

**September 20, 2022**

**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 Chairperson Adler, Commissioner McLure, and Commissioner Hinkle attending. Also attending were Commissioner's Assistant, Billie Ann Kulaski and Granite County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw, who attended a portion of the agenda items. The session was livestreamed through the Zoom internet-based program available for the public to view the session and 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 Granite County PHEP Coordinator, Jennifer Robinson; Drummond Mayor, Gail Leeper; Road & Bridge Superintendent, Paul Alt; Granite County DES Coordinator, Jackie Bolster; Payne West Insurance Agent, Brody Loushin; Granite County Courthouse Custodian, Janeen Bonney; and other members of the general public including Dave Kesler and Elena Gagliano**

**SAFETY TEAM MEETING; Road & Bridge Superintendent, Paul Alt; Granite County DES Coordinator, Jackie Bolster; Payne West Insurance Agent, Brody Loushin; Granite County and Courthouse Custodian, Janeen Bonney joined the Commission for the Quarterly Safety Meeting. Commissioner Adler motioned to approve the minutes from March 15, 2022. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There was no public comment and motion passed unanimously. Karen Palmer was not present for the meeting to provide a report, but advised Janeen Bonney that she did not have anything to report. Janeen Bonney did not have anything to report either. Granite County Sheriff's Department Dispatcher Valerie Cartwright was not available but did speak with Commissioner Adler seeking an update on the Padded Cell Capital Project. Commissioner Adler commented that he would reach out to Dave Kesler II, concerning the project and provide an update. Paul Alt reported that the Solid Waste Department is in the process of ordering updated signage for both locations to deter the public from illegally dumping human waste, which is not accepted at either site. Jackie Bolster reported that the IPAWS renewal has been completed so the County is in good standing and the next renewal will be in three years. Brody Loushin reported that there is a new Department of Labor Director. Commissioner Adler inquired if the County has sufficient insurance coverage for the Hall House Property. Brody Loushin stated that he would have Payne West Insurance Agent, Rody Holman look into the matter and confirm with the County. The group discussed moving the meeting time to 9:00 a.m. from 8:30 a.m., which was mutually agreed upon. The next Quarterly Safety Meeting is set for December 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.**

**BOARD MINUTES; Commissioner Hinkle moved to accept the board minutes for September 13, 2022 Commissioner meeting. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion passed unanimously.**

**CORRESPONDENCE;**

A letter was received from American Medical Association (AMA), inviting the Commission to submit nominations for the 2023 AMA Awards for Outstanding Government Service.

Commissioner Hinkle discussed an email that was received from a Granite County Employee who would no longer like to remain in the Union. The group discussed that the employee will need to contact the Union Representative and the Clerk & Recorder's Office.

**PUBLIC COMMENT;** Public comment was received from Elena Gagliano in regards to the correspondence as the Granite County Website was not updating to show her the current information for the meeting. Billie Ann Kulaski replied that if the information wasn't showing up for Elena Gagliano that she would email the documents. Elena Gagliano also commented in regards to the Commissioners Board Minutes from September 6, 2022; adding that she saw a few things that were left out and needing corrected, but since these have already been approved, those minutes could be left as is.

**ROAD & BRIDGE WEEKLY REPORT WITH ROAD & BRIDGE SUPERINTENDENT PAUL ALT;** Road & Bridge Superintendent Paul Alt joined the Commission to discuss recent project the Department has been working on including mixing salt and hauling sand. The Department should be done with this project today until next week when the final loads are received. The Department will be hauling road mix out near Bauer's (Ross' Fork Road, a County road) to cap off some previous road construction that has been completed this week, and then will return to dirt-patching roads across the County. Commissioner Adler recommended that the salt could be expended from the BARSAA funds, and asked Paul Alt to notify the Clerk & Recorder's Office. He added that all items BARSAA is utilized on should be well documented. Commissioner Hinkle asked for an update on Granite Road. Paul Alt responded that the Department will get to Granite Road, spending a few days before it snows; however, the Department needs to finish blading work prior to winter. The Commission discussed the transition of the Department from four-ten-hour shifts to five-eight-hour shifts. The date the Department is set to transition according to the Union Agreement, is October 15<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Hinkle commented that October 15<sup>th</sup>, is too soon. Commissioner McLure asked if the contract should be re-negotiated or amended to more adequately manage the time-frame. Granite County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw responded that this matter was looked into at one point and just complicated negotiations too much, and advised that the Commission to look at the matter during the next negotiation period. Commissioner McLure commented that the Department needs to ensure their schedule update will not affect the processing of payroll; and asked if the Road Crew initiated this conversation. Paul Alt confirmed, and added that he asked if the Department would be agreeable to the transition, as this is necessary in order for the Union to make the request to the Commission. The agreement would allow the Road Department to operate on four-ten-hour shifts until the weather changes and winter road conditions begin. Commissioner Hinkle motioned to have Granite County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw send a customary Addendum Agreement to Craig Davis who is business manager for Road Department Union; and to have the final agreement on the Commissioners agenda for approval (September 27, 2022). Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion passed unanimously.

**Solid Waste Update;** Paul Alt explained that he would like to order additional signs that explain the unloading times (3:45 p.m. in Philipsburg and 5:45 p.m. in Drummond) to enable the Site Supervisors to complete their duties and not incur overtime. Commissioner McLure questioned why the two Sites have different schedules. Commissioner Adler responded that the Commission discussed this a few years ago when it took place. Paul Alt commented that it had something to do with the transition of seasonal hours; and that it was never realigned or adjusted. Commissioner McLure raised concerns over the signage as it would limit the time residents have to dump; adding that any change made would need to be noticed in the *Philipsburg Mail* as well as on the Granite County website. Commissioner Hinkle commented that residents should use common sense to manage the situation, and understand how long it will take them dump while considering the hours of the Site. The group then discussed overtime that is accumulated if Site Supervisors need to stay after their shift is over. Commissioner McLure and Commissioner Hinkle agreed that 4:00 p.m. at the Philipsburg Site is too early and should potentially be moved to 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Adler motioned to have a sign made that reflects loads needing to be dumped by 3:45 p.m. (Philipsburg) and 5:45 p.m. (Drummond). There was no second on the motion. Paul Alt commented that there is no difference between this request and the Treasurer's Office not accepting Title after 4:45 p.m. Commissioner McLure disagreed. The Commission will continue to discuss this matter at a later date. The Commission discussed the plowing on Black Pine Road and how it relates to the Bus Routes. Blaine Bradshaw explained that in the matter of adjusting bus routes the County Transportation Committee meets and makes recommendations to local School Boards so the County Commission does not have oversight power regarding school bus routes (other than Commissioner Adler is a member of the transportation committee); and not the Commission. The Commission discussed the potential of the previous decision from September 6, 2022 to plow an additional 2.2 miles of Black Pine Road could set a precedent, Commissioner McLure and Commissioner Adler disagreeing on the matter. Blaine Bradshaw clarified the difference between a legal precedent and a political precedent.

**BRANDON PARRET, DAM TENDER'S REPORT, GEORGETOWN LAKE OUTFLOW;** The lake level was reported at 6428.02 feet; 17.76 inches below full pool, according to the USGS lake level gage and the dam tender's report for the week. Commissioner Hinkle moved to leave the outflow as is, at 20 CFS in accordance with the temporary modification agreement the County agreed upon in August, 2022. He added that according to the gauges it is looks like the outflows are in alignment with the inflows. Commissioner McLure seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion passed unanimously.

**HEADWATERS RCD UPDATE;** Granite County Representative and Drummond Mayor Gail Leeper joined the Commission to provide a brief update of Headwater RCD activities. She explained that Flint Creek Childcare of Philipsburg received a \$1M grant, and that she has followed up concerning the Hall Store, as there was a miscommunication with the contact information. Mayor Leeper shared an update regarding additional funds the County may be receiving that will likely utilize the same formula as PILT to determine funding amounts. Headwaters RCD is hosting a Small Business Webinar on Cybersecurity on September 30,

**2022. Mayor Leeper will be disbursing flyers across the County to connect local businesses with the free webinar.**

**GRANITE COUNTY & TOWN OF DRUMMOND MOU – MAPS INC.;** Mayor Leeper explained that this is a mutual use agreement that enables the County to share GIS data with the Town of Drummond. She added that the new information will assist the Town of Drummond to work with Montana DOR (Department of Revenue) to assess property taxes. Drummond Town Council is scheduled to meet in the evening of September 20, 2022 and she will secure signatures on the documents. Commissioner McLure clarified the agreement, noting that the Town of Drummond would incur their own expenses and this MOA would authorize the sharing of GIS data. Commissioner McLure motioned to approve the MOU with the Town of Drummond for GIS data from Maps Inc. Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. The MOU was signed (two originals) that would be forwarded to Mayor Leeper for decision by the Town of Drummond. There was no public comment and the motion passed unanimously.

**TASK ORDER 23-25-5-01-020-0 - MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT (MCHBG) PROGRAM;** The Commission discussed the grant and how the funding affects Public Health Department Operations. Commissioner Hinkle raised concerns over the federal funding. Commissioner McLure explained how the Public Health Department has expended the funds in past. Commissioner McLure moved to approve task order 23-25-5-01-020-0 MCHBG. Commissioner Adler seconded the motion. Public comment was received from Elena Gagliano inquiring to additional documentation for the Task Order; adding that she hopes the Commission has read all of the relevant information prior to deciding. There was no further comment and the motion passed two to one with Commissioner Hinkle dissenting.

**RESOLUTION 2022-9; A GRANITE COUNTY RESOLUTION INCREASING THE COUNTY'S ROAD FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AND ACCOUNTING FOR UNANTICIPATED REVENUE RECEIVED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021; FIRST READING;** The Commission reviewed the proposed resolution. Commissioner McLure explained that this is necessary as the County combined capital loans and need to show the action accurately for auditing purposes. Originally the Clerk & Recorder's office showed the difference in payments for that year; however, the full principal and interest need to be shown.

**FLINT CREEK DAM – PEAK GROUND ACCELERATION (PGA) ANALYSIS PROPOSAL FROM HDR;** The Commission discussed the HDR proposal, confirming with Commission Assistant, Billie Ann Kulaski that Great West Engineering has been assisting the County to secure a firm to complete the PGA Analysis before the deadline of December 2022; however, the only proposal has come from HDR. Request for Proposals had been advertised in the newspaper, but the time deadline came and went with no proposals being timely submitted. The Commission directed Jeremiah Theys with Great West Engineering

**to work on obtaining proposals. Commissioner McLure moved to accept the HDR proposal for the PGA Analysis subject to a written contract being negotiated and agreed upon. Commissioner Hinkle seconded the motion. Public comment was received from Elena Gagliano clarifying the information in the HDR as well as the County's request for the information. She also provided comments on how the proposal was put together as she expressed frustration that the proposal from HDR was confusing, poorly formatted and communicated. Commissioner McLure explained how the proposal was requested and received through Great West Engineering who had been acting for the County, and that the current motion is required in order to actually obtain the PGA Analysis that is a requirement of FERC. There was no further public comment and the motion passed unanimously.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.**