haacke with notification of a Free cybersecurity clinic scheduled for June 11, 2025 in Philipsburg, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is already being advertised on social media by local entities.

Electronic mail was received from Lee Tangedahl regarding Lakeshore Drive and the collaborative efforts of the Forest Service and Granite County, as well as Georgetown Lake Levels.

Electronic Mail was received from the Montana Department of Transportation, notifying that Crews will be installing cattle guards on I-90 on- and off-ramps starting the week of June 2nd.

Electronic mail was received from Rick McGill regarding East Fork Road Maintenance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Adler said people have called about mag chloride, for their roads, they'd have to call in and pay prior to getting the work done. In the past, people did not pay.

ROAD & BRIDGE WEEKLY REPORT & SOLID WASTE UPDATE WITH ROAD & BRIDGE SUPERINTENDENT PAUL ALT; Granite County Road & Bridge Superintendent Paul Alt was excused from this meeting. Commissioner Adler said he had to go be present with utility's going in on Dunkelberg Road. Bear Gulch has had mag chloride applied. Commissioner McLure asked if Paul has a schedule where he blades etc. They had 2 belly dumps and grader.

SOLID WASTE: Commissioner Adler stated that the Philipsburg Dump is closed today, and there is no longer a fill-in available for this location.

BLACKFOOT COMMUNICATIONS WEED SPRAYING AND SEEDING IN CERTAIN COUNTY RIGHTS OF WAY AND PAYMENT UPDATE; This agenda item is tabled for another agenda when Blackfoot representatives can join the commissioners.

GEORGETOWN LAKE OUTFLOW; DAM TENDER'S REPORT; Peter Brown of FWP joined the commissioners via Zoom. Paul Tallon, Flint Creek Hydro LLC's Operator, joined the commissioners for this portion of the meeting. According to the USGS lake level gauge and the dam tender's report for the week, the lake level was reported at 6429.09 feet, 4.92 inches below full pool. Commissioner Kulaski moved to reduce the flow to 35 CFS for a week, subject to agency approval, which aligns with the estimated inflows and the current FERC Order in place. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. Peter Brown from MT FWP said that he also agrees to reduce outflows to 30 or 35 CFS. The motion passed unanimously.

FEMA FLOOD PLAIN LETTER; Blaine Bradshaw updated the commission on the letter. County Planner Linda Bouck has been working on the draft of the regulations. FEMA and DNRC are reviewing regulations and Resolutions, followed by a public hearing through the commissioners for their review.

NEW LIGHT FOR THE FLAGPOLE IN THE COURTHOUSE YARD; A Discussion was held about getting solar lights for the flag pole to light it up at night. The Commissioners agree that solar LED lights would be nice to have on it at night so the US Flag can stay up. Solar LED lights will be purchased that attach to the flag pole outside of the Courthouse.

CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AGAINST PURDUE PHARMA; ACTION ON CLAIMS; Blaine Bradshaw said the County has a joined a lawsuit (class action) against Purdue Pharma and that a judgment was obtained with limited funds coming to the County. Documentation has been sent to the County. Purdue Pharma is asking the federal court to file Chapter 13 bankruptcy so the members of the class action need to vote on whether they object or not. The paperwork on the vote will be sent to the County Attorney if the Commission approves the County Attorney submitting that paperwork. The Commission then could have the matter on their agenda regarding their vote on the proposed bankruptcy action. Commissioner Kulaski moved to authorize the County Attorney to submit in the paperwork (called Solicitation Directive) and sign it as the County's counsel. No public comments were received, and the motion passed unanimously.

SOLID WASTE POLICY QUESTION AND LIBRARY REQUEST; Mayor Daniel Reddish attended the meeting with the Commissioners to discuss concerns about waste disposal at the

solid waste site. Commissioner Adler noted that human feces cannot be dumped at the solid waste sites in the County. Mayor Reddish clarified that the waste from the new treatment plant contains foreign materials, such as shirts and wipes, rather than actual feces, and is a result of improper flushing of items into the Town's sewer system during the COVID-19 pandemic. The materials are bagged and sent to the dump, but there are concerns about the legality and proper disposal. County Attorney Blaine Bradshaw will investigate regulations and whether and how this can be done in a legal manner.

Commissioners discussed whether the waste is considered regular garbage or human waste and whether the items improperly flushed can be traced to specific households. It can only be traced to a general block area only. They emphasized public education to reduce misuse. Separately, Mayor Reddish brought up flooding issues at the library due to sidewalk problems. The Town will contribute \$1,000 toward sidewalk replacement in front of the library in Philipsburg, and is asking the County to match the funds. Blaine Bradshaw noted the county owns the building (library district maintains), but the Commission has discretion to provide financial assistance, and the Commissioners agreed to also contribute \$1,000, provided there is a clear plan from those seeking the funds and the funds go to this project specifically.

QUARTERLY OAC MEETING; Ryon and Brooke Covington from TCS Northwest provided an update on construction progress at the Courthouse, including the new bathrooms and installing of the of the elevator shaft over the past two weeks, the installation of steel plates, and Otis setting up equipment in the mechanical room. The elevator cart, a custom size, requires temporary floor supports due to the lack of a standard platform. Lighting improvements are being implemented, such as automatic switches in bathrooms and a key-operated switch in the third-floor jury room to eliminate dark spots, as suggested by Janeen Bonney. All submittals and RFIs are current. One traffic lane will be closed for crane operations to deliver and hoist parts, and Ace is coordinating the timing for fixing exhaust fan penetrations and delivering materials to the roof. Commissioner Kulaski moved to approve a change order for motion detector switches and the key switch, seconded by Commissioner McLure, with no public comments received. The motion passed unanimously. Blaine Bradshaw raised a question about the upstairs bathroom door and a door stop to prevent people from getting hit while getting paper towels, but the door will be adjusted this will not be a problem per Ryon Covington. Commissioner Adler inquired about the payment application (claims from TCS for previous month April 2025 and Commissioner Kulaski moved to approve TCS Northwest's April payment request \$49,923.61 which was also seconded by Commissioner McLure and passed unanimously with no public comment.

Commissioner Adler adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.