

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**January 5, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Michael Feiger, District Ranger, Cabinet Ranger District to discuss: district updates. Mr. Feiger provided a briefing on the Montana Forest Action Plan. The Cabinet Ranger District will be proposing the Lego WUI Restoration and Hazardous Fuels Mitigation project. This project is on the Elk Creek/Rice Draw area SSE of Heron, MT. The proposal is for 152 acres of commercial and non-commercial treatments in three units adjacent to private lands in the vicinity of Elk Creek. Updates were also provided on wildland fire, recreation, vegetation management/timber sale activity, the Kootenai National Forest, and the workforce.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

The Board examined the County journal vouchers for the end of 2020. Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera examined and approved the Journal Voucher Detail report for the accounting period of 13/2020.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a proposed Wildlife Hazardous Mitigation plan. Also in attendance were: Travis Pfister, acting Fire Management Officer, Lolo National Forest, via teleconference, and Randy Garrison, Manager, Penn Stohr Airport, via teleconference. Due to important individuals needed for the conversation and their absence, the Board rescheduled the meeting for Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**January 7, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a proposed Floodplain Variance request for B&B Mini Storage. Jennifer Ekberg will put it on the Agenda for next week.

Commissioner Cox left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The Board met with Nate Kegel, United States Forest Service, and Jared Koskela, Engineer, Lolo National Forest Services to discuss: Schedule A and a Maintenance Plan between Sanders County and Lolo National Forest. Also in attendance were: Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2, and Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services. Nate Kegel and Jared Koskela presented the Schedule A and a Maintenance Plan. Mr. Kegel provided additional information on the Great American Outdoors Act. This act will provide funds for the forest service to differ maintenance for Thompson River Road, and the ACM Road in Thompson Falls, Montana.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve December 15, 16, 22, and 31, 2020 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

The Board met with Shawn Sorenson, Sanitarian to discuss: a department update. Shawn Sorenson provided information on projects/activities and business updates. Statistics are as follows: Inspections- 181 licensed establishments 30% inspected, Temporary Events- 2 so far in fiscal year 2021, Soil/Site analyses- 39 in calendar year 2020, Wastewater Permits- 97 permits so far in fiscal year 2021, Water/well permits- 70 permits so far in fiscal year 2021, Local Subdivision Reviews- 37 so far in fiscal year 2021, Junk Vehicles- 120 vehicles so far in fiscal year 2021, and Food Training- three classes planned in fiscal year 2021.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 2:00 p.m.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: 11 days without incident. Mr. Wallace provided an OSHA reportable injury summary for 2020 and 2019 as a comparative. Open County Positions: Dispatch Lead, posted internally only. Detention Officer, posted internally and will likely go external Tuesday, January 11, 2021.

The Board met with Bryce Myrvang, Agent, All Day \$49 Montana Registered Agent, LLC via Zoom, and Jon Spear, All Day \$49 Montana Registered Agent, LLC via Zoom to discuss: an agreement between Sanders County and All Day \$49. Also in attendance were: Claude Burlingame, Commissioners Council; Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools, and Kimberly Patton, Deputy Treasurer. Claude Burlingame advised he will provide an assurance letter or some sort of memorandum of understanding to include the Treasurer and Sanders County, Montana Board of Commissioners to All Day \$49. Jon Spear requests an example of a vehicle registration receipt from Mrs. Scribner. Mrs. Scribner will provide a receipt by the end of today.

#### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint Nicholas Lawyer as Health Officer to the Sanders County Board of Health for the remainder of Dr. Jack Lulack's term ending October 13, 2022. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA January 12, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a Floodplain Variance request for B&B Mini Storage. Commissioner Cox motioned to grant the Floodplain Variance for B&B Mini Storage. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve Landowner Fuels Reductions Cost-Share Agreement No. 178 between Sanders County and Hollis Lollar. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Naomi Leisz, County Attorney requested to meet with the Board as she was not scheduled, to discuss: the Sanders County Refuse Hauling bid that was awarded to Knerr Inc., contingent on Knerr Inc., receiving the necessary certification and required documents from the Public Service Commission. Ms. Leisz stated that the County has the right to award the bid to Knerr Inc.

The Board adjourned at 10:45 a.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 1:35 p.m.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a proposed Wildlife Hazardous Mitigation plan. Also in attendance were: Travis Pfister, acting Fire Management Officer, Lolo National Forest, via teleconference; Randy Garrison, Manager, Penn Stohr Airport, via teleconference; Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia and Associates (RPA); Ian Wargo, RPA; Dr. Greg Hanson, Clark Fork Valley Hospital via teleconference; Judy Arneson, Resident, and Naomi Leisz, County Attorney. Lance Bowser provided Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidance. Ms. Maudrone presented that the Town of Plains will be seeking a change of use and variance for placement of the sewer lagoons within the Airport Affected Area of the Plains Airport. The County is seeking guidance for mitigation of the possible increase of wildlife mainly avian species, attracted to the water. The County does not want to jeopardize FAA funding. Commissioner Cox asked who would be responsible for mitigation and would enforcement be possible. Ms. Leisz states that the County would have the City of Plains sign off on conditions of approval for the Wildlife Hazard Mitigation Plan. Inquiries were made on the distances between the current lagoon to the river and the proposed location of the new lagoon to the river. Randy Garrison stated the current lagoon is 5,600 feet from the middle of the lagoon to the airport. The proposed location of the new lagoon to the airport is 2,250 feet. Commissioner Brooker agrees that the County will require the Town of Plains to execute conditions of approval. Travis Pfister stated overall the forest service supports this endeavor. Dr. Greg Hanson states the hospital needs a sewer system and an airport. The hospital needs the ability to have fixed-wing aircraft. Mr. Garrison stated that the airport is moving forward with obtaining GPS instrumentation. Commissioner Brooker stated that the Town of Plains should pay for the lagoon wildlife study as well.

The Board met with Lance Bowser, RPA, and Ian Wargo, RPA to discuss: the preliminary plans, funding needs as well as the final scoping and final designs for Penn Stohr and Thompson Falls Airports. Also in attendance were: Mike Nichols, Member, Thompson Falls Airport Advisory Board; Gene Pope, Member, Thompson Falls Airport Advisory Board; Douglas Robichaud, Member, Thompson Falls Airport Advisory Board; Daniel Shultz, Resident; Dan Normandeau, Member, Thompson Falls Airport Advisory Board (joined 4:30 p.m.).

Commissioner Brooker left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
January 13, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 17 days without incident. Mr. Wallace provided a 3-Step Risk Assessment to the Board. Mr. Wallace would like County employees to answer the risk assessment before conducting potential tasks that could create risks. This is a tool that is proposed

to help County employee safety. Open County Positions: Dispatch Lead, the Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action form for William Brown effective February 26, 2021 as the Dispatch Lead. Detention Officer, posted externally January 12, 2021. Mr. Wallace is assisting Jerome McDonald, Nichol Scribner, and Jessica Connolly with the Big Sky Rail Authority on financial statements that can be provided to the County commissioners for review.

The Board adjourned at 12:10 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

As it was 2:00 p.m. and the time and place as advertised, Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera opened the Sanders County Board of Health (BOH) Meeting. In attendance were: Glen E. Magera, Member; Carol Brooker, Member; Anthony B. Cox, Member; Dr. Robert Gregg, Member; Nicholas Lawyer, Member; Bina Eggensperger, Member, via teleconference; Karen Morey, Director of Public Health; Sandra Gubel, Tobacco Prevention Specialist, and Tina Scott, Administrative Assistant, Environmental Health. Nicholas Lawyer motioned to approve November 24, 2020, December 1, 2020, and December 15, 2020 special meeting minutes. Dr. Robert Gregg seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. New Business: Sandra Gubel presented the COVID-19 ad campaign which consisted of four ads in the Sanders County Ledger for the month of December 2020. Four more ads will be published in the Sanders County Ledger in the month January of 2021. Mrs. Gubel and Commissioner Brooker provided information on current Public Health bills that are introduced and drafted for legislation. These bills consisted of House Bill (HB) 106 a local governing body, local board of health, or DPHHS may not enact or enforce any regulation, rule, or ordinance that alters, expands, or modifies the prohibitions provided for in 50-40-104 or that alters, expands, or modifies the definitions provided in 50-40-103. Applies retroactively to any regulation, rule, or ordinance adopted by a local governing body, a local board of health, or DPHHS. HB 106 would reverse all local CIAA protocols that include e-cigarettes and/or a smoking distance provision. HB 121 defines local governing body. Removes the ability for local Board of Health to adopt rules or regulations. Instead, makes it so that Local Boards of Health can propose rules or regulations to a local governing body. Also, allows a governing body to amend a directive, mandate, or order given by a local Board of Health during a time of emergency or disaster. HB 137 prohibits local governing units, DPHHS and local Boards of Health from establishing or continuing any policy on alternative nicotine products or vapor products that is different from, or addition to, any requirement under the provisions of 50-40-103(8) or the Youth Access to Tobacco Products Control Act. Applies retroactively to any regulation, rule, or ordinance adopted by a local governing body, a local Board of Health, or DPHHS HB 137 would reverse all local policies that prohibit the sale of flavored vapor products and alternative nicotine products and/or prohibitions of self-service displays of such products. HB 144 removes penalties for law enforcement officers who choose not to aid state or local health officers. HB 145- Boards of Health can only issue recommendations and not orders. Mr. Lawyer advised that the Clark Fork Valley Hospital will start to administer COVID-19 vaccines to group 1b (individuals age 70 and above, and 18-69 with certain high risk conditions) starting Monday, January 18, 2021. Karen Morey advised the state has notified her that 100 doses are on their way for group 1b. Mr. Lawyer advised that kids under the age of 16 are not qualified to get the vaccine at all. Commissioner Magera advised the Board that Mr. Lawyer was appointed by the Board as the Sanders County Board of Health Health Officer. Dr. Gregg inquired about vaccine administration. Ms. Morey stated that she has six hours upon opening a box of vaccines to administer the vaccines. Ms. Morey stated she can administer one vaccine in 30 minutes. There was no further comment. There was no public present. The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**January 14, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, January 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a Wildlife Hazardous Mitigation Plan for the sewer lagoon in Plains, Montana. Ms. Maudrone will follow up with Dan Rowan, Mayor, Town of Plains, Richard Gebhardt, Lawyer, Town of Plains, and Shari Johnson, Engineer, Town of Plains. Further discussion was held on a proposed amendment to the covenants for Riverview Terrace Subdivision.

Commissioner Cox left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: a resolution for an emergency declaration. Commissioner Brooker motioned to adopt Resolution 2020-01 Sanders County Emergency Declaration. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox joined the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

The Board adjourned at 12:05 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint Mary Reed to the Trout Creek Park District. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint Todd Meagher to the Trout Creek Park District. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve January 5, 2021 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: the Montana State Fund training update. Also in attendance were: Matt Dombach, Member, Sanders County Employee Safety Committee (SCESC); Bill Naegeli, Member, SCESC; Debbie Roller, Member, SCESC; Karen Morey, Member, SCESC, and Ashley Bache, Member, SCESC.

The Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**January 20, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

As it was 10:00 a.m. and the time and place as advertised, Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera opened the Sanders County Refuse District Board meeting. In attendance were: Glen E. Magera, Member; Anthony B. Cox, Member; Jason Peterson, Supervisor, Sanders County Refuse District; Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary, and Kathy Conlin, Billing Clerk/Recycling Assistant. Commissioner Cox motioned to approve December 16, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Unfinished Business: Kathy Conlin advised the Town of

Plains, MT has not paid their tax-exempt bill that was sent out November 4, 2020. New Business: Jason Peterson provided bidding specifications for a proposed new refuse truck. Commissioner Magera requested Mr. Peterson provide the truck specifications to Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2 for review. There was no further comment. There was no public present. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 24 days without incident. Mr. Wallace advised that the OSHA 300 has been completed and will be submitted online. The Safety Land game is to kick off today with an email from Ashley Bache to all employees. Open County Positions: Detention officer, posted externally January 12, 2021. First review of applicants will take place on January 27, 2021. Mr. Wallace presented a revised HR Personnel Action form for William Brown. The HR Personnel Action form executed on January 13, 2021 had the wrong pay amount for Mr. Brown. The Board has a consensus to execute the revised HR Personnel Action form for William Brown with the revised hourly pay rate.

The Board adjourned at 11:40 a.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint the following entities: Montana State Extension, Sanders County Weed District, and Noxon-Cabinet Shoreline Coalition for a three-year term ending January 31, 2023 to the Sanders County AIP Task Force. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox left at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 2:20 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA January 21, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a Wildlife Hazardous Mitigation Plan for the City of Plains, Montana. Ms. Maudrone will follow up with Naomi Leisz, County Attorney to discuss financial responsibility of the Wildlife Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Ms. Maudrone presented Cottonwood Creek Minor Subdivision. Commissioner Cox motioned to grant preliminary plat approval for Cottonwood Creek Minor Subdivision with the following conditions and finding of fact and conclusions: 1) That 30 foot easement along Cottonwood Creek Road and Cross Road be granted to Sanders County and noted on the face of the final plat to create a standard half width right-of-way road easement for county roads. 2) That a controlled-access easement be established on the Cottonwood Creek Road and Cross Road frontages of these lots noting on the face of the plat that all approached onto county maintained roads require a permit. 3) That this subdivision files a Waiver of the Right to Protest a Rural Special Improvement District for the construction, maintenance and other improvements of roads with final plat. 4) That the subdivider contact the Sanders County Land Services Department for A Noxious Weed and Revegetation Plan and complete initial treatment prior to final plat approval. 5) That the subdivision complies with the Sanders County Subdivision Regulations for Fire Protection. The exact method of compliance must be determined in conjunction with the rural fire department and met prior to final plat approval. 6) That the final subdivision shall comply with all requirements of the Sanders County Subdivision Regulations, Sanders County Wastewater

Regulations, and the laws and administrative rules of the State of Montana. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Further discussion was held on weed plans for subdivisions. Commissioner Magera is open to the idea of charging a per acre rate for monetary security.

The Board met with Pam Walling, Marketing Coordinator, Montana Association of Counties and Joanne Romasko, Health Care Trust Administrator, MACo to discuss: introductions of Joanne Romasko a new employee at MACo. Further discussion was on the MACo Health Care Trust insurance. Also in attendance was Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources.

The Board adjourned at 12:10 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:35 p.m.

#### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve January 7 & 12, 2021 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA January 27, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools to discuss: County journal vouchers and a review of the budget. Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve the County Journal Voucher Detail Report for the accounting periods of October, November, and December 2020. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Commissioner Brooker discussed the Paradise Improvement District. Mrs. Scribner will follow up with Jessica Connolly, Chief Financial Officer on the Paradise Improvement District. Mrs. Scribner would like to start a list of individuals the County will no longer accept checks from due to the checks bouncing. Commissioner Magera inquired with Mrs. Scribner about a check reader for the Treasurer's office. The Board has a consensus for Mrs. Scribner to start a list of individuals the County will no longer accept checks from due to insufficient funds.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 31 days without incident. Safety Training on the new 3-Step Risk Assessment program is tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2021. Open County Positions: Mr. Wallace and Shawna Chenoweth will take a first look at applicants today for the Detention officer position. Mr. Wallace has requested a claim history and projection from Morgan Hirschenberger, PayneWest Insurance on the County's Health insurance.

The Board adjourned at 12:10 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:25 p.m.

Commissioner Cox did not join the Board at 1:25 p.m.

Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools requested to meet with the Board as she was not scheduled, to discuss: the Hot Springs Library Foundation and the Preston Hot Springs Town-County Library. Mrs. Scribner contacted the Hot Springs Library Foundation and they are willing to assist the Preston Hot Springs Town-County Library with the purchase of new printers.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 1:35 p.m.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to execute the Task Order for COVID Immunization Services. Task Order No. 21-07-4-31-141-0 between Montana Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and Sanders County. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Also in attendance were: Judy Arneson, Resident; Stacy Kandel, Resident; JJ Hunsekker, Resident; Katherine Dewitt, Resident and Peggy Bates, Resident. Stacy Kandel stated that the vaccines are not FDA approved and are only for emergency use. Judy Arneson thanked the Board for explaining what Task Order No. 21-07-4-31-141-0 between Montana DPHHS and Sanders County entails. Katherine Dewitt stated that she hopes that the vaccine is as good as they say it is. Peggy Bates advised that she had COVID, and it is real. I appreciate the Board stating that Sanders County will not mandate vaccines.

The Board has a consensus to remove Mary Reed from the Trout Creek Park District as she does not live in the district.

The Board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Magera proceeded to audit County Payroll at 3:00 p.m. and instructed the Clerk to draw warrants in the amount of \$520,153.35. (County Payroll is on file in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder)

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
January 28, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: the Sanders County Park Commission. Also in attendance were: Julie Molzahn, Chair, Sanders County Park Commission, and Kathy Warrington, Resident. Julie Molzahn stated the Sanders County Park Commission is working on amending the master plan. The main issue is trespassing on the County’s parkland. Ms. Maudrone provided Section 4 of a master plan and the MCA for County Board of Park Commissioners Title 7 Chapter 16 Part 23. Commissioner Brooker stated that the County has problems with enforcement when it comes to trespassing issues. Commissioner Brooker inquired about Rainbow Lake. Who owns the vault toilet? A tree did some damage due to our last storm. Ms. Maudrone with contact the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Ms. Maudrone requested to postpone further discussion until the County Attorney could be present. Ms. Maudrone was unable to locate the original Master Plan for the Sanders County Park Commission. She did find minutes where the Master Plan was adopted. Kathy Warrington stated she received a letter from Commissioner Anthony B. Cox. Ms. Warrington was told that six t-posts of hers were on County parkland. She moved the posts. Her neighbor is trespassing as well, and no one has addressed that issue. Ms. Warrington is tired of the County saying this is a neighborhood dispute.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the Sanders County Independent Consultant Agreement between Sanders County and Pinnacle Research. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board has a consensus to execute the 2020 Department of Environmental Quality Annual Production Report for Opencut Mining.



Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve January 13, 14, 20, & 21, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management to discuss: a department update. Mr. Naegeli provided an update on the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). The Board has a consensus to execute the Sanders County federal fiscal year 2021-2022 EMPG Funding Commitment letter. The Board has a consensus to execute the EMPG Annual Time Certification and EMPG Annual Phone Justification Form. The Board has a consensus to execute the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 Certification of Title III expenditures and the Assurances for Non-Construction Programs.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

As it was 1:30 p.m. and the time and place as advertised, the Board proceeded to open the sealed bids for County Printing and Legal Advertising. Also in attendance were: Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools; Annie Wooden, the Sanders County Ledger, and Randy Garrison, the Printery. County Printing Bids were received from the Sanders County Ledger for Montana Code Annotated (MCA) less 15 percent of the allowable charges as a bid for publishing the legal advertising of Sanders County for the period of February 1, 2020, to January 31, 2021. It was noted that the County Printing bid had a bid for County Legal Advertising. The Printery bid was for MCA less 29 percent for the County Printing contract. Commissioner Cox motioned to award the County Printing bid to the Printery from February 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022, and to void the Sanders County Ledger bid due to the incorrect bid placed in the County Printing envelope. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Legal Advertising Bids were received from Clark Fork Valley Press for MCA less 35 percent of the allowable charges for County Legal Advertising from February 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022, and the Sanders County Ledger less 25 percent of the allowable charges for County Printing. It was noted that the County Legal Advertising bid has a bid for County Printing. It was further noticed that neither bidder enclosed information on a Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation. Commissioner Cox motioned to take the matter under advisement until February 2, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The Board held the 2021 Employee Service Award Ceremony at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Conference room. Those recognized for their years of service were: Lee Smith- 25 years, Martin Spring- 15 years, Candace Fisher- 10 years, Rich Owens- 10 years, Glen Magera- 10 years, Brad Kinzie- 5 years, Sandra Gubel- 5 years, Jill Lundstrom- 5 years, Tim Kelly- 5 years, Tristan Franck- 5 years, and Tina Scott- 5 years.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**February 2, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Michael Feiger, District Ranger, Cabinet Ranger District to discuss: district updates. Mr. Feiger provided updates on COVID-19 in the Cabinet Ranger District, wildland fire, recreation, vegetation management/timber sale activity, range-noxious weeds, the Kootenai National Forest, and the workforce for the district.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: subdivision noxious weed plans. Also in attendance was Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management. Ms. Maudrone would like to develop a standard fee, per acre of vegetation covering that will be used in determining the monetary guarantee needed, in the event that a subdivision wants to go to final plat into the off-season for weed identification and treatment. Mr. Naegeli is advising and obtaining cost estimates for chemicals and labor. The Board has a consensus to have fees site-specific. Ms. Maudrone advised the Board that tonight the Sanders County Park Commission will be holding a public hearing on a Master Plan for the Sanders County Park Commission at 7:00 p.m.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

As it was 1:30 p.m. and the time and place as advertised for the decision on the Sanders County Legal Advertising bid, Commissioner Cox motioned to re-bid the Notice to Call for Bids on County Legal Advertising because the two bids that were received were not complete per the advice of the County Attorney and therefore are rejected. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Also in attendance were: Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools, and Annie Wooden, the Sanders County Ledger.

Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools requested to meet with the Board as she was not scheduled, to discuss: abatement of taxes. Mrs. Scribner presented a request for abatement for Tax No. 300458. Commissioner Brooker motioned to abate the taxes for Tax No. 300458. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to reappoint Carl Benson to the Plains Airport Advisory Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 37 days without incident. Open County Positions: Detention Officer, interviews are planned for Tuesday, February 9, 2021. District Court Deputy Clerk, posted internally until Thursday, February 4, 2021. Mr. Wallace provided a HR Personnel Action Form for Paul Delong's resignation effective January 20, 2021. The Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Paul Delong's resignation effective January 20, 2021. Mr. Wallace presented a HR Personnel Action Form for Tristan Franck. The Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for the resignation of Tristan Franck effective March 29, 2021.

The Board met with Shawn Sorenson, Sanitarian to discuss: updates in Environmental Health. Also in attendance was Rich Wallace, Director of HR. Mr. Sorenson has a Request for Proposals out on a Mold Assessment for an office on the first floor. The deadline for submittals is January 29, 2021. Mr. Sorenson has a septic issue in Perma, Montana. The property owner has a site approved for septic. However, based on Mr. Sorenson's site visit and the surveyors indicated location of the approved drain field, Mr. Sorenson is not willing to issue a permit in the approved location due to the minimal available space, steep side slopes, presence of an old root cellar, and the silty/clayey soils. Mr. Sorenson recommends the property owner speak directly with the Department of Environmental Quality, Subdivision Program to request their assistance in resolving what he observes to be an approval that he can not permit as written.

The Board requested to meet with Johnny Knerr, Knerr Inc., via teleconference as he was not scheduled, to discuss: the Sanders County Refuse Hauling bid. Mr. Knerr provided a status on obtaining the appropriate documents from the Public Service Commission (PSC). If a hearing is scheduled with the PSC Mr. Knerr requests the attendance of Claude Burlingame, Commissioners Council, and Commissioner Anthony B. Cox to be present on behalf of Sanders County, Montana.

The Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
February 11, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, February 11, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: legislative bills LC 0763, LC 2326, and Senate Bill 165. Ms. Maudrone advised the Sanders County Park Commission adopted the amended Master Plan on Tuesday, February 2, 2021.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 6 days without incident. Open County Positions: Mr. Wallace presented a HR Personnel Action Form for James "Brandon" Colwell. Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for James "Brandon" Colwell starting Tuesday, February 16, 2021, as a part-time Detention Officer. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Wallace provided a HR Action Form for District Court. Commissioner Cox motioned to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Miriam Smith effective March 26, 2021, as a full-time District Court Deputy Clerk as Ms. Smith is currently a part-time employee. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Wallace presented a HR Action Form for the Sanders County Refuse Attendant Lead position. Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Nicole Thompson starting February 26, 2021, as the Sanders County Refuse Attendant Lead. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Further discussion was on Justice Court job description changes proposed by Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace. Mr. Wallace is conducting follow-up on the positions at this time.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 1:35 p.m.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute Landowner Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Agreement No. 179 between Sanders County and Jody Panattoni. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brooker motioned to adopt Resolution 2021-2 A Resolution Authorizing the Application and Administration of the USDA RBDG Grant. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve January 27-28, 2021, and February 2, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the 2021 Contract for County Printing between Sanders County and The Printery. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board requested to meet with Karen Morey, Director of Public Health via teleconference as she was not scheduled, to discuss: Governor Greg Gianforte's press conference he held on February 10, 2021. Governor Gianforte will be lifting the mask mandate effective Friday, February 12, 2021. The Board has a consensus to send out a letter via email to all County employees.

Commissioner Brooker left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Magera proceeded to audit County Claims at 2:00 p.m. and instructed the Clerk to draw warrants in the amount of \$200,271.47. (County Claims are on file in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder)

The Board met with Abigail Lane, Acting District Ranger, Lolo National Forest to discuss: Ms. Lane is the new acting District Ranger for the Lolo National Forest. Further discussion was on district updates: timber salvages and district projects.

The Board adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
February 17, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

As it was 10:00 a.m. and the time and place as advertised, Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera opened the Sanders County Refuse District Board meeting. In attendance were: Glen E. Magera, Member; Carol Brooker, Member; Anthony B. Cox, Member; Jason Peterson, Supervisor, Sanders County Refuse District; Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary, and Kathy Conlin, Billing Clerk/Recycling Assistant. Commissioner Cox motioned to approve January 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Unfinished Business: Kathy Conlin states the Town of Plains, Montana has not paid their November 4, 2020, tax-exempt bill. Mrs. Conlin will again follow up with the Mayor of Plains, Montana. Jason Peterson stated Knerr Inc. needs to have scheduled a hearing before the Public Service Commission. There is no time frame of when this hearing may be scheduled. In the meantime, Republic Services of Missoula still has the hauling contract with Sanders County until July 31, 2021. The Board has a consensus to send a letter to Republic Services of Missoula stating this fact. Recycling Report: 52 bales of Cardboard, 10 bales of Aluminum Cans, 250 tons of Metal Pile, and 2 ½ pallets of Batteries. There was no public present. There was no further comment. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 12 days without incident. Open County Positions: District Court Clerk (part-time) is posted externally until February 25, 2021. Treasurer's Clerk is posted externally until later today. Further discussion was on a pay issue with an individual that transferred from one department to another department.

The Board adjourned at 12:35 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:40 p.m.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the Cooperative Agreement between Sanders County and the Montana Department of Health and Human Services to establish a payment schedule for maximizing the disbursement of funds to the Sanders County Board of Health (BOH). Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint Rodney D. Harmon to the Western Sanders County TV District for a three-year term. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Jerry McDonald, Board of Director, Sanders County Representative, Big Sky Rail Authority to discuss: an update on the Big Sky Rail Authority. Also in attendance were: Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources; Diane McDonald, Resident; Donna McQueen, Resident, and Miriah Kardelis, the Sanders County Ledger.

Commissioner Magera inquired if the rail authority had received any commitment from Montana Rail Link or Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railway Company. Mr. McDonald stated that informal meetings have occurred. Commitments have not been made. Mr. Wallace advised that the Big Sky Rail Authority Strategic Plan subcommittee will be sending out a survey to the rail authority board members that will have approximately twenty-two questions.

The Board adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
February 18, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: a monetary guarantee for subdivision noxious weed plans during the off-season. Also in attendance was Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management. Ms. Maudrone and Mr. Naegeli advised that they have two current subdivisions that need a monetary guarantee for a Noxious Weed Subdivision Revegetation plan. The Board has a consensus for Ms. Maudrone to move forward and try the estimates on the two subdivisions that are ready. Ms. Maudrone presented Weber Minor Subdivision for preliminary plat approval. Commissioner Brooker motioned to grant the variance request from Sanders County Subdivision Design and Improvement Standards VII-E(b) Lots- No lot may be divided by a public road, alley or utility right of way easement for Weber Minor Subdivision. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve the preliminary plat approval of Weber Minor Subdivision with the following conditions, findings of facts, and conclusions: 1) That 30-foot easement along Elk Creek Road be granted to Sanders County and stated on the face of the final plat to create a standard half-width right-of-way for a full-width road easement for county roads. 2) That a controlled-access easement be established on the Elk Creek Road frontage of these lots stating on the face of the plat that an approach permit must be obtained from the County prior to beginning any work to create a new access. 3) That 60-foot easement along Upper River Road be granted to Sanders County and stated on the face of the final plat to create standard full-width right-of-way road easement for county roads. 4) That a controlled-access easement be established on the Upper River Road frontage of these lots stating on the face of the plat that an approach permit must be obtained from the County prior to beginning any work to create a new access. 5) That this subdivision files a Waiver of the Right to Protest a Rural Special Improvement District for the construction, maintenance, and other improvements of roads with the final plat. 6) That the subdivider contacts the Sanders County Land Services Department for a Noxious Weed and Revegetation Plan and completes initial treatment prior to final plat approval. 7) That the subdivision complies with the Sanders County Subdivision Regulations for Fire Protection. The exact method of compliance must be determined and met prior to final plat approval. 8) That the final subdivision shall comply with all requirements of the Sanders County Subdivision Regulations, Sanders County Wastewater Regulations, and the laws and administrative rules of the State of Montana. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Further discussion was held on B & B Mini Storage. Commissioner Brooker motioned to lift the condition of Dry Flood Proofing for B & B Mini Storage. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve February 11, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Larry Lack, Member, Upper Columbia Conservation Council (UC3) to discuss: an update on the meeting held for February 2021.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

As it was 1:30 p.m. and the time and place as advertised, the Board proceeded to open the sealed bids for County Legal Advertising. Also in attendance was Annie Wooden, the Sanders County Ledger. County Legal Advertising Bids were received from the Sanders County Ledger for Montana Code Annotated (MCA) less 30 percent of the allowable charges as a bid for publishing the legal advertising of Sanders County for the period of February 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022. The Clark Fork Valley Press bid MCA less 35 percent of the allowable charges as a bid for publishing the legal advertising of Sanders County for the period of February 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022. It was noted that both bids had the required paperwork to submit bids. Commissioner Brooker motioned to take the County Legal Advertising bids under advisement until Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Morgan Hirschenberger, PayneWest Insurance to discuss: a benefits renewal strategy for Sanders County. Also in attendance were: Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources, and Brenda Franck, Deputy, Recordings/Payroll. Mr. Hirschenberger will follow up with Allegiance with a reasonable renewal offer and a deadline for Allegiance to respond, Life Insurance add-ons for employees, dental plan upgrades, and a new Plan 3 for Sanders County.

The Board adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
February 24, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools to discuss: County journal vouchers and a review of the budget. The Board examined the County Journal Voucher Detail Report for January 2021. Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera examined and approved the Journal Voucher Detail Report for the accounting period of January 2021. Further discussion was on an election recall proposed for the Sanders County Sewer District at Paradise.

As it was 10:00 a.m. and the time and place as advertised for the decision on the 2021 County Legal Advertising Bid, Commissioner Cox motioned to award the 2021 County Legal Advertising Bid to the Sanders County Ledger. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Also in attendance was Annie Wooden, the Sanders County Ledger.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

The Board has a consensus to appoint Dale Bartelmey to the Area on Aging, Area VI, as the Sanders County representative.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 1 day without incident. Open County Positions: District Court Clerk (part-time) interviews will likely happen next week or the week after. Treasurer's Clerk (full-time) interviews are scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021. Six interviews will be held. Further discussion was held on the potential for a Maintenance Assistant to cover Maintenance for approximately 240 hours a year.

The Board adjourned at 11:45 a.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

The Board met with Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2 to discuss: the mechanics duties and position for Road District No. 1 and 2. The two mechanics repair and service the Sanders County Refuse District, Sheriff's office, Sanders County Weed District, the Sanders County Bookmobile, as well as all the vehicles and equipment for Road District No. 1 and 2. This also includes all the scheduling and invoicing. Also in attendance was Dave Montelius, PayneWest Insurance.

Commissioner Cox left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

The Board met with Dave Montelius, PayneWest Insurance, and Shannon Chamberlain, Montana Association of Counties via teleconference to discuss: Sanders County insurance for special districts. Also in attendance were: Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools, and Lisa Wadsworth, Accounts Payable/Claims. Shannon Chamberlain explained her definition of special districts that are covered under Sanders County's policy. Which is a board that is appointed by the Commissioners and runs monetary decisions by the Board and cannot levy their own money. Lisa Wadsworth inquired about the property schedule that was conducted. Why weren't any red flags raised when properties are labeled as district-owned. Mrs. Chamberlain advised that MACo would not know enough information to do that. Commissioner Brooker asked for information on where MACo's coverage changed. Commissioner Brooker stated the boards and districts have always been covered under Sanders County's policy. Mrs. Chamberlain explained that the boards and districts that can levy their own money and do not have to seek the Board's approval have to obtain their own policy. Mrs. Chamberlain does not quite remember when this occurred but the insurance requirements have changed. The boards and districts that are currently under Sanders County's policy need to acquire their own but will be covered until July 1, 2021, after July 1, 2021, they will be removed. Mrs. Wadsworth requested a certificate of insurance for the Plains/Paradise TV District. Mrs. Chamberlain will provide the certificate to Mrs. Wadsworth. Mrs. Wadsworth requested clarification on the Plains Cemetery District that received damage during a wind storm. Mrs. Chamberlain stated that the Plains Cemetery did not have building coverage. Therefore, the gravestones, the fence, and the flag pole are not covered. Mrs. Wadsworth advised she provided a list of items to the appraiser that needed to be covered, she thought the list of items was added to the list for coverage. Mrs. Chamberlain stated that they were not. Mrs. Wadsworth inquired to the appraiser's values if they differ from hers on replacement costs. Mr. Montelius stated that if you know the replacement values are not accurate you need to correct them and let MACo know the correct amount you would like added. Don't take the appraisal for face value. Mrs. Wadsworth asked on the volunteer fire districts, what does the policy cover. Mrs. Chamberlain stated that the policy covers directors and officers. Mrs. Wadsworth inquired about the airport liability. Mr. Montelius stated MACo does not want to cover the airport's liability; PayneWest Insurance covers the liability.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 3:00 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**February 25, 2021**

Commissioner Magera proceeded to audit County Payroll at 10:00 a.m. and instructed the Clerk to draw warrants in the amount of \$528,209.66. (County Payroll is on file in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder)

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 10:50 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: District Court Judge Deborah “Kim” Christopher and James Manley would like to pass an order stating that the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Sanders County Courthouse are restricted and firearms are not permitted. Mr. Dryden would like to recommend the District Court Judges only restrict Firearms for the 1st Floor and 3rd Floor Courtrooms. The Board advised that the County has a different policy for the Courthouse. Mr. Dryden will provide that information to the judges.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: property up Prospect Creek that has conflicting statements, stating an Ag Exemption and then a Family Conveyance Exemption. Ms. Maudrone stated the certificate of survey claims properties were created on the Family Conveyance Exemption. A Land Covenant states the properties were created on an Agriculture Exemption. Ms. Maudrone will research and continue the discussion on Tracts 1, 2, and 3 of COS 383 for next week.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 2:15 p.m.

Commissioner Magera proceeded to audit County Claims at 2:15 p.m. and instructed the Clerk to draw warrants in the amount of \$48,503.59. (County Claims are on file in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder)

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve February 17-18, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve Jeffery S. Reed Sr. as an alternate to the Sanders County Tax Appeal Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**March 2, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 7 days without incident. Mr. Wallace informed the Board that Northern Industrial Hygiene, Inc. conducted a Mold Assessment in the Courthouse in specific rooms that had possible issues. Northern Industrial Hygiene, Inc. advised that mold issues found were due to plants located in room 108, and sprinkler heads need to be changed and pointed away from the Courthouse when operating. Open County Positions: District Court Clerk (part-time) six external candidates have applied. Interviews will likely occur next week or the week after. Treasurer’s Clerk, Commissioner Cox motioned to execute



the HR Personnel Action Form for McKenna Wallace starting March 4, 2021. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. The Board has a consensus to hire Tonia Ortega in the Clerical Pool starting March 4, 2021.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Matt Jaramillo, Owner, Big Sky Network, and Doug Whiplinger, Big Sky Network requested to meet with the Board as they were not scheduled, to discuss: alley's in Paradise, Montana that Big Sky Network would like to run cabling in. With this cabling, law enforcement and emergency management services would have access to wi-fi that they do not currently have. Approximately 15-poles would need to be erected to enable wi-fi services. The Board advised Big Sky Network to put together a map with pole locations and get together with Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2 for approval. Commissioner Brooker advised Big Sky Network to follow up with GreatWest Engineering to obtain a map of the new sewer system's placement. Mr. Jaramillo advised that he is constructing the new website for Paradise, MT. Commissioner Brooker recommended having The Paradise Center as well as local businesses on the site. Commissioner Cox recommended getting in touch with Randy Garrison who owns the Printery to work with him on historical photos on the website. Mr. Garrison publishes a yearly calendar that has historical photos of Paradise, MT.

### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute Landowner Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Agreement No. 180 between Sanders County and Dan Miles. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to execute the Amended Fiscal Year 2021 Extension Services Agreement between Montana State University Extension and Sanders County, Montana. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute the 2021 Contract for County Legal Advertising with the Sanders County Ledger. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Connie Foust, Resident to discuss: a proposed ordinance for a Second Amendment Sanctuary in Sanders County, Montana. Also in attendance were: Dave Brown, Resident; Karen Brown, Resident; Tom Rummel, Sheriff; Ken Matthiesen, Plains/Paradise Rural Fire District; Terry Caldwell, Resident; Terrence Caldwell, Resident; John Dossett, Resident; Bob Brown, Representative District 7, Montana State Senate; Bruce Hunn, Resident; Lee Ziegler, Resident; Charlotte Beaudry, Resident; Nancy Mehaffie, Resident; Art Hassan, Resident; Kathleen Hassan, Resident; Linda Hohenstein, Resident; Bev Cuvillier, Resident; Gerald Cuvillier, Resident; Lorilee Cuvillier, Resident; Judy M. Arneson, Resident; Shawn Fielders, Resident; Charee Fielders, Resident; Mary Reed, Resident; Karen Rash, Resident; Mary Halling, Resident; Richard Crain, Resident; Jeffery Reed, Resident; Donnie Croft, Resident; Jeanine Croft, Resident; Annie Wooden, the Sanders County Ledger; Kate Hardman, Resident; JJ Hunnsekker, Resident; Claude Burlingame, Commissioners Council; John Bauscher, Resident, and Naomi Leisz, County Attorney. Connie Foust advised that she is a member of Free Americans that got together when former Montana Governor Steve Bullock was in office and legislation was changed for elections in Montana. Ms. Foust then turned the presentation over to Shawn Fielders. Shawn Fielders provided background on his life and working career. Mr. Fielder stated a proposed ordinance for Sanders County, Montana has 100% Supreme Court backing in regards to a second amendment sanctuary county. Other counties and states have adopted a second amendment sanctuary ordinance. The current political climate is volatile on our second amendment rights. Commissioner Brooker asked Connie Foust if she had shown her proposed ordinance at the state level. Ms. Foust stated that she had not. Senator Bob Brown stated that the Republican party has taken concerns and ideas to the Secretary of State on nine different bills. Commissioner Brooker asked Senator Brown about a sanctuary state. The House and the Attorney General need to direct and look at all Presidential orders to see what is unconstitutional. Senator Brown is in approval of a sanctuary state. I haven't read the proposed ordinance. I don't think there is anything wrong with the County stating Sanders County is a Sanctuary County. Commissioner Magera stated individuals need to take a look at HB 560 and HB 258. Senator Brown stated that he believes those two bills will pass. Commissioner Magera asked Ms. Foust if she drafted the ordinance herself or used someone else's. Ms. Foust stated that she obtained the ordinance elsewhere and the ordinance was tested for legal form. Naomi Leisz inquired why this was an ordinance and not a resolution. Gerald Cuvillier stated that our rights should not be infringed upon. Please uphold the second amendment. JJ Hunnsekker stated that in House Resolution 127 there is a list of everything that is proposed to be taken away from the rights of citizens. Mary Halling stated that this would affect her in Plains, Montana. Mr. Fielders didn't state that he also worked for the Department of Defense. Many individuals in this room are veterans and have been in countries where rights were taken away from their citizens. Ms. Halling would like at the County level proof that our second amendment is supported. Lorilee Cuvillier stated that she has

served in three wars. Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) make their own laws. We need to make a statement to the ATF, to stop. Donnie Croft would like the second amendment sanctuary to be passed at the County level because the State can turn from red to blue. Jeanine Croft stated that preventing is easier than infringement of the second amendment. Bruce Hunn stated that within the last year religion has been restricted as well as freedom of speech. To let our firearms be gone after at the federal level is dangerous. We want you, the Board to support us on this at the local level and to take a stand. We have the potential to start in Sanders County. Sheriff Tom Rummel stated that you all know how I stand on the second amendment. That is the hill I will die on. There is one reason the government takes its citizen's guns. That's to make citizens subjects. I see what comes out of Washington and it bothers me. A vehicle has the same ability to kill a human being but Washington is not going after our vehicles. Senator Brown stated he completely supports what Connie Foust is trying to do. We do have bills at the state level in regards to counties and municipalities stating that the federal government cannot overrule the state. Sanders County can make a resolution stating that we are in support of the second amendment. John Bauscher stated a well-armed society is a polite society. John Dossett stated that he was born in New Zealand and became a U.S. Citizen in 2004. New Zealand has had its third buyback program. Criminals still have their guns. I still would like to defend my family. If the government takes that right away, you can't defend your family. Australia has the same problem New Zealand has. Mary Reed stated the government takes a little of your rights away at a time so that you don't notice they're gone until it's too late. Nancy Mehaffie stated that Senator Brown mentioned that he has seen a lot of bills. However, none of those bills have a sanctuary state in them. There are approximately two months left in the legislature. This is the starting point, the County adopting an ordinance. Judy M. Arneson stated that we are making it so that all of our American military will have died in vain. Mr. Bauscher stated the second amendment is not for hunting. It's for a militia. Bev Cuvillier stated that schools need to teach the constitution, not sports. Richard Crain stated that he visited Germany and went to the concentration camps. It was the most horrible experience to see where people were tortured, killed, and starved. Germans didn't think this would happen either. We have to stop it before it's too late. Ms. Halling cited House Bill (HB) 102. The proposed ordinance for a second amendment sanctuary is the same as HB 102. Senator Brown stated that HB 102 passed and became law. Ms. Hohenstein asked what can the group do to inform the Board. Commissioner Magera stated that he counted 32 people in this room that are for a second amendment sanctuary county. However, the Board has received 36 emails stating that individuals are opposed to a second amendment sanctuary county. Commissioner Magera would like Senator Brown and Ms. Foust to provide additional resolutions and documentation to what other counties in Montana have adopted. Ms. Foust asked how did people that are against the ordinance know about this meeting and get a copy of her proposed ordinance. Commissioner Brooker and Commissioner Magera advised Ms. Foust that the Commissioners' Agenda is public and anything sent into the Courthouse is public record. Ms. Foust stated that she wants to give her children and grandchildren freedom and liberty. Members of the audience wanted to hear a comment that the Board has received from an individual that opposes a second amendment sanctuary county. Commissioner Magera read an emailed comment from John and Karen Thorson. Lorilee Cuvillier stated slavery was legal. It was unconstitutional. The Constitution is the supreme law. Senator Brown would like the County to make a statement to the state, not a resolution or an ordinance. Mrs. Leisz asked on these states that adopted ordinances what are the documents that they used. Senator Brown stated a resolution is a statement to the state. Get other counties on board. You could get 1/2 the other counties onboard quick if you adopted a resolution. Mrs. Reed inquired if more signatures were acquired would it mean more to the Board. Commissioner Brooker stated that she would like Senator Brown to provide more research and to provide guidance from his legal advisors. Ms. Croft stated that we should plant a flag as a community and make a statement. Mrs. Reed asked the Board what their thoughts are on passing an ordinance. Commissioner Magera stated what bothers him is the word ordinance. Commissioner Magera would like additional documentation from Senator Brown and Ms. Foust. Ms. Foust asked why Commissioner Magera doesn't like the word ordinance in this instance. Ms. Leisz stated the ordinance that Ms. Foust provided is unclear. The language needs to be cleaned up, it's vague, and doesn't apply to the County.

The Board adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner

Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
March 4, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, March 4, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: the agriculture exemption on tracts 1, 2, and 3 of COS 383. Ms. Maudrone believes that the Board intended to lift the Agriculture Exemption on Tracts 1 and 2, once the Department of Environmental Quality Sanitation review was completed on Tracts 1 and 2.

Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: a proposed standing order on weapons in the Sanders County Courthouse. The Board has a consensus to support and approves Doug Dryden's ordering the Courtroom restricted to firearms while the court is in session.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

The Board has a consensus to execute the Road Project Agreement between Sanders County, Montana and the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Lolo National Forest for Ferry Landing Recreation Area Parking Expansion.

Commissioner Cox motioned to approve February 24-25, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to reappoint Dewey Duffel to the Western Sanders County TV District for a three-year term. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board met with Bob Brown, Representative District 7, Montana State Senate; Paul Fielder, Representative, House District 13, and Denley Loge, Representative, House District 14 to discuss: a legislative update. Also in attendance were: Greg Hinkle, Citizen; Dick Mosher, Citizen; Carolyn Hidy, Clark Fork Valley Press; Melinda Ferrell, Sanders County Democratic Party; Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools; Shawna Chenoweth, Supervisor, Detention/Dispatch; Tom Rummel, Sheriff; Kathleen S. Hassan, Citizen; Art Hassan, Citizen; Ken Matthiesen, Free American; Jeff Reed, Citizen; Mary Reed, Citizen; Judy Arneson, Citizen; Stacy Kandel, Sanders County Republic Central Committee (SCRCC); Catherine Dewitt, Citizen; Donna McQueen, SCRCC; Carla Neiman, Clark Fork Valley Hospital (CFVH); Dr. Greg Hanson, CFVH; Lark Chadwick, Citizen, and Miriah Kardelis, the Sanders County Ledger. Introductions were made by Senator Bob Brown, and Representatives Denley Loge, and Paul Fielder. Nichol Scribner thanked Representative Fielder for his support in the legislature for Montana's elections. Mrs. Scribner addressed House Bill (HB) 613 stating that if it were to pass it would create an undue burden on counties in regards to tribal voting. Senator Brown did not believe it would pass because of the cost associated. Representative Fielder advised he introduced HB 144 revising laws for preserving authority to sheriff's constables and peace officers who do not assist a state or local health officer. Kathleen Hassan referenced HB 162. Representative Fielder sponsored this bill to eliminate the state tax on social security income. Montana gets \$100 million from social security taxes. Representative Fielder is forecasting revenue updates if the revenue continues to trend the way it has been going. Carolyn Hidy advised if there is any action or discussion in changing the legislative schedule. Commissioner Brooker stated other states have 60-day legislation. Next year is 30-days of budget. Senator Brown stated that there are budget people and policy people. They don't work the same. Lark Chadwick stated that last year there were approximately 3,000 bills. Is there any talk of capping the number of bills that are proposed? Representative Loge stated that he proposed a bill to put a limit on the number of drafts a bill can have. I don't think there should be limits on the number of bills proposed, just bill draft so that you don't limit representation for your constituents. Senator Brown advised that there are bill draft requests which are different from bills that are proposed. Melinda Ferrell asked Senator Brown how do you believe that you are supporting jobs, the economy, and working families in Sanders County. Senator Brown responded by stating he doesn't care if his name is on any bills. I believe that we're doing well. Mrs. Ferrell asked if Senator Brown believes that giving tax breaks to the wealthy is beneficial when in fact it burdens the poor. Senator Brown stated that wealthy people pay me. Representative Loge stated that there are incentives to bring outside investors. Sanders County is an Opportunity Zone, that creates incentives to bring money into a community. Judy

Arneson requested clarification on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 ordinance discussion. Senator Brown stated that he has not read the ordinance. He has not yet contacted his legal advisors. Commissioner Brooker stated the ordinance was poorly written. Ms. Arneson stated that she is concerned the matter is being thrown under the bus. Representative Fielder brought up HB 258 which revises laws related to firearms, ammunition, and accessories. Representative Fielder has also corresponded with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Good Neighbor Authority to speed up the process on timber sales. Representative Fielder is working on support for mining. He is working on bills to increase our freedoms, increase jobs, and increase taxes. Stacy Kandel stated to Senator Brown and Representatives Fielder and Loge that they are being closely watched on how they vote and for what. There is a definite rhino problem in this Country. Representative Loge can you convince me why HB 202 should be supported. Representative Loge stated it's a once-in-a-lifetime kill so that individuals are satisfied with their kill. You can still get a cow moose and a ewe. Mrs. Kandel stated it sets a precedence. In the future are we only going to be able to kill one bull elk? Representative Loge, you voted no on HB 113 this upset a lot of us greatly. Representative Loge, I voted no on HB 113 because instead, I voted yes on HB 427. I felt that I could vote on 427 over 113.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Magera joined the Board at 1:45 p.m.

The Board met with Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management to discuss: an update on the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant.

The Board met with Shawn Sorenson, Sanitarian to discuss: updates in Environmental Health. Mr. Sorenson advised that Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s Retail Program Standards apply to the operation and management of a retail food regulatory program that is focused on the reduction of risk factors known to cause or contribute to foodborne illness and the promotion of active managerial control of these risk factors. Staff took initial steps to standardize in 2016 and 2017, but have since been inactive as the workload has increased. A meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2021, with the FDA with the intent to establish a realistic standardization timeline. Statistics are as follows: Inspections- 183 licensed establishments 6% inspected, Temporary Events- 2 so far in fiscal year 2021, Soil/Site analyses- 8 so far in calendar year 2021, Wastewater Permits 111 permits so far in fiscal year 2021, Water/Well Permits- 80 permits so far in fiscal year 2021, Local Subdivision Reviews- 51 so far in fiscal year 2021, Junk Vehicles- 122 vehicles and 1 mobile home incentive so far in fiscal year 2021, and Food Training- three classes planned in fiscal year 2021.

The Board met with Ashley Bache, GIS/Rural Addressing to discuss: an update in GIS/Rural Addressing. Ms. Bache has provided 160 addresses since the beginning of the fiscal year. The NextGeneration 911 Grant is extended until 2022. Sanders County's maps are more up to date than the state's Cadastral program. Mrs. Bache has updated Dispatches maps and all the County's computers minus the Weed District. Mrs. Bache is receiving requests from individuals wanting to name their driveways. The Board has a consensus that individuals have to accept what Mrs. Bache provides to them for emergency services in regards to subdivisions and roads. Mrs. Bache can also charge for site visits for each address that she has to provide. Further discussion was on roads that Mrs. Bache has on file but could not physically locate. Commissioner Brooker advised Mrs. Bache to follow up with the United States Postal Service.

The Board conducted an interview at 3:00 p.m. for the open board position for the Sanders County Board of Health. Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary was not in the room so no meeting minutes were taken.

The Board conducted an interview at 3:45 p.m. for the open board position for the Sanders County Board of Health. Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary was not in the room so no meeting minutes were taken.

The Board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA**  
**March 10, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 9:35 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2, and Lee Smith, Foreman, Road District No. 3 for their quarterly meeting to discuss: the 2021 Bridge and Road Safety and Accountability Act (BaRSAA) Tax Allocation. Also in attendance was Amber Miskowitz, Citizen. Ben Bache provided an update on Krueger Road in Plains, Montana. Further discussion was held on Payment in Lieu of Taxes. Jennifer Ekberg provided the road foreman with the 2022 Fiscal Year Montana Department of Transportation yearly Fuel Tax Certification of Road Mileage maps.

The Board met with Department Heads for their quarterly meeting. In attendance were: Amber Miskowitz, Citizen; Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools; Tom Rummel, Sheriff; Shawn Sorenson, Sanitarian; Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources; Jason Peterson, Supervisor, Sanders County Refuse District; Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management; Ashley Bache, GIS/Rural Addressing, and Mark Lincoln, Coordinator, Sanders County Weed District. Nichol Scribner introduced McKenna Wallace as a new Deputy Treasurer. Old Business: Mr. Wallace reminded department heads that an email was sent out on March 4, 2021, as a reminder that the appraisal period ends March 30, 2021. Employee's signed appraisals need to be signed and submitted to Mr. Wallace by April 30, 2021. New Business: Safety Rounds were conducted at the Sheriff's office on March 8, 2021, and the Courthouse on March 9, 2021. Montana State Fund Safety Champions Training is 10- two-hour sessions. Department heads and supervisors shall participate to strengthen the safety culture for Sanders County. Department Head Updates: Nichol Scribner stated that the Auditor is here and is making rounds. Business is as usual in the Clerk and Recorders, Elections, and Treasurer's office. The second half of taxes are mailed out in May. This year is an assessment year with the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the DOR is out making its rounds. Sanders County property values are at an all-time high. Shawn Sorenson asked when will we see the consequences on the property taxes because of the influx of people moving here. Mrs. Scribner stated November 2021. Mr. Sorenson stated that because people are naming their prices and property is being sold so fast, isn't that an unfair way to tax people? Mrs. Scriber stated that yes it was. It can make locals taxed out of living here. Mark Lincoln stated right now the priority is hiring the Weed District's seasonal employees. Juli Thurston stated that there are ongoing health and nutrition available. 4H is holding classes and events at a club level. Ashley Bache has had a high number of addresses assigned. Mrs. Bache is currently working on two grants. Bill Naegeli stated that he has submitted the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant. Mr. Naegeli is getting ready to visit the fire chiefs in Sanders County to execute the Co-op with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Mr. Sorenson stated that construction season did not slow down at all this year. A new food co-op is starting up. Since July 1, 2020, 80-wells have been permitted. Sheriff Rummel is working with Jennifer Ekberg to put items from the Sheriff's office on Public Surplus, an auction website. Application Data Systems, Inc. (ADSi) training will be scheduled for the County Attorney's office, as well as Detention and the Deputies. Sanders County has one Deputy Sheriff at the academy and one will enter the academy in April when the other Deputy comes back at the end of March. Jason Peterson stated the Refuse District is business as usual. Commissioner Cox stated that Kathy Conlin is taking volunteers for Thompson Falls Beautification Days. Commissioner Magera stated that the Road Department's road bids will be out fairly soon because fuel prices are rising. The Weed District purchased two new vehicles. Rush Skeleton will go to a one-man crew if not re-funded this year through grants.

The Board adjourned at 11:30 a.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:38 p.m.

Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools requested to meet with the Board as she was not scheduled, to discuss: the Sanders County AIP Task Force grants. Commissioner Cox will follow up with Kim Bergstrom and Susan Drumheller on the Sanders County AIP Task Force grants.

The Board met with Greg Hinkle to discuss: his proposed alternative to the second amendment sanctuary ordinance for Sanders County, Montana. Also in attendance were: Zita L Kennedy, Citizen; Christine Munday, Citizen; Amber Miskowitz, Citizen; Chris Stough, Citizen; Mary Reed, Citizen; Nancy Mehaffie, Citizen; Gail Hinkle, Citizen; Catherine Dewitt, Citizen; Neal Buckhouse, Citizen; Linda Hohenstein, Citizen; Connie Foust, Citizen, and John Dowd, the Sanders County Ledger. Greg Hinkle advised that he was a former Representative for Senate District No. 9, he's not a lawyer, and is a second amendment advocate. Mr. Hinkle presented Senate Bill (SB) 277 generally revising laws related to state's rights, House Bill (HB) 258 revising laws related to firearms, ammunition, and accessories, HB 436 generally revise firearms laws, HB 504 generally revise firearms and weapons laws, and HB 560 establish the Montana second amendment preservation act. Mr. Hinkle requests that the Commissioners write to the House and Judiciary Committee to support SB 277, HB 258, 436, 504, and 560.

Commissioner Cox advised that Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace brought down a standing order from the district court Judges for Sanders County proposing to prohibit firearms and weapons from the Courthouse. The Commissioners as well as Mr. Dryden are proposing the whole third floor and the second floor Justice Courtroom be prohibited from firearms and weapons while court is in session. Commissioner Cox stated that he agrees with Mr. Hinkle and believes the County should go the route that Mr. Hinkle is proposing. Chris Stough stated that the resolution stating that Sanders County, Montana supports the second amendment doesn't carry well. Commissioner Cox and Commissioner Magera will you support this and write to the Judiciary Committee? Commissioner Magera stated yes. Commissioner Cox stated that he will have to read the bills that were presented. I do support the second amendment. Chris Stough asked if the Board would formally support. Stacy Kandel inquired if a letter of support was submitted for HB 258. Commissioner Cox stated that one was not submitted because Senator Brown and Connie Foust did not follow up with the Board with the documentation that was requested. Connie Foust stated that she found out this morning that this meeting was being held by the Board. We want an ordinance, not a resolution. A resolution doesn't have teeth. The state of Montana is changing. There is a lot of rhinos. We still want to move ahead with the ordinance. Mr. Hinkle stated let us work towards passing bills through the state first. Ms. Kandel stated she doesn't see why we can't do both, as a second layer. We need to support our constitutional Sheriff. Commissioner Magera stated Sanders County needs to wait for the legislature. Mr. Stough stated radicals are pushing, timeliness is a factor. Commissioner Cox advised he received correspondence from Senator Steve Daines and Senator Jon Tester stating they are against House Resolution 127. Kathleen Hassan requested clarification on HB 258 and HB 560. The Board has a consensus to write letters of support for the proposed bills pending review of the bills.

The Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
March 11, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 16 days without incident. Mr. Wallace provided the Board with the results on the safety rounds conducted in the Sheriff's office and the Courthouse by the Sanders County Employee Safety Committee's members. Open County Positions: District Court Clerk (full-time), the Board has a consensus to accept the resignation of Stephanie Molzohn effective April 29, 2021. District Court Clerk (part-time) interviews are today and Monday. Weed Sprayer (full-time, seasonal) there has been no interest to date. Fairgrounds Administrative Assistant has had two applicants to date. Courthouse Maintenance (backup), the Board has a consensus to hold off till the next budget year. Mr. Wallace is working with Chris Magliochetti to provide a University of Montana, Missoula health check day to County employees and spouses in April or May, more information to come.

The Board adjourned at 12:30 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: the courthouse banning firearms and weapons. Further discussion was on relocating the Justice Court offices to downstairs on the first floor.

Commissioner Magera proceeded to audit County Claims at 2:25 p.m. and instructed the Clerk to draw warrants in the amount of 234,890.41. (County Claims are on file in the Office of the Clerk and Recorder)

The Board met with Jonathan Mahrt, Auditor, Denning, Downing, and Associates to discuss: his findings from the recently completed audit. Also in attendance were: Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools, and Jessica Connolly, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Mahrt advised he has completed the 2020 Financial Statement and Federal Audit. He advised that this year Denning, Downing, and Associates would be giving the County an unmodified opinion on both, fairly stated in all respects, based on reasonable assurances. He also provided some background which including the following: the program reviewed this year, was the Sanders County Refuse District bonds for the System Improvements Project. Mr. Mahrt looked at controls in the Weed District and made some recommendations. Mr. Mahrt stated there are two findings in the 2020 audit. Preliminary findings show a corrective action plan on the Weed District's internal controls and the Road Department's Floating Mill Levy.

The Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
March 16, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Willy Peck to discuss: updates on work in the national forests. Mr. Peck advised that through collaboratives with Mineral and Sanders County, Montana 100 million board feet have been salvaged. 8,000 acres is proposed in four different timber salvage projects. To date, 20,000 acres have been brought forward by the collaboratives. The collaboratives missions are to improve the economy in rural communities. Mr. Peck requested the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) statistics for Sanders County. The Board will have Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools follow up with Mr. Peck.

The Board met with Michael Fieger, District Ranger, Lolo National Forest to discuss: district updates. Also in attendance was Willy Peck. Updates were as follows: the forest service employees are signed up through the County Health Department COVID-19 outreach and are coordinating with the Forest Service Safety Officer. Further discussions were held on the wildland fire/prescribed fire, recreation, vegetation management/timber sale activity, range-noxious weeds, transportation management/roads/engineering, minerals, the Kootenai National Forest, workforce, and the office/public engagement.

Commissioner Brooker joined the Board at 11:10 a.m.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox did not join the Board at 1:30 p.m.

As it was 1:30 p.m. and the time and place as advertised, the Board proceeded to open sealed bids for the 2021 Chemical bid. A bid was received from Nutrien Solution. Commissioner Brooker motioned to take the bid under advisement until Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 1:35 p.m.

**ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to execute Amended Resolution 2021-2 A Resolution Authorizing the Application and Administration of the USDA-RBDG Grant. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2 requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: Kruger Road in Plains, Montana. Commissioner Brooker discussed Tie Plant Road in Paradise, Montana, and the railroad crossing on Tie Plant Road. Mr. Bache discussed four trailers and a Broom Bear that Road District No. 1 & 2 owns and would like to sell. The Board has a consensus for Mr. Bache to work with Jennifer Ekberg to put the items on the Public Surplus auction website. Mr. Bache provided an estimate for a camera surveillance system that he would like at the Hot Springs Airport and Road District No. 1's shop. The Board has a consensus for Mr. Bache to purchase the surveillance system for both locations. Further discussion was on graders for all three Road Districts. The Board has a consensus for Road Districts No. 1 & 2 to lease one new grader and renew a lease on one grader. The Board has a consensus for Road District No. 3 to return the lease on the old grader and to lease one new grader.

The Board conducted an interview at 3:00 p.m. for the open board position for the Sanders County Fair Commission. Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary was not in the room so no meeting minutes were taken.

The Board conducted an interview at 3:45 p.m. for the open board position for the Sanders County Fair Commission. Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary was not in the room so no meeting minutes were taken.

The Board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA  
March 17, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer, and Carol Brooker, Commissioner.

As it was 10:00 a.m. and the time and place as advertised, Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera opened the Sanders County Refuse District Board meeting. In attendance were: Glen E. Magera, Member; Carol Brooker, Member; Jason Peterson, Supervisor, Sanders County Refuse District; Jennifer Ekberg, Secretary, and Kathy Conlin, Billing Clerk/Recycling Assistant. Commissioner Brooker motioned to approve February 17, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Magera seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Unfinished Business: Commissioner Magera inquired with Jason Peterson on the Plains Refuse Roll-off site equipment lease that ends in April 2021. Mr. Peterson has a quote from Titan Machinery and will be obtaining a quote from Western States Equipment. Jason Peterson advised the Board that the Public Service Commission rescheduled the hearing for Knerr Inc. to sometime in June 2021 for Knerr Inc's attorney to prepare for the hearing. Republic Services inquired with Mr. Peterson in regards to their hauling contract that ends June 31, 2021, with Sanders County. Mr. Peterson will follow up with Republic Services as soon as he obtains more information. New Business: Jennifer Ekberg presented Refuse Appeals for Tax ID No. 2675, 300531, and 300844. The Board has a consensus to deny all three appeals due to it not being the County's jurisdiction for what Mr. Jim Brown is requesting. Nichol Scribner will follow up with the Sanders County Refuse District after obtaining the appropriate paperwork and reaching out to the Department of Revenue. Recycling Report: 76 bales of Cardboard, 8 bales of Aluminum Cans were shipped on 3-11-2021, the Metal Pile was crushed and shipped at approximately 400 tons (no invoice as of yet), and 2 pallets of Batteries were shipped on 3-11-2021 (no invoice as of yet). There was no public present. There was no further comment. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 5 days without incident. Open County Positions: District Court Clerk (full-time), the Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Cathy Johnson starting March 18, 2021. District Court Clerk (part-time), the Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Tonia Ortega starting March 30, 2021. Weed Sprayer (full-time), no interest to date and closes externally April 1, 2021. Fairgrounds Administrative Assistant, two external applicants as of today. The external posting closes today as well. Further discussion was held on the University of Montana Health Check Day. Mr. Wallace is working with Chris Magliochetti to set a date in April or possibly May. Right now, Mr. Magliochetti's questions are focused on masks, social distancing policies, and his students' concerns.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 11:35 a.m.

Commissioner Cox left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The Board adjourned at 12:05 p.m. and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox joined the Board at 1:30 p.m.

#### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brooker motioned to appoint Craig Lien to the Hot Springs Airport Advisory Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brooker motioned to appoint Chuck Stephens to the Hot Springs Airport Advisory Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to appoint Ted Forkum to the Sanders County Fair Commission for a two-year term. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA March 25, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Sanders County, Montana, met in regular session on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Present were Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer; Carol Brooker, Commissioner, and Anthony B. Cox, Commissioner.

The Board met with Katherine Maudrone, Director of Land Services to discuss: tracts 1, 2, and 3 of COS 383. The Board and Katherine Maudrone requested Jennifer Ekberg look into the Board's previous minutes for further documentation for COS 383. Ms. Maudrone will research documentation on the Department of Environmental Quality approval for COS 383. Further discussions were held on Prospect Creek RV Park and Smith/Carr Minor Subdivision's upcoming public hearings.

Ben Bache, Foreman, Road District No. 1 & 2 requested to meet with the Board as he was not scheduled, to discuss: weight limits. The Board as well as Mr. Bache have a consensus to address weight limits before they are imposed next season.

The Board met with Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources (HR) to discuss: Safety Report/Incident Update- 13 days without incident. Open County Positions: Weed Sprayer (full-time), one applicant to date with a closing date of April 1, 2021. Fairgrounds Administrative Assistant, the Board has a consensus to execute the HR Personnel Action Form for Haley Cole starting Monday, April 12, 2021.

The Board adjourned at noon and resumed the regular session at 1:30 p.m.

The Board met with Matt Dombach, Maintenance to discuss: Justice Court offices relocating to a different floor in the Courthouse. Also in attendance were: Rich Wallace, Director of Human Resources, Doug Dryden, Justice of the Peace, Peggy Bates, Citizen, and Catherine Dewitt, Citizen. Mr. Dryden doesn't want to relocate the Justice Court offices. Commissioner Brooker inquired with Mr. Dryden on a service window for Justice Court. Mr. Dryden stated that a service window is not a priority for him but he would like one if possible. Mr. Dombach will obtain quotes for a service window and will work with Mr. Dryden on the project.

The Board met with Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools to discuss: County journal vouchers and a review of the budget. Also in attendance were: Peggy Bates, Citizen, and Catherine Dewitt, Citizen. The Board examined the County Journal Voucher Detail Report for February 2021. Presiding Officer Glen E. Magera examined and approved the Journal Voucher Detail Report for the accounting period of February 2021.

The Board met with Bill Naegeli, Office of Emergency Management to discuss: an update on the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant. Mr. Naegeli advised that he would be attending a FEMA class fairly soon. Further discussion was held on Brit Training for County employees.

### **ROUTINE COUNTY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Cox motioned to execute Task Order Amendment No. 2 for Task Order No. 20-07-6-11-048-0 for adequate staffing to complete services for Public Health Emergency Preparedness. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to reappoint Alan Dettwiler to the Sanders County Weed District for a two-year term. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cox motioned to award the 2021 Chemical bid to Nutrien Solutions per the recommendations of the Sanders County Weed District board. Commissioner Brooker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Nichol Scribner, Clerk and Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools requested to meet with the Board as she was not scheduled, to discuss: Sanders County's option tax. All Day \$49 Montana Registered Agent, LLC inquired with Mrs. Scribner to negotiating the County's option tax. The Board has a consensus that the County will not negotiate the Option Tax with All Day \$49 Montana Registered Agent, LLC.

The Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Glen E. Magera, Presiding Officer

Nichol Scribner  
Clerk & Recorder/Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jennifer Ekberg