



# Valley County Montana

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## COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF March 2013

### MARCH 1, 2013

Chairman Pippin was in the office for a while in the morning.

Monty Malnaa visited with Chairman Pippin about contracting the Valley County Road Department to do the road maintenance at the Pine's Cabin area.

Chairman Pippin left the office to attend the Valley County Grazing Districts' annual meeting.

### MARCH 4, 2013

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to sign the Notice to Proceed for the Canal Road Bridge Replacement, PW VCCAS03. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously.

Firefighters Bob Hanson, Bob Brunelle, Brandon Brunelle, Josh Thompson, Brien Austin, Jeff Knodel and Sarah Johnson joined the meeting.

Brandon Brunelle, Glasgow Fire Chief, handed out and reviewed a paper entitled the Glasgow Fire Department and Valley County Long Run Fire Departments Cooperative Effort.

Mr. Brunelle said the group was here to let the County know that the two departments, Glasgow Fire Department and Valley County Long Run Fire Department, have come up with a cooperative plan to enhance the cooperation between the two departments to provide a better service for Valley County and the City of Glasgow.

Chairman Pippin asked if they had considered combining the two departments and then go to the public and ask for an assessment per household.

Mr. Brunelle said if they did that they would have to reorganize and have an entirely new board. He said maybe that would be the route they may consider in the future but for now they want to try this new approach that wouldn't require any change in their two departments. Discussion followed.

He said currently both departments hold separate meetings twice a month. Both departments hold separate training meetings and quite often it is the same training. He said they are going to have the Glasgow firefighters and the Long Run Firefighters complete applications so they are members of both departments and then they can combine the training and meeting dates saving time and money for those volunteers. The group discussed how this would affect the workers compensation for both entities and how that could be handled.

Mr. Brunelle said that they may be able to look at the inventory of equipment for both entities and if the two departments worked together they may not need all their current equipment and could downsize some. He said the two departments have seven or eight structure fire engines and that is not necessary in addition to other equipment that is doubled up. By eliminating these duplications they could use these funds for upgrades that are needed for their current equipment.

Chairman Pippin asked if they would ever consider combining into just one group. Discussion followed.

Mr. Brunelle said that they wanted to try this Cooperative Effort for a year and see how it works.

Mr. Thompson said he believed this move will begin to unify the forces of Glasgow and Long Run. He said training together will be very beneficial towards promoting the two groups to work together. By training with each other, one knows what the other can do and will provide the confidence to trust each other in an emergency situation, knowing they are trained to react in the same manner.

Mr. Austin said that in an emergency situation you are trusting your partner with your life and if you don't train with these people and see how they work, and know they have had all the necessary training, it is difficult to put that much trust in a any person. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin asked if they have worked on an agreement of some sort to begin this process or do they want the County Attorney to work on one.

Mr. Brunelle said they are not doing anything that would required any documentation or an agreement. They are only having the Long Run firemen also become members of the Glasgow Fire Department and the Glasgow Firemen become members of Long Run. He said that volunteerism is declining and they are hoping this would be a way to increase membership. He said they are having problems getting volunteers to respond to calls when needed now. Discussion followed.

Mr. Brunelle said in the future if they cut back on equipment and want to share equipment, then they will have to have an agreement signed documenting the usage of the shared equipment.

Commissioner Peterson asked if they are having problems with outlying fire departments and have they discussed this plan with them.

Mr. Hanson said that the outlying fire departments do not do much structure training like Glasgow does so they do not have that training right now. He said a lot of the outlying fires are fought by the local farmers who have no training and many years ago that was fine, but the new materials in homes now are very dangerous and kill people. Firemen that fight a structure fire need to have specialized training for their own safety.

Mr. Brunelle said there are a few outlying departments that are doing some of the structure training but most of them do not have the volunteers that want to put in the extra time.

Mr. Brunelle said they have not discussed this with any outlying departments because this is between Long Run and the Glasgow fire departments right now and it really doesn't affect those outlying fire departments.

Commissioner Peterson said he thought this was a great effort and glad to see them trying. He asked if their plan for the future is to combine departments and then combine budgets. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin questioned which entity would be paying the worker's compensation for the firemen and Mr. Hanson said that was an issue that would need to be investigated. He said it shouldn't be a problem with just adding members to the individual departments because right now they are covered under their workman's comp when they fight fires in Valley County and if they are fighting a fire in Glasgow the Glasgow workman's comp should cover the volunteers. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin said he would check with MACo, Valley County's worker's compensation carrier, and see how this affects them.

Mr. Thompson said that there has been concern by the community that if the entire firemen are sent out on calls out of town, then there is not anyone left in town if they are needed. He said that Long Run does not have enough equipment to send everyone out, so there would always be people left to cover the town. He said it is up to the Fire Chiefs who goes out to a fire and they are in charge of crew management and are very aware that they must have people left to handle other emergencies if needed.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that in the past Long Run has always said they need more equipment so now are we saying they don't need so much equipment. This is quite different than it has been. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Peterson said he thought there should be a response from the Commissioners to the City on this request.

Chairman Pippin said he thought the Commissioners should send a letter to the City saying we are aware of, and support the Fire Departments' efforts to work together and combine some of their services.

Mr. Hanson said this same group is meeting with the Glasgow City Council this evening and would discussing this same thing.

Mr. Brunelle thought a letter would be a good thing for the Commissioners to do.

Commissioner Reinhardt questioned why the firemen had to be members of both departments to train together and double up the workman's compensation coverage. He said they have a mutual aide agreement now that allows the two entities to work together and every entity is responsible for their own firemen.

Mr. Brunelle said that when you are a member of the department you know that you are covered, that you can drive or use any of the equipment and there is no problem with legal issues. The two fire departments have discussed joining forces for

many years and this is what they have decided to try and see how it works.

After much discussion Chairman Pippin said he would contact the County's compensation carrier and check on this issue.

Commissioner Peterson verified that Chairman Pippin will look into the worker's compensation issue and a letter will be sent to the Glasgow City Council and the group left the office.

Jenny Reinhardt, Valley County Treasurer, updated the Commissioners on the current tax collection status.

Commissioner Reinhardt said he received a request from Christoffersen & Knierim, P.C., to get an easement from the State of Montana to verify access to land owned by Tony Gundermann. Rick Seiler, Valley County DES Coordinator, will help to put the easement applications together.

Commissioner Peterson left the office for the day.

Chairman Pippin left the office.

Tom DePuydt visited with Commissioner Reinhardt about some old Valley County tax books he was trying to find and Commissioner Reinhardt said they may be in storage at a building over at the Road Department. He and Mr. DePuydt went over to the storage area to look.

Commissioner Reinhardt and Mr. DePuydt returned with a 1913 Tax Register Book from the storage area that may have some of the information that Mr. DePuydt is looking for. Commissioner Reinhardt said he would get the books brought back over to the Courthouse and put in a storage area in the basement where people could access them if they need to do some research.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

### **MARCH 5, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Commissioner Peterson informed the Board that he will be out of the State of Montana effective Friday, March 8th through Sunday, March 10th.

Glen Meier, Valley County Sheriff, visited with the Commissioners about a variety of issues.

Sheriff Meier said he had delivered a prisoner to Glendive on Sunday so the County did not have admit this individual into Room 109, saving that expense. He said this is a voluntary commitment.

Sheriff Meier left the office.

Samar Fay, Glasgow Courier, joined the meeting.

Chairman Pippin began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m.

There was no public comment submitted.

The first item to consider on the agenda was the request for weight lifting equipment for Law Enforcement through the 1033 Program.

Chairman Pippin said that Sheriff Meier had signed the 1033 Form for this equipment which will replace some of the equipment that is in the weight room area now. He said the current equipment is going to be taken out and they want to use this other equipment that they found through the 1033 Program. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to sign the 1033 Program Authorization Form to get the listed weight lifting equipment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously.

The Montana Association of Reservation Counties, Inc. dues of \$250 was the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Pippin said Valley County has not been a member of this association for the past few years.

No motion was made so there will be no action taken to pay these membership dues.

The next item on the agenda is the Proposal for Remodel on the Department of Revenue's front counter from Keith Fogle.

Chairman Pippin said that he is working with Bob Steele, Maintenance Supervisor, to get a cost for the maintenance department to replace the countertop on the lobby counter of the Department of Revenue Office. Chairman Pippin said he would contact Mr. Fogle and tell him we are going to do the work through our maintenance department.

The Prisoner Phone Cards was the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Pippin said that the company that supplies the phone cards for the prisoners, Cerium Networks, has contacted Valley County and they are losing money on this program and need to change the current contract. The company will provide the phone cards at half price to the County.

After some discussion it was agreed that the decision is ultimately up to the Sheriff and he had agreed to go along with the proposal so there will be no action taken by the Commissioners with this issue until a new contract is submitted with the new proposal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to execute a Notice of Employment for Tina Beckner as a temporary, part-time Matron for the Sheriff's Office beginning February 27, 2013, at \$11.26 per hour. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to execute a Notice of Termination for Kelly Hagfeldt as a permanent, part-time MV Clerk for the Treasurer's Office effective February 21, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously.

Chairman Pippin said that AT&T has contacted the County indicating they are interested in leasing some County ground near the fairgrounds to put up a cell tower. A sample lease document has been sent to Valley County, but there are no details regarding the lease dollar amount. He said he will continue to work with this company and when he has a firm offer he will get that information on a document for the Commissioners to consider.

Commissioner Peterson said that he will contact the Fair Commission and let them know of this possibility.

Mrs. Fay left the office.

Colleen Pankratz, Valley County Transit Supervisor, stopped in and had Chairman Pippin sign a title for a bus that Mrs. Pankratz was selling to the Glasgow Wrestling Club.

Dora Jean Beil, Refuse District/Airport Commission Secretary, Phillips Hanamaikai, DYAD Environmental, Ron Watson and Jon Kliewer from the Refuse District Board, Stan Ozark, KLTZ/Mix 93, and Samar Fay, Glasgow Courier, joined the meeting.

Mr. Hanamaikai said that he was there to update the Commissioners on the status of the project with the Valley County Refuse District. He discussed a negative news article in the Great Falls Tribune. He said Glendive is building a new landfill and wants to get all DYAD's disposal material. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin said the best way to stop poor rumors from circulating would be to meet with the local press and get accurate information out there and Mr. Hanamaikai agreed to do that. Mr. Hanamaikai said they want to schedule a community meeting.

Commissioner Reinhardt said he called a Fallon County Commissioner about this project and those Commissioners said they were disappointed with the Engineer, Barry Damschen, because they had asked him a year ago to figure out what needs to be done and they haven't received anything from Mr. Damschen.

Mr. Hanamaikai said that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) stated the DYAD process is valid even though DYAD hasn't worked a lot with TNORM material.

Commissioner Peterson asked if their company is working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Mr. Hanamaikai said their company is also working with Mr. Damschen on the permitting process because Damschen has worked with the DEQ and DYAD thought they could speed up the process for them. He said the DEQ is cautiously optimistic so far. He said they are in the final steps to complete all the permitting for North Dakota. Their solids have passed all of the North Dakota DEQ requirements and testing. Discussion followed.

Mr. Hanamaikai said they are looking at possible processing centers in Kill Deer and Belfield, North Dakota, and Bainville, Montana.

Mr. Hanamaikai explained a little bit about the process they are proposing to use to encapsulate the radioactive material. He said they passed the 100 year test with NRC and the longer the block is exposed to the environment the more impermeable the product becomes. The blocks are ceramic cubes measuring four feet by four feet and weighing three ton. He said they are proposing that these cubes be kept in their own cell. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin asked what if DYAD produces more product than the Valley County Refuse can handle.

Mr. Hanamaikai said that they would fulfill Valley County's contract first, then the extra would go to Fallon County and the Glendive landfills. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin said that DYAD has a big job of informing the public and gaining their trust.

Mr. Hanamaikai said DYAD understands the importance of taking care of the environment and work very hard at making sure the waste is handled in a safe and fiscally acceptable environment and they want to dispel as much of the rumors as possible.

After much discussion it was agreed that a public meeting would be scheduled through the Refuse District Board and the group left the office.

The Commissioners left the office to attend community meetings in St. Marie this afternoon and Opheim this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

### **MARCH 6, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Bill Gaffney, Valley County Computer Technician, joined the meeting to update the Commissioners on his budget and some changes in his plans for the spending of the funds. He said he has over \$4,000 left in the upgrading of the computers and wants to purchase five laptops with those funds to use for computer training with the Valley County Courthouse employees. He said it will not cost the County any more, he is using his funds that are left over. He reviewed the plan in detail with the Commissioners.

Mr. Gaffney said the five laptops would be available for any departments to train with and he would have access to the network that could be accessed for training.

Chairman Pippin voiced his concern that there was wireless access to the Courthouse's network. As long as that network access is only open for the training period and then shut down, he was okay with the plan.

After much discussion it was agreed by the Commissioners that it was up to Mr. Gaffney to decide what is the best way to use his budgeted funds and if that was his choice it was fine with them.

Commissioner Peterson asked Mr. Gaffney if Valley County was done working with Montana Technical Solutions and if we had used up the credit we had with that company for computer tech hours. Mr. Gaffney said that the last bill from Montana Technical was paid and the balance with them is at \$0.00 right now and he didn't think he would have to use their services in the future.

Mr. Gaffney left the office.

The Commissioners discussed the replacement of the Valley County telephone system. It was agreed that Chairman Pippin will contact Chris Richards to verify his proposal to replace the wires and he will contact Nemont to see if they had a telephone system that would work for the Valley County telephones and get a cost from them for comparison. There is a proposal submitted from Cerium Networks for a couple of options for the telephone Processor/Server for the Courthouse.

The Commissioners discussed the job posting for the Safety Trainer/Coordinator position. It was decided to get the job posted in house for five days. A memo will go out to the Department Heads today.

Jay Ashbaucher visited with Chairman Pippin about setting up a video system in the Detention Facility because he wanted to show a video program to the prisoners there. Mr. Ashbaucher said his church would consider purchasing the equipment if need be. He showed the program to Commissioner Reinhardt and Chairman Pippin.

Chairman Pippin said the Courthouse had a television and VCR set up that he thought could be used. Discussion followed.

Mr. Ashbaucher left the office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner Peterson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes for the month of February, 2013.

Commissioner Reinhardt left the office.

Tim Jennings stopped in and inquired if the County has heard from the Corps of Engineer regarding the roads they will be giving to Valley County out in the Fort Peck Lake area and the Commissioners said no.

Commissioner Reinhardt returned to the office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt authorizing the Chairman to execute two State Applications for Historic Right of Way Easements for Access Roads Upon State Trust Lands, between Valley County and the State of Montana, on property located in Section 29 and 30, Township 35N, Range 42E. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and it unanimously passed.

These two easements will fulfill the previous request for access to property owned by Tony Gundermann. Mr. Gundermann is going to pay for the Application fees because this road is a Valley County Road that is not maintained or used at this time.

Commissioner Peterson left the office.

Chairman Pippin left the office for the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

### **MARCH 7, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office some today.

Chairman Pippin attended the Conservation District Bison discussion meeting at the Cottonwood Inn this afternoon.

### **MARCH 8, 2013.**

Chairman Pippin was in the office in the morning.

### **MARCH 11, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Willis Cook visited with the Commissioners about the possibility of allowing the Bakken oil waste material to be dumped at the Valley County Refuse. He said he was against the County taking in this contaminated waste. The Commissioners explained some facts about this waste disposal process and Mr. Cook left the office.

Jenny Reinhardt, Valley County Treasurer, updated the Commissioners on some legislation she was concerned about. She said that the company DTM was about ready to take 371 properties and she would be issuing Tax Deeds to them.

After some discussion Mrs. Reinhardt left the office.

David and Tina Jondahl submitted an Application for Valley County Burial Assistance.

Wayne Waarvik, Jr., Valley County Road Supervisor, Paul Tweten, Valley County Road Administrator, Rick Seiler, Valley County DES Coordinator, joined the meeting to participate in a conference call on the Whatley Bridge project with Tom Thennis, Montana Department of Emergency Services (DES), Tom Barnard and Dave Lucus for FEMA, and Karl Yakawich, Bill Lloyd and Cole Peebles from Great West Engineering.

Mr. Barnard started out by saying FEMA reevaluated their estimated costs in comparison to the County local costs and could increase the repairs for the Whatley Bridge to \$170,000 and the Whatley Road project to about \$80,000.

Mr. Seiler asked if FEMA would consider looking at the plan that Great West sent to fix the Bridge by extending it to a cost of \$666,064.

Mr. Barnard said once FEMA agrees on the cost to fix the projects and updates the Worksheets, then they can discuss some additional mitigation plans, but whatever they do they cannot go over an additional 100% of what the original cost would be to repair to the condition it was in prior to the disaster. He said the most FEMA could put towards repair, if mitigation was allowed for the two projects, would be around \$340,000 for the Bridge site and \$167,00 for the Road site. Discussion

followed.

Mr. Seiler asked if the County could repair the Whatley Road themselves and take all the FEMA funds to put towards the repair on the Bridge. He said their priority is wanting to save the bridge, the County could keep up on the road by continually adding dirt.

Mr. Barnard said that may be an option, but if the County decided to go that route and move funds around, they would have to repair the road site to the same scope of work as what the Project Worksheet required, documenting that it was done that way, before that site would ever be eligible for any FEMA funds in the future. Discussion followed.

Mr. Barnard said that FEMA would have to make some decisions on the mitigation costs and if the County could even combine funds for the Bridge. It was estimated that the total of FEMA funds for both projects would be around \$420,000 if the mitigation was approved for both sites.

Mr. Seiler said the total to fix the Whatley Bridge was estimated at \$666,064. The County figured there were some of the construction jobs they could do and they could reduce the cost to \$529,640 and asked if there was any way FEMA could help more with this project.

Mr. Barnard said no, the most FEMA could go on the Bridge would be \$340,000.

Mr. Lucas asked if there was ever any damage similar to this on the Whatley Bridge before and Mr. Seiler said no, there is a bridge inspection done by the Montana DOT every two years and the Whatley Bridge has never had any damage documented when inspected.

Mr. Barnard asked if the County had discussed any funds being available through the MT Department of Transportation (DOT), or did DOT have any suggestions for repairs because they have a lot of experience in this area.

Mr. Waarvik said he spoke with the DOT employee who was the project inspector on site for the Whatley Bridge when it was built and he did not have any information for them..

Mr. Peebles said that the project plan from FEMA is to add more rock to the bridge base which would only increase the weight load and cause it to slough. He spoke with a geotechnical firm about this bridge and they said that the only thing to do for this project is to extend the length across the unstable area and change it to a four to one slope. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin asked if it would be allowed to merge the funds and use it towards fixing the Bridge, and the balance of the funds needed for the repair would have to be paid by the County.

Mr. Barnard said they would have to discuss this with FEMA's upper management to verify if the transferring of FEMA funds would be allowed.

Mr. Lucas said the County has to understand that some of the funds are designated for certain things and cannot be used for anything else. He said they have to follow FEMA regulations and all of the \$420,000 may not be eligible to go towards the bridge repair, they would have to discuss this with their FEMA people to see what would be allowed. He said the fix that the County has come up with does not really fit into FEMA's policy. They have discussed several options and this is the best they have come up with.

Mr. Barnard said that any mitigation project has to be fully FEMA funded, they cannot be comingled with any other funds. He said FEMA funds are designated to put the damage back to the condition it was in before the disaster happened. Mr. Barnard said maybe there was another program they could look at for funding.

Mr. Lucas said what the County really needs to do to fix this bridge is way outside FEMA regulations. Discussion followed.

Mr. Barnard said that the Natural Resource and Conservation Services and the U.S. Corps of Engineers were the agencies to fix these types of projects.

Mr. Seiler said that the NRCS indicated they would not get involved with FEMA projects. Discussion followed.

Mr. Barnard said FEMA can work together with these agencies as long as there are no duplication of funding. Discussion followed.

It was agreed that the FEMA group would discuss their options and see what their regulations would allow and the County would consider their options and contact some other agencies and then they would all get together on another call next week and this call came to an end.

Chairman Pippin and Commissioner Reinhardt left the office.

Harvey Fast visited with Commissioner Peterson about the proposed Bakken oil waste that may be taken to the Valley County Refuse.

René Clampitt, Planner/Dispatch Supervisor, visited with Commissioner Peterson about the requirements for the Kirkland

Estates Subdivision's final plat.

The Commissioners will be hosting a Community meeting at the Hinsdale School this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

### **MARCH 12, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Glen Meier, Valley County Sheriff, submitted some documentation with a breakdown of the types of arrests made this past year in comparison to the year before.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to give \$250 to the family of Cory Jondahl for burial expenses. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously. A check will be sent to Bell Mortuary.

Samar Fay, Glasgow Courier, joined the meeting.

Chairman Pippin began Discussion and Decision at 10:35 a.m.

There was no public comment submitted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt authorizing the Chairman to execute a Notice of Employment for Erika Doornek as a permanent, part-time Dispatcher for the Sheriff's Office beginning March 8, 2013, at \$11.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt authorizing the Chairman to execute a Notice of Termination for Drew Hancock as a permanent, part-time Detention Officer for the Sheriff's Office effective March 5, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously to sign the Valley County Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2013.

The Conservation District's Ordinance on Bison/Buffalo Grazing was the next agenda item.

Chairman Pippin said this Bison Ordinance was passed in McCone County and he wanted the Valley County Commissioners to consider it as the Valley County Conservation District is interested in passing it. He said that he understands that this was put on a ballot in McCone County and was voted in. Chairman Pippin said he needs to call the Commissioners in McCone County to verify the process they went through to pass their Ordinance and he will bring that information back to the Commissioners to look at.

Chairman Pippin said he attended a Conservation District meeting consisting of grazing districts from all the surrounding counties and all the grazing districts are very concerned about this issue. He said maybe the Commissioners would like to send a letter of support to the Conservation District to proceed. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Peterson said that first he wanted to say that he did not want free roaming buffalo in Valley County but he questioned what rights the Conservation District would have to pass an Ordinance. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin will get more information on the McCone County Ordinance before anything more is done on this issue in Valley County and visit with Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney..

Rick Stellflug, Valley County Weed/Mosquito Coordinator, Stone Tihista, Valley County Weed/Mosquito Assistant Coordinator and Norm Girard and Jody Faul from the Valley County Mosquito Control District Board joined the meeting.

Mr. Stellflug said they were here to discuss the wages for the mosquito and weed summer help because they need to increase the wages to be competitive and get employees. He said it is getting harder every year to find summer help because the wages are so low. Their summer employees are paid \$8.65 per hour with a \$.50 boost if they return the next year. He reviewed some of the wages that are paid to other seasonal employees in the area for comparison.

Chairman Pippin asked if the Valley County Districts require a CDL for their employees.

Mr. Girard said no, but they have to take a lot of chemical and pesticide training for the positions. Discussion followed.

Mr. Faul said an increase to \$10.85 per hour would only cost their budget about\$5,000 per year and their budget could handle that.

Mr. Stellflug said they have enough in their budget to pay for the increase until the end of June and then they would have to increase that line item for next year's budget. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Peterson asked if they would continue adding the \$.50 each year and if there is a cap on that increase. Discussion followed.

Mr. Faul said they talked about capping it at three years.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that they would have to cap that.

Mr. Stellflug said they seldom get any of the students back more than two or three years. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that he did not have a problem with them increasing the wages, but he hated to see them go up over \$2.00 in one jump. Discussion followed.

Mr. Stellflug said that the Mosquito and Weed District Boards voted on raising the wages to \$10.85 and said to take this request to the Commissioners to see what they thought of this. He said they also pay \$1.00 an hour higher to a few of the employees to take the supervisor duties for their crew. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Reinhardt voiced his concern that if they make a big increase here they will have to look at other departments too. Discussion followed.

Mr. Stellflug said that the boat washing grant will now be funded under Fish Wildlife & Parks instead of Department of Agriculture which means he will not have anything to do with this anymore. He said they start their washers out at \$13.00 per hour.

Chairman Pippin said he was in support of this increase. He said it is important to stay competitive.

Commissioner Peterson said the Commissioners will have to consider the other positions in the County that are being paid less and he thought this decision should be put on an agenda for consideration. He said he would like some time to consider the ramifications.

Commissioner Reinhardt said the Mosquito District can make their own decision on the wages, but the Commissioners have to decide on the Weed employees.

Mr. Stellflug said they need an answer as soon as possible because they should be advertising for summer help right now.

Commissioner Reinhardt said they could agenda it and decide next Tuesday at their weekly meeting.

Mr. Stellflug said he wants a decision before then, because they may be losing employees to other positions if they wait.

The Commissioners said they would consider their request and hopefully get back to them tomorrow with their decision.

The group left the office.

Commissioner Peterson and Chairman Pippin left the office for the day to host the Frazer and Lustre Community meetings.

Commissioner Reinhardt attended the Valley County Airport Board meeting this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

**MARCH 13, 2013**

The Commissioners left the office to attend the Department Heads meeting from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. this morning.

Darrell Morehouse joined the meeting to discuss the Airport Commission's decision on a new hangar that was made at their Board meeting last night.

Mr. Morehouse reviewed the areas at the Airport that the Airport Commission is considering for their new hangar and a possible hangar that Choice Airlines is thinking of building.

Commissioner Reinhardt said he didn't want to see the Airport Commission give up some prime location to Choice Airlines that the County may want to use in the future and the other Commissioners were in agreement with that statement. Discussion followed.

Mr. Morehouse said that the Airport had decided to offer Gary Martin \$55,000 for his hangar and Mr. Morehouse contact Mr. Martin and made that offer and is waiting for a response from Mr. Martin.

Commissioner Peterson asked where the funds were going to come from to purchase Mr. Martin's Hangar and Commissioner Reinhardt said it would come from PILT or Local Option Tax funds.

Mr. Morehouse said the Airport Board has scheduled a special meeting for Tuesday, March 26th to make some final decisions on the hangar projects at the airport and he left the office.

Commissioner Peterson left the office and attended the City-County Library Board meeting this afternoon.

Chairman Pippin signed Task Order No. 13, Agreement to Furnish Engineering Services to Valley County for the Improvements to the Wokal Field/Glasgow International Airport, FAA Reimbursable Agreement Assistance Form.

Chairman Pippin left the office.

Jenny Reinhardt, Valley County Treasurer, informed Commissioner Reinhardt that she had collected some tax money for some property in Frazer and so that property will not be taken for Tax Deed by the County.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

### **MARCH 14, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office in the morning.

The Commissioners' Office was closed for the afternoon so the Election Judges could use the office to count the ballots for the Glasgow School District Bond election.

### **MARCH 15, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office in the morning.

Jon Bengochea stopped in and completed an insurance form with Chairman Pippin's assistance.

Chairman Pippin participated in the Action for Eastern Montana Governing Board meeting via telephone conference this morning.

### **MARCH 18, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Commissioner Peterson made the motion to increase the base salary for weed and mosquito summer employees to \$10.35 per hour with an increase of \$.50 per hour if they are a returning summer employee, with a limit of two years for the \$.50 increase. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Chairman Pippin asked for any discussion.

Commissioner Peterson said he was concerned how this would affect other wages in other departments that start out lower. Discussion followed.

The motion passed with Chairman Pippin and Commissioner Peterson voting aye, and Commissioner Reinhardt voting nay.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt directing the Chairman to sign the Montana Board of Investments INTERCAP Loan Application for \$400,000 to build a hangar at the Valley County Airport. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and passed unanimously.

Lynne Nyquist, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, joined the meeting.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners and Election Administrator Lynne Nyquist met as a Canvassing Board to canvass votes from the Glasgow School Bond Election held by mail ballot. The results are as follows:

**VOTER TURNOUT:** 68%

**GLASGOW SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION**

**Mail Ballot**

	ISSUE	DISTRICT	TOTALS
<b>YES</b>	Bond #1	Glasgow School	1151
<b>NO</b>	Bond #1	Glasgow School	945

<b>YES</b>	Bond #2	Glasgow School	857
<b>NO</b>	Bond #2	Glasgow School	1225

Pam Walling, MACo Health Care Trust joined the meeting.

Connie Boreson from the Clerk & Recorder's Office joined the meeting.

Mrs. Walling handed out a letter documenting that Valley County will have a premium base increase of 4.2% for the next year on the health insurance premiums in addition to some onetime charges that are being made to compensate for the costs to meet the new Health Care laws. She reviewed some of the changes in benefits in the various plans. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling reviewed some of the changes in the benefits and discussed the health savings account that goes along with the High Deductible health care plan and suggested that Valley County use Allegiance to administer their health savings accounts if there are people interested in opening one.

Mrs. Walling said that most of the Counties have dropped the Comprehensive Major Medical Plan and asked if Valley County wanted to consider dropping that plan also. Valley County currently has 22 employees enrolled in this plan. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling said that now all participants of any health insurance must sign off that they have been notified of their health care coverage, so there is a form included that will have to be collected from each employee with their signature on it. The new Health Care reform laws are requiring this, and in case the County is audited, they will need to produce these signed forms. She said she hoped that she could get signatures and these forms completed when she is here for open enrollment in May. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling said the Basic Plan is now required to include drug prescription coverage so that is an added benefit. The High Deductible plan still has no drug coverage until the high deductible is met. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling said the Dental and Vision Plans are not connected to the health insurance plans and there are no minimum requirement so anyone can participate in either plan even if they do not enroll in any insurance plan with Valley County. She said the eye glass benefit has increased from \$160 to \$200 per year and prescription sunglasses are also covered now. The Dental Maximum Annual Benefit increased from \$1,250 to \$1,500 per individual.

Mrs. Walling said that all retirees who are Medicare eligible will have to go to a Medicare Retiree Plan. Now, all retirees are grouped into their own group and New West is going to administer this Plan for MACo. She said it may be important to schedule a meeting with all the retirees to explain this plan to them. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling said the Commissioners need to choose the plans they want to offer as soon as possible so MACo can get the required printed material done. She said if there are any changes being made, there must be a notice sent out to employees within sixty days. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Walling said she believed the Wellness Screening for Valley County is scheduled for May 7, 2013.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked how Valley County's loss ratio is doing and Mrs. Walling said that the loss ratio for Valley County, for the past three years, is 61.5% which is very good. She said that they would like to see all counties to be at or below 70%.

Mrs. Walling left the office.

The Commissioners left the office to host the Community meetings in Fort Peck this afternoon, and Nashua this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

**MARCH 19, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Glasgow Mayor Dan Carney informed the Commissioners that the City-County Library Board Chairman, Joe Wiles resigned from his position on the Library Board. Discussion followed.

Mr. Carney said that he is working on updating the current Valley County Fire Permit with Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney.

Mr. Carney left the office.

Chairman Pippin began Discussion and Decision at 10:30 a.m.

There was no public comment submitted.

There were no Notices of Employment/Termination forms submitted for consideration.

The next item on the agenda was to advertise for the Safety Coordinator position.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to publish the following Notice in the local paper. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously.

**NOTICE OF VACANCY**

The Board of Valley County Commissioners [Board] hereby gives notice of the following position to provide safety training and coordination for Valley County, Daniels, Sheridan and Roosevelt Counties.

**Position:** VALLEY COUNTY, DANIELS, SHERIDAN, AND ROOSEVELT COUNTIES  
**SAFETY TRAINER / COORDINATOR**

Summary: Inspects machinery, equipment, and working conditions in industrial or other setting to ensure compliance with occupational safety and health regulations, training employees on the current safety protocol and other duties as may be assigned. This position does require extensive travel throughout the four Counties, with some overnight stays.

This is a full time position (40 hours per week)

Pay: \$15.00 to \$20.00 per hour based on an applicant's experience and education. A complete benefit package is available and will be discussed at time of interview.

For more information and applications contact the Glasgow Job Service or Valley County Commissioners.

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: 4 / 12 / 2013

Board of Valley County Commissioners

ATEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Pippin, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynne Nyquist, Clerk & Recorder

(Posted: March 19th and 26th, 2013)

Commissioner Peterson said that once a Safety Coordinator is employed and he begins inspecting the County Departments, we need to be aware there will have to be some budgeting of funds considered to get the various Valley County locations to meet the safety requirements.

Chairman Pippin said we will have to budget for the Safety Coordinator's salary and maybe do a capital improvement fund at the same time for the upgrades in safety.

Consideration of the Martin Hangar was the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Pippin said that he understands Valley County has made an offer to Gary Martin for his hangar.

Commissioner Reinhardt made the motion to purchase Gary Martin's Hangar for a cost of \$59,000 out of Local Option Tax and the Deed will be made out to Valley County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that as long as the Hangar is in Valley County's name it should eliminate the need of involving

the FAA in this purchase.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that last night at the Community meeting there was some concern shown about the Valley County firemen having to fight an oil well fire. He said he did not believe the County was obligated to fight the oil fire but to just keep the surrounding property safe.

Commissioner Reinhardt said that counties closer to the oil activity are seeing more accidents that require the assistance of the extrication crews. He said if there are more fires and more accidents they will need more volunteers. It is difficult for many volunteers to get away from their full time jobs for these activities if it becomes more frequent. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin said that when someone starts a fire they will need to be billed for it because they have insurance to cover the expenses.

Jenny Reinhardt, Valley County Treasurer, visited with the Commissioners about some delinquent tax issues that have been resolved.

Wayne Waarvik, Jr., Valley County Road Supervisor, Paul Tweten, Valley County Road Administrator, and Rick Seiler, Valley County DES Coordinator, joined the meeting to participate in a telephone conference call with FEMA.

Tom Thennis, Montana Department of Emergency Services (DES), Tom Barnard and Dave Lucas for FEMA, and Karl Yakowich, Bill Lloyd and Cole Peebles from Great West Engineering joined the call.

Mr. Barnard said he understands that Valley County wants to combine the funds from the Whatley Road Project, #1598, to the Whatley Bridge Project, #1497. He said that would make a total of \$447,652. He said this does not include the \$3,500 that has already been spent on the alternative study with Great West.

Mr. Barnard explained that changing the projects to an "improved project" would allow Valley County to combine the funds allotted for the Whatley Road Project and the Whatley Bridge Project and use all the funds to repair the bridge if that was their choice. He said an improved project is where the County elects to do something beyond the pre-disaster condition, but the repairs will still serve the same function. This is what Valley County is suggesting for the Whatley Bridge. It is fixing the same roadway and serving the same traffic. He said this is the most money that he can justify for the two projects. Discussion followed.

It was verified that FEMA will provide 75% of the funding and the State of Montana will provide the 25% balance, which is the match amount, so \$447,652 would be totally funded.

Mr. Thennis said that Valley County has already used up their emergency two mills, that was collected for this disaster, so the State of Montana will provide the 25% that FEMA does not pay.

The group reviewed what the funding covered.

Mr. Barnard said that any additional costs for repair beyond the \$447,652 are not covered and will be the responsibility of the County's.

Mr. Lucas said the reason FEMA can combine these funds is because your new project is accomplishing the same function as originally required through the Project Worksheets.

Mr. Seiler asked if adding an extension to the bridge is making it an improved project now and asked if there was any possibility of getting more funding because the cost to repair the bridge is higher than what FEMA is paying now.

Mr. Lucas said that the extension of the bridge is allowed as an improved project and no, there were no more funds available for this project than what they stated earlier. They cannot justify any more funds than the \$447,652. Any additional money spent will have to be paid by Valley County.

Mr. Barnard said that before there is any construction work started on the Whatley Bridge, a plan and design must be submitted to FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP), to be approved for all environmental issues. The Department of Transportation (DOT) would have to approve the project also. Once that is done, the County can begin and the funds can be used for that purpose.

Mr. Seiler asked Mr. Barnard to explain the letters that must be written from Valley County to combine the funds.

Mr. Barnard said a letter has to be written for each project, the Whatley Road Project, 1598, and the Whatley Bridge Project, 1497. These two letters are requesting FEMA to change the designation of these two projects to improved projects, and transfer the funding for the Whatley Road to combine with the funds from the Whatley Bridge so all these funds can be used to repair the Whatley Bridge. He said if they would do that as soon as possible that would be appreciated because they would like to close out these Project Worksheets.

Mr. Lucas said once they receive these letters, they will be able to close out the Project Worksheets and submit this to their revenue department. He said that they will have to explain to their supervisors why Valley County is requesting that the funds be combined and they will assure them that Valley County will be submitting their new design plan for FEMA's

approval.

Mr. Barnard said that he and Mr. Lucas feel confident that these numbers are acceptable and he is optimistic that he can get this approved. He said he wanted the County to know that this is not final though until they get the official approval from FEMA.

Mr. Lucas said that they have studied this project from every angle and they believe that this is the best and the most funding they can come up with for Valley County.

Mr. Seiler said that Valley County appreciated all the work FEMA has done and now it is up to the Valley County Commissioners and the Road Department to make their decision.

Mr. Waarvik asked FEMA if we combine the funds from the Whatley Road and Whatley Bridge, does that eliminate the possibility of FEMA ever putting any more funds into the Whatley area.

Mr. Barnard said yes, unless Valley County repaired the Road, at their own expense, according to the original scope of work as designated on the Project Worksheet. He said that there would have to be records documenting exactly how and when this was done.

Mr. Seiler said that Valley County has already repaired the Whatley Road according to the Project Worksheet, at a cost of about \$22,000, and most of the repair work is already gone. It has sunk into the river. He said that they are keeping good records of what they have done.

Mr. Barnard said to be sure and keep those records documenting the repairs that were done if there is a disaster again in that area.

Mr. Yakawich asked how long it will take for the approval on the designation change to be done on the project.

Mr. Barnard said FEMA's upper management will review and make a decision fairly quickly on the designation change, probably in a couple weeks. The time consuming part will be getting the new bridge design approved through EHP and the DOT. Discussion followed.

Mr. Yakawich said that they would send the new bridge design over to the DOT for consideration.

Chairman Pippin said the Commissioners and Road Department will discuss this and make a final decision and let FEMA know.

The phone call came to an end.

Mr. Waarvik said that they need to have Great West design the project and go to bid so they can find out exactly what it is going to cost to repair the bridge so they can make a final decision. Discussion followed.

Mr. Seiler said that there is money left in the FEMA account that could possibly be used for the additional funds to repair the bridge.

Chairman Pippin said that there are some expenses that those funds should reimburse too. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Peterson questioned why Great West's first recommendation was not to extend the bridge as they are doing now.

Mr. Seiler said that the first recommendation was cheaper and they thought the only thing that would be funded and Great West believes that the bridge extension was not even an option even though it was the best solution.

Karl Yakawich, Great West phoned and was put on the conference phone to visit with the Commissioners and the Road Department crew.

Commissioner Peterson asked Mr. Yakawich why they are now saying the bridge extension is the best solution instead of their first recommendation.

Mr. Yakawich said that they were trying to come up with a fix that would work for the amount of money the County was getting from FEMA. Discussion followed.

Mr. Yakawich said that he wanted to make everyone aware that the engineering services will probably require the County to advertise and request proposals because it will more than likely cost more than \$20,000. He said that by this time the project is probably not of an "emergency" nature and State law requires that all engineering services over \$20,000 must go to request for proposals and publicly advertise for two weeks. That would have to be done before the project can get started. Discussion followed.

Mr. Yakawich said the engineering cost will vary depending on if the geotechnical engineer has to do more drilling or if he is comfortable with the drilling that has already been done.

Mr. Yakawich asked if the Milk River in the area around the Whatley Bridge has ever been mapped in detail as a flood plain and Mr. Seiler said no, not officially yet and it was recommended to check with Cam Shipp, Valley County Sanitarian.

Mr. Seiler asked that the bid be set up in such a way that Valley County will have the option to do the hauling and road work that they can do.

Mr. Yakawich said they would set the proposals up with a base bid and added alternates and once the bids are collected the County can pick and choose what options the County may want to do.

After some discussion it was agreed that Great West will find out about the geotechnical engineer requirements and come up with an estimate of what the engineering cost would be to see if the County will have to do a request for proposals on the bridge project.

Commissioner Peterson asked if Great West's original estimate of around \$666,000, did that include the engineering costs and is that what you would still estimate to be the cost.

Mr. Yakawich said that the original estimate did include the engineering costs for the project. If the Valley County Road Department is going to do some of the work, that will reduce the cost. That estimate was on the conservative side and is probably high. He said that the bids will depend on the interest level of contractors out there on this project and how busy they are. Some of the bids they have done were quite low and some were high so it is hard to guess.

Mr. Waarvik asked Mr. Yakawich if he thought there was any way this project could be done for the \$447,000 that FEMA is going to give the County.

Mr. Yakawich said that he would guess it was going to be around the \$447,000 mark, but they would have to see how the bids come in.

The phone call came to an end.

Chairman Pippin said that the bridge extension is the only thing that is going to save that bridge because the current slope is just too steep. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Reinhardt questioned why this bridge would cost \$500,000 when we fixed much bigger bridges in the County this past year for less.

Commissioner Peterson questioned how long the bridge will last with this fix. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Reinhardt said if we lose 20 feet of road again in the spring runoff than there is no reason to put any money into the bridge. He said he didn't care who's money it is, County or Federal money, there is no reason to just throw it away. Discussion followed.

It was decided that Commissioner Reinhardt will contact Great West and see if they would keep the engineering under \$20,000 so that Valley County would not have to bid the services and they could get started on the Whatley Bridge project.

The Road Department group left the office.

Dora Jean Beil, Refuse District/Airport Commission Secretary, submitted an updated Landfill Trust Agreement from First Interstate Wealth Management, Polson, MT for the Commissioners to sign.

After review the Agreement was signed.

Commissioner Reinhardt left the office.

Lynne Nyquist, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, discussed the new House and Senate Districts with the Commissioners and reviewed some options for new precinct designations.

Commissioner Peterson left the office for the day.

Chairman Pippin left the office for the day.

Commissioner Reinhardt attended the Refuse District No. 1 meeting this evening.

The Commissioners attended the public meeting held at the Cottonwood regarding the possibility of disposing the Bakken oil waste material at the Valley County Refuse.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

**MARCH 20, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, members Bruce H. Peterson and David Reinhardt and Recording Secretary Joanne Strommen present.

Stan Ozark, KLTZ/Mix 93, joined the meeting.

Norm Girard joined the meeting.

The group discussed the public meeting held last evening regarding the Bakken oil waste disposal.

Mr. Ozark left the office.

Commissioner Reinhardt joined the meeting.

Dan Carney joined the meeting.

Mr. Girard asked what the Commissioners had decided on the request to increase the wages for the Mosquito and Weed District's summer help.

Chairman Pippin told him what the Commissioners had decided and said a Memo was sent to Rick Stellflug, Valley County Weed/Mosquito Coordinator, indicating their decision.

Mr. Girard said that the Mosquito District can make their own decision can't they and said that the Mosquito District Board will probably make the decision to increase those salaries higher than what the Commissioners had voted. Discussion followed.

Chairman Pippin said he would have to check with Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney, to see what the Mosquito District Board has the authorization to do. Discussion followed.

Mr. Carney and Mr. Girard left the office.

Lynne Nyquist, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, visited with Commissioner Peterson about the new Senate and House District boundaries and recommended that there be three precincts and three voting places. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Reinhardt joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt directing the Chairman to sign the State of Montana Department of Transportation Mileage Certification Form which documents the total mileage of 2,181.559 miles of roads in Valley County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to offer the following four health insurance plans, in addition to the Dental and Vision, CM1000-80%-3000, RM1500-80%-3000 and HD3000-80%-5000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt and passed unanimously. This will eliminate the Catastrophic Plan that was offered the past year.

Commissioner Peterson said that Lynne Nyquist, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, was in and recommended that the Commissioners change the Valley County voting Precincts to three and the polling places to three, all being held in Glasgow. He said he did not agree with that and would rather there was a polling place in each town in Valley County. Discussion followed.

Lynne Nyquist, Valley County Clerk and Recorder, joined the meeting to explain the details involved with the cost of each precinct and some other issues.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reinhardt to change the voting precincts in Valley County to eight precincts which correspond with the changes in the new House and Senate Districts, leaving the polling places as they were except Glasgow will be reduced from three precincts to two. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson and passed unanimously.

The following Resolution will be executed designating the new precincts:

**RESOLUTION NO. 8-2013  
RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH ELECTION  
PRECINCT BOUNDARIES IN VALLEY COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 13-3-102, MCA, a board of county commissioners must change the boundaries of the election precincts in a county to conform to the legislative district boundaries established by the Montana Districting and

Apportionment Commission. A board has 45 days from when the Commission has established the district boundaries to change the boundaries of the election precincts to conform to the legislative district boundaries.

**WHEREAS**, on February 12, 2013, the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission adopted the Legislative Districting Plan. On the same date, the Commission filed the Plan with the Montana Secretary of State. The Valley County Board of County Commissioners and Valley County Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator received a copy of the Plan. The Board of County Commissioners and Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator have reviewed the Plan and discussed how the election precincts in the County can be changed to conform to the legislative district boundaries. The Board has until March 29, 2013, to change the election precincts to conform to the legislative district boundaries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Valley County Commissioners establishes the election precincts in Valley County as indicated:

<u>PRECINCT:</u>	<u>HOUSE DISTRICT</u>	<u>SENATE DISTRICT</u>
No. 1 - FORT PECK	No. 31	No. 16
No. 2 - FRAZER	No. 31	No. 16
No. 3 - HINSDALE	No. 33	No. 17
No. 4 - GLASGOW	No. 33	No. 17
No. 5 - GLASGOW NORTHEAST	No. 34	No. 17
No. 6 - NASHUA	No. 34	No. 17
No. 7 - LUSTRE	No. 34	No. 17
No. 8 - OPHEIM	No. 34	No. 17

The Board orders the Valley County Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator to provide a copy of this resolution to the Montana Secretary of State to indicate compliance with Section 13-3-102 of the MCA. The new election precincts shall be used for the June 3, 2014, election and all subsequent elections until modified by the Board.

Passed and Adopted on this 20th day of March, 2013.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA

\_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Pippin Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce H. Peterson, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Reinhardt, Member

Commissioner Reinhardt left the office for the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

**MARCH 21, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office in the morning.

Glen Meier, Valley County Sheriff, visited with Chairman Pippin about a request he had from the ACLU to come in and inspect the Valley County Detention Facility. Sheriff Meier said that he visited with Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney, and their feeling was that the ACLU did not have any authority to perform an inspection on the facility. He said that he is having the ACLU converse with Mr. Murnion regarding this issue and he left the office.

Chairman Pippin and Chris Richards, along with Bill Gaffney and Wes Murphy the computer techs, toured the building to see what wiring had to be done to meet the telephone and computer service needs.

**MARCH 22, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office today.

**MARCH 25, 2013**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Commissioners with Chairman David L. Pippin, member Bruce H. Peterson present.

Commissioner Reinhardt will be out of the office this week because he will be in Great Falls attending the Montana Association of County Road Supervisors (MACRS) Conference.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to pay for half the cost of Deputy Wayne Shipp's ballistic vest out of Local Option Tax, at a cost of \$482.50. The motion was seconded by Chairman Pippin and it passed. The balance remaining will be paid by the Sheriff's Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to send a letter to the Hi-Line Hockey Association requesting to use the Valley County Event Center for the Weed District on September 24 and 25, 2013. The motion was seconded by Chairman Pippin and passed.

The Commissioners discussed the rewiring of the telephone lines for the Courthouse.

Chairman Pippin said that Bill Gaffney had thought this work would improve the computer services too because they will drop some computer lines where needed when the telephone wires are run. He said Mr. Richards thought he would be able to start on Friday, March 29th. The cost will cover everything except some minor additions that may pop up as they are doing the work.

Chairman Pippin said the bid from Nemont for the telephone base equipment was \$65,000 versus Cerium's bid of \$29,000. He said Cerium requires that half be paid down up front. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson to get the updated telephone system from Cerium Networks at a cost of \$29,726.20, and purchase an additional ten phones for inventory making the total cost \$30,790.20 to be paid out of Local Option Tax. The motion was seconded by Chairman Pippin and it passed.

A claim will be made out for 50% of the cost, \$15,397.60, to be paid in advance.

Rick Seiler called to give the Commissioners an update on where the Road crews were plowing since the heavy snowfall in northern Valley County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to execute Certificate of Survey No. 325B for the Mennonite Brethren Church and Ronald and Mariette Olfert for the purpose to layout three tracts to be sold, described as;

**SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 34, Township 31N, Range 44E, Montana Principal Meridian, Valley County, Montana;**

The motion was seconded by Chairman Pippin and the motion carried. The said Document, No. 150045, was filed in the office of the Clerk and Recorder on April 29, 2013.

Duane Knapp of DTM, now of Thunderbolt Enterprises, was in and gave information on his proposed plan to upgrade the power grid in northeast Montana. He was scheduled to come in at 10:00 but was a couple of hours early. He said NorVal and Nemont were in support of his efforts. His plans were for newer utility poles that would carry electrical transmission and wireless telephone services which would eliminate any dead communication spots in our County. Mr. Knapp said he is in possession of knowledge for some peer foundations that would allow them to do upgrades in the winter.

Commissioner Peterson asked what the cost would be and where this money was coming from. Mr. Knapp said that the cost would be about \$100 million and that he was working with the HDR Engineering firm out of Billings who has some people who are interested in backing this project. Mr. Knapp is meeting with SaskTel and SaskPower, Canada's telephone and power companies, on April 22nd about the project. Mr. Knapp wants to get 50 mgw of power from Canada to plug into the grid and serve our area and the oil fields. New lines would go from Opheim to Glasgow, Opheim to Plentywood, Scobey to Wolf Point and probably Plentywood to Culbertson. Discussion followed.

When asked why Nemont and NorVal are not doing this, Mr. Knapp said that they just have not taken the project on and there is a need for Thunderbolt to take the lead on this. He did not know if the capacity on the WAPA lines would handle this extra power if needed.

Mr. Knapp left the office.

Darrell Morehouse and Kristie Brabeck from the Valley County Airport Commission joined the meeting to discuss the proposed hangar being built by Valley County for STAT Air and the proposed hangar by Choice Aviation. The Airport Commission is meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2013, and they wanted to discuss these items with the Commissioner before that meeting.

The Commissioners were in favor of Valley County building the STAT Air hangar and everyone understands that while Valley County is applying for an IINTERCAP loan, that the lease payment from STAT Air will be making the loan payments on that new building.

There was some concern as to where Choice Aviation should build their proposed 100' x 125' hangar, and that the purpose for both of these hangars may be the same.

Chairman Pippin wondered if Choice Aviation would then try and get the storage of Silver Airway's planes and the TSA contracts, consequently cutting out the County's revenue.

The group discussed the fact that Choice Aviation wants the space by the fuel station but the Valley County Airport Commission seems to favor not granting that location. The Airport Commission may suggest Choice's new building be located across the taxiway or perhaps built in the present location of the airport parking lot. Discussion followed.

The Airport Commission said they need to make a decision at their meeting this Tuesday and Choice Aviation wants this decision as soon as possible.

The group discussed the need for standards for the airport and when they have to be adopted. The Commissioners expressed their feeling that it seems the County gets the grants and the worries of the money and running the airport, while Choice Aviation seems to have enviable position of making the profit with little investment on their part, their proposed hangar being the exception. Choice Aviation says they need the hangar so that they can get a mechanic and an electronic person in a space that will draw extra planes into the airport.

After further discussion Mrs. Brabeck and Mr. Morehouse left the office

Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney, joined the meeting to attend the scheduled meeting with Mr. Knapp who came in earlier this morning.

Mr. Murnion said that the Commissioners will have to sign off on any building contract between the Airport Commission and Choice Aviation. There was further discussion on the Airport.

Colleen Pankratz, Valley County Transit Supervisor, joined the meeting to discuss an employee matter and Mr. Murnion advised her as to what her course of action should be and she left the office.

Mr. Murnion left the office.

Toni Alvernaz, Women's Resource Center, joined the meeting and requested the Commissioners sign their services agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson authorizing the Chairman to sign the Women's Resource Agreement stating the Women's Resource Center will provide crisis intervention services in Valley County. The motion was seconded by Chairman Pippin and the motion carried.

Chairman Pippin left the office for Great Falls to attend the MACRS Conference.

Commissioner Peterson phoned Paul Koski, Airport Commission Chairman, to let him know the general thoughts of the Valley County Commissioners regarding the hangars at the airport and encouraged him to talk to Nick Murnion, Valley County Attorney, before their Special Meeting tomorrow on this issue.

Claim Fund claims for the month of March were approved as follows:

Vendor	Claim #	Amount
3924 911 SUPPLY	59056	238.47
4401 A'S #1 HOOD CLEANING	59057	475.00
3479 ALFRED SCHMITT	59058	150.00
184 AMERICAN WELDING & GAS INC	59059	324.13
558 ARCH'S TIRE & SERVICE	59060	40.00
3726 AVIS NEEDHAM	59061	72.21
2554 BALCO UNIFORM CO INC	59062	965.00
18 BELL MORTUARY INC	59063	1,750.00
1766 BEN'S RADIATOR REPAIR	59064	90.00
75 BIG VALLEY WATER	59065	47.00
580 BILLINGS GAZETTE	59050	65.00
4555 BLUE FORCE GEAR	59075	340.20
3928 BRENDA PEACHER	59066	72.21
3360 CENTURY LINK	59067	1,148.58
4403 CHOICE AVIATION LLC	59068	2,761.23
677 CITY OF GLASGOW	59069	5,012.24
1095 COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO	59070	14.00
548 COLLEEN M PANKRATZ	59071	120.62

3680	CONNIE KAWASAKI	59072	150.00
1906	CONNIE WETHERN	59073	40.00
4554	CONSOLIDATED TELECOM, INC	59074	1,250.00
225	D & G SPORTS & WESTERN	59076	299.99
39	DALE PLUMBING & HEATING INC	59077	671.39
40	DAN OLSON DBA	59078	235.49
2740	DARLA SHIPMAN	59015	60.00
4202	DARRELL BECKNER	59016	6.00
637	DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	59079	69.00
3931	DIANE PETERSON	59080	72.21
3110	DIGITAL-ALLY, INC	59017	10,050.00
260	EASTERN MONTANA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	59018	250.00
4557	EDDY BAUER SALES	59117	382.50
801	ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	59081	2,995.86
176	ELLA TWETEN	59019	147.85
812	EZZIE'S WHOLESALE INC	59020	75,966.03
		59082	8,676.73
2757	FARM EQUIPMENT SALES	59083	18.39
226	FEWER PUMPING SERVICE	59084	125.00
3208	FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS, INC	59021	275.00
3076	FLICKS	59085	161.66
54	FOOD SERVICES OF AMERICA	59022	4,749.04
	Vendor	Claim #	Amount
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54	FOOD SERVICES OF AMERICA	59086	2,074.61
2316	FORT PECK FINE ARTS COUNCIL	59053	6,986.00
825	FORT PECK TRIBES	59087	441.75
59	FRANCES MAHON DEACONESS HOSPITAL	59088	612.18
206	FRANCES MAHON DEACONESS HOSPITAL	59089	2,182.92
4455	FREEMAN AND GAFFNEY ASSOCIATES	59090	4,560.00
311	GAFFANEYS TOTAL OFFICE SOURCE INC	59091	3,553.46
247	GALL'S INC	59092	2,047.26
1630	GLASGOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	59192	90.00
71	GLASGOW COURIER INC	59093	440.00
1290	GLASGOW ELKS NO 1922	59023	300.00
762	GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS	59180	1,820.72
316	GLENN MILLER	59181	50.00
4299	GLOBALSTAR USA	59024	70.92
2454	GOVERNORS CONFERENCE ON AGING	59025	60.00
301	GRAINGER	59094	147.90
		59182	137.40
4264	GREAT WEST ENGINEERING	59026	1,482.94
4015	HALVAR OLSTEAD	59095	150.00
121	HAVRE LAUNDRY	59096	637.08
3772	HEALTH E WEB	59183	69.00
80	HI LINE COLLISION REPAIR	59097	2,822.18
566	HI LINE COMPUTER SYSTEMS	59098	338.00
392	HI LINE FORD INC	59099	413.07
3830	HI LINE SAFE CRACKING & CAR KEYS	59100	275.50
3301	HOME CARE SERVICES	59101	319.29
2412	INTERNATIONAL ASSOC FAIR	59193	100.00
2991	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION	59102	50.00
153	IRENE STANDING	59103	150.00
3576	J & M DISTRIBUTING	59104	193.35
2741	JEAN REA	59105	56.00
693	JEANETTE RISA	59106	124.00
4308	JON BLOCKHUS	59107	150.00
3926	KIRK KOESSL	59108	150.00
368	KLTZ/KLAN INC	59109	45.00
95	KREISERS INC	59184	253.29
987	L & D SIGNS	59111	288.00
2619	L N CURTIS & SONS	59110	259.14
312	LEE'S ELECTRIC	59112	30.00
628	LEE'S PRECISION PAINT	59113	284.25
96	LILA KULCZYK	59114	150.00
4556	LILLIAN ARNOLD DBA	59115	3,050.00
855	LOREN NICHOLS	59116	56.50
2975	MARJORIE JACOBSON	59118	75.00
101	MARKLE'S INC	59119	1,090.84



2364	THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR CORP	59051	1,403.29
41	TIRE-RAMA SERVICE CENTER	59161	310.05
1074	TOWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY	59162	345.83
680	TOWN OF OPHEIM	59043	50.00
171	TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO	59163	329.16
174	TRIPLE A GLASS INC	59164	2,227.50
787	U.S. POSTAL SERVICE/PITNEY BOWES	59166	622.81
627	UNCLE MILT'S BODY SHOP	59165	67.00
179	UNITED INSURANCE & REALTY INC	59167	1,997.00
77	VALLEY BUILDERS SUPPLY	59049	18,824.06
4561	VALLEY CO AIRPORT COMMISSION	59168	15,000.00
614	VALLEY CO TRANSIT	59169	1,850.45
182	VALLEY MOTOR SUPPLY INC	59170	1,428.00
3333	VICKY WETZ	59171	14.93
1087	VISA	59172	1,004.21
3023	VISA	59173	423.18
3559	VISA	59044	661.09
4061	VISA	59045	1,767.09
4050	VISA 7495	59046	1,563.28
4547	VISA 7644	59055	18.89
187	WEST PAYMENT CENTER	59174	242.00
188	WESTERN DRUG INC	59175	612.88
4444	WESTERN STATES FIRE PROTECTION MISSOULA	59176	283.00
3574	WILLIAM MARKS	59047	45.20
190	WILLS OFFICE WORLD/RADIO SHACK	59177	326.55
32	WRIGHT EXPRESS FSC	59048	277.38
192	ZEE MEDICAL	59178	84.85
193	ZERBE BROS INC	59179	3,416.53
Total:			\$312,760.36

Payroll for the month of March was approved in the amount of \$461,239.16.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Lynne Nyquist, Clerk

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

David L. Pippin, Chairman

**MARCH 26, 2013**

Commissioner Peterson left the office to attend the MACo/JPIA Regional Training workshop.

**MARCH 29, 2013**

Chairman Pippin was in the office in the morning.

Don Pansegrau, Fort Peck, dropped off a copy of a letter to the editor regarding the Bakken oil radioactive waste that he is submitting to the Glasgow Courier and the Great Falls Tribune and visited with Chairman Pippin about the issue.