

**TUESDAY, March 27, 2007**  
**9:30 A.M. COMMISSION MEETING**  
**COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Lance Olson, Commissioners Peggy Beltrone, and Joe Briggs, Milo Halvorson, Ron Bone, Jim Weinhandl, Gary Bertellotti, Roger Semler, Steve Erwin, John Nerud, Luella Vogel, Theresa Diekhans, Brian Clifton, Jess Anderson, Jackie O'Fallon and Rina Moore.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Olson called the meeting to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**READING OF THE COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR**

Jackie O'Fallon read the weekly calendar.

**PURCHASE ORDERS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANTS**

Commissioner Olson made a **MOTION** to approve the purchase orders and accounts payable warrants.

Purchase orders and accounts payable warrants #154371 through #154590 totaling \$649,040.05 dated 03-02-07 through 03-08-07, and #154591 through #154800 totaling \$210,204.93 dated 03-09-07 through 03-15-07

**Motion carries 3-0**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Briggs to approve the consent agenda; minutes, minute entries, and approval of routine contracts as follows:

- ◆ **Resolution 07-14 Budget Modification Realigning Budget Authority for Youth Detention Center**
- ◆ **Resolution 07-15 Establishing Towing Authority for Unauthorized Vehicles in Courthouse Annex Parking Lot**
- ◆ **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Amendment #07-07-531-021-0 extending funding through August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$45,498.**
- ◆ **Re Appointment of L Kay Chick to Gore Hill Volunteer Fire for a three year term expiring in 2010**
- ◆ **Wesley M Schmidt appointed to Belt Rural Fire District for a three year term expiring in 2010**
- ◆ **Re Appointment of Rex C Woods to Fort Shaw Irrigation for a three year term expiring in 2010**

◆ Joan Miller appointed to the Upper/Lower River Road Water Sewer District expiring in November 2009

Motion carries 3-0

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1**

**POWER POINT PRESENTATION ON OPEN LAND BY GREAT FALLS CITY FORRESTER JON THOMPSON**

Jon Thompson addressed the public and explained why we need to manage and develop our open lands. He then proceeded with his power point presentation. The Natural Areas Program is to create community awareness.

Commissioner Olson questioned whether the Anaconda Hill site would be a part of this program.

John Nerud expressed that Cascade County has 15 parks, half of which are developed. He stated that Fish, Wildlife & Parks manages two of the parks. The county located an area for a park in Woodland Estates and also in Vaughn and they are working with FW&P to develop these areas.

Commissioner Olson stated that Cascade County and the Planning Department will be involved with the open space plan and that they are looking into the possibility of re-appointment of a park board.

Commissioner Olson commented about the ability to go to the Anaconda Hill and see bald eagles.

Commissioner Briggs spoke about the waterfall feature that was uncovered on the Anaconda Hill as part of a cleanup project.

Commissioner Beltrone told Jon Thompson that there are four community members that were part of the Last Child in the Woods project and that they could offer some experience to the open space plan.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE RESOLUTION 07-13 TO DISCONTINUE A PORTION OF 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH**

Commissioner Beltrone made a **MOTION** to discontinue the portion of 27<sup>th</sup> Street South extending eastward from the easterly boundary of 19<sup>th</sup> Street South to its termination at the property line of Parcel # 2639500, Cascade County, Montana, subject to the following conditions:

1. the discontinued street revert to the ownership of the adjacent property owners and
2. the petitioners cause to be filed a Certificate of Survey delineating the boundaries of the affected properties following the discontinuation.

**Motion carries 3-0**

**AGENDA ITEM #3**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE CONTRACT FOR A TEN YEAR LEASE FOR MID CANNON PARK**

Commissioner Briggs made a **MOTION** to approve the ten-year lease for Mid Canon Park.

John Nerud from County Planning addressed the Commission and explained that on 12/31/2006 the previous 25-yr lease had expired. They had been working on a new contract for several years and because of the changes in Montana Code, a 10-yr lease is as long as is allowable.

John Nerud acknowledged the fact that FW&P had two representatives in the audience if anyone had any questions.

Commissioner Olson asked for public comment and Ron Bone of 19 Golden Eagle Drive spoke up. Mr. Bone stated that he had initiated this process about three years ago and questioned where the paving would start.

John Nerud stated that FW&P would pave approximately 1300 lineal feet of road, beginning at the first turn after the railroad tracks. There is an area of around 60 feet between the beginning of the pavement and the end of the existing pavement. The county will try to get a bid so that they can match up with the existing pavement.

Commissioner Olson added that there would be speed dips placed along the pavement.

**Motion carries 3-0**

**AGENDA ITEM #4**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAT OF OLSON LOT 1**

Commissioner Beltrone made a **MOTION** to approve the Minor Subdivision Plat of Olson Lot 1 in the NE ¼ of Section 13, Township 19N, Range 1 East, P.M.M., Cascade County, Montana and the accompanying Staff Report and Findings of Fact subject to the applicant.

Commissioner Olson stated for the record that he has nothing to do with, nor is he related to the Olson that the plat is named after.

Cascade County Senior Planner, Brian Clifton presented the Olson Minor Subdivision Plat for approval. The application was received from Larry Dugas to be purchased by Olson.

Brian informed the commission that he had a typo on his staff report and that the total area of the remainder property is 160-acres and the tract to be known as Tract #1 is 40 acres. The land will not support any agricultural production.

Commissioner Olson questioned the ground water problem.

Brian Clifton explained that the ground water had been addressed and that there was not a problem. He stated that because of the poor quality of the water in the area, those residents had chosen to use cisterns.

Commissioner Olson interjected that the County has promoted development within the county, but has some concerns about our growth policy and the septic systems that we are approving. This is his personal observation.

Commissioner Olson requested comments and there were none.

**Motion carries 3-0**

### **COMMISSION COMMENT**

Commissioner Beltrone questioned whether any county employees would be involved in the Headwaters Relay Race on Saturday, March 31. She proceeded to outline the race.

Commissioner Briggs stated that he is working with Great Falls Development and they are starting to identify future industrial sites around the county. He stated that planning is starting to work with them. The idea is to identify areas in advance, so that when a new business comes to town no one is scrambling to find a place for them. We can be readily available with a site and a developed infrastructure.

### **DEPARTMENT HEADS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS**

John Nerud stated that he had the two contracts concerning Mid-Canon that he would like signed before the commissioners left. He said the Roger Semler would hand deliver the contract to Helena.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Milo Halvorson of 5105 5<sup>th</sup> Ave South, Great Falls, brought up the local option tax per 61-3-537 and the fact that the public had not gotten to vote to approve or dis-approve it. He asked that Commissioner Olson check into the law.

Commissioner Briggs stated that he had all of the information on the local option tax.

Milo also brought up the fact the people from Montana spent \$33 million on the Montana Lottery and he was under the impression that the monies went to the Teachers Retirement. He wanted to know if anyone was aware that the \$33 million went directly

into the general fund last year. He wanted to know why we did not have to vote on this change. He stated that he does not believe that this is right.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.**