

**ANACONDA DEER LODGE COUNTY
COMMISSION WORK SESSION
6 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019
HEARST LIBRARY**

Present: District 1 Commissioner Terry Vermeire (Chair), District 2 Commissioner Steve Gates, District 3 Commissioner Kevin Hart (Vice-Chair), District 4 Commissioner Paul Smith), District 5 Commissioner Mike Huotte, CEO Bill Everett, County Attorney Krakowka, and Clerk of Commission Lori Sturm

Members of the Press: No Press present at this meeting.

Members of the Public: Per Sign-In Sheet

Commission Chair Vermeire called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commission Chair Vermeire explained the Commission rules of procedure.

Certificate of Completion for Resolution No. 15-15 relating to the \$2,798,000 Sewer System Revenue Bond (DNRC Water Pollution Control State Revolving Loan Program)

Ed Janney, DOWL Engineer - Briefed the Commission on the Certificate of Completion. This is the last piece of the close-out for the West Valley Sewer Project. Mr. Janney explained some of the conditions of the loan, such as payroll, Federal Labor requirements and DEQ standards. The attached paperwork shows everything is in order. There has been a one-year performance verification; and the standard of conditions have been met. Requested that the commission approve The Certificate of Completion and place this on the agenda.

Commissioner Huotte – Believes there are approximately 81 connections that have not been completed. Is there a deadline, and are we going to start charging fees?

CEO Everett – This will be a commission decision. We need to review the time frame of the contractors. By the end of fall everyone will have had an opportunity to get with a contractor. Most people who are not attached will be billed, or will provide a justification of not having access to a contractor.

Ed Janney – Getting a contractor has been a struggle. The two doing the majority of work are Lauren Maes and Ken Thompson; and there is a back-log. A large percentage of the 81 want to be hooked up.

Commissioner Gates – What will be the consequences of not hooking up? I had two people approach me and informed me they are not going to hook up.

CEO – Again this will be decided by the commission. Right now we do not know the consequences

Commissioner Hart – This should be addressed sooner than later. If they have proof of diligent effort we certainly won't go after them with penalties. However, if push comes to shove - the sewer fee will have to be assessed for those who are blatantly not going to do this.

CEO Everett – Maybe we can place this on the agenda in May. We will have to see what kind of business the contractors can pick up in the next couple of months.

Place on the Agenda.

Certified Local Grant Contract - State of Montana Agreement - MT-19-010 between Anaconda Deer Lodge County and the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Montana Historical Society

Gayla Hess, Planning Department - This is the Certified Local Government application contract. This is similar to the contract that we have had in the past. There was a minor correction to our DUNS number, but the new contract has been given to the Clerk of Commission for your consideration.

Place on the Agenda.

Growth Policy – Finalized approval by the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Commission

Gayla Hess, Planning Department - Provided the Commission with a brief summary of the Growth Policy Update. This has been in the works for quite some time and this is about the 4th revision. The Planning Board has met several times; their comments and public comments have been incorporated. Corrections have been made and are continuing to be made. There are some formatting changes that need to be accomplished to the draft, but the planning board has been working diligently to get this for your review.

CEO Everett – This has been a long drawn out process. It is a moving target and will never be perfect. It represents most of our goal needs, and what needs to be accomplished for the next few years. I ask the commission to approve this. We have a number of grants that need to be applied for in the next few weeks and this document will support these.

There was continued discussion among the commission and CEO regarding errors found in the document. They pointed out several of the issues such as businesses that have closed, or a historic house listed on the National Registry that is located in another town. Commissioner Huotte stated that he believes this needs to move forward. The planning department is working on this document and making adjustments to fine tune the draft. Commissioner Hart expressed concern over the errors in the documents and believes it should be corrected; and make sure that the commission is approving a document that reflects the importance of the policy. It was pointed out that the originator of the document does not live here. The county has to pay for additional basics such as travel and other expenses. The document will meet the needs of what the county is trying to accomplish. It was noted that the Planning Department has been under great pressure to get this document to the Commission. The understanding is that there will be a corrected document before the vote next week.

Rose Nyman – Pointed out that if something in the document really needed to be changed, it could be amended.

CEO Everett – We hired someone from the outside to do the Growth Policy, now it is being worked on in-house. Appreciates all of the work that is being performed on the document.

Place on the Agenda.

Appointment/Reappointment to the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Board of Adjustments; Bill Johnson is requesting reappointment

Place on the Agenda.

Miscellaneous -

Commissioner Huotte – No Miscellaneous

Commissioner Smith – No Miscellaneous

Commissioner Hart – No Miscellaneous

Commissioner Gates – Mentioned the street lights on Third Street are not working.

CEO Everett – The lights are being temporarily rewired. The street project was scheduled to start March 1; hopefully there will be brand new lights just like east third by the end of summer.

Commissioner Vermeire – The Department of Justice has requested a letter of support for the SW Montana Drug Task Force. I would like that placed on the next agenda.

CEO Everett – This is a great task Force. The CEO Office has sent a letter of support.

County Attorney – A letter of support is being sent from my office. Believes an independent letter from the County Commission could also be helpful. They are always trying to obtain funding. They chase the major sources of drugs coming into Montana. Urged the Commission to send a letter of support.

Commissioner Vermeire – What is the pleasure of the commission.

Place on the Agenda.

CEO Everett – Provided an update on the Snow and water situation. As of last Tuesday we are out of the emergency order. The crews did an amazing job. We have a lot of issues going forth. As everyone can see . . . it is starting to warm up and melt. Keep in mind that we have frost levels and the drains are freezing at night; there is nowhere for the water to go. The department is trying to keep the drains open. The fear is of the individual residences flooding. The snow on the roofs and yards will be saturated and has no place to go. The hillside has little vegetation to absorb large amounts of moisture. Asked that people be understanding and to help their neighbors. We are not set up to handle this type of discharge. Sandbags have been ordered and more sand is coming in. The Job Corps is volunteering to fill the bags and they will be available behind the courthouse. We cannot deliver them to people as we do not have the manpower. Mother Nature is the greatest variable and we have no control over that.

Commissioner Hart – Brought up Warm Springs creek and possible problems with Beaver Dams and log jams. This could cause problems and maybe we can be proactive. Also mentioned the airport and potential flood issues.

CEO – We will have to have excavators stationed above the bridges hopefully to pick up the debris. There are a lot of obstacles. We have DES coming back on Friday and looking over the situation.

County Attorney – No Miscellaneous.

Public Comment

Melissa Roseleip, Tri-County Tobacco Prevention Specialist – Invited the Commission to the Chaos Volleyball tournament. Proceeded to explain that the group received a grant and they will be at the FMMS and would love to have anybody from a leadership position attend and support this event.

Rose Nyman – Brought up that the downtown businesses and some had lost at least fifty percent of their business during the Snowstorm. Some suffered building damage from the snow due to a roof collapsing. Has anyone looked into assistance from FEMA or the state?

CEO Everett – Definitely, this was part of the meetings that we had. In order for FEMA the loss level has to be about 10 million or better. Application has been made for State assistance. That will be addressed if there is any possibility. They are actually considering flooding from water a separate event.

Commissioner Vermeire – Received a call from Senator Steve Daines and they are keeping an eye on the water. There are federal funds available and they may be able to help with flooding problems.

ADLC Public Meeting Dates

Commissioner Vermeire read the meeting dates and times.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Lori Sturm
Clerk of Commission

Terry Vermeire
Commission Chair