

**CASCADE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**May 16, 2013**  
**COMMISSION CHAMBERS**  
**COURTHOUSE ANNEX, ROOM 111**  
**3:00 p.m.**

Notice: These minutes are paraphrased and reflect the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners. MCA 7-4-2611 (2) (b). These minutes were officially approved at the May 28, 2013 commission meeting.

**PRESENT:**

**Commission-** Chairman Joe Briggs, Commissioner, Bill Salina, and Commissioner Jane Weber.

**Staff seated with Commission -** Carey Ann Shannon, John Stevens and Bonnie Fogerty.

**Public:** Sparky Kottke, Diane Kottke, Kelly Manzer, Earl Salley, John Hayes, Lonnie Dalke and Karl Puckett, GF Tribune.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA ITEM #1**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE:**

**Resolution 13-31: Budget Appropriation for pass through of funds for improvements to the Art Higgins Memorial Black Eagle Park.**

**Total Amount: \$7,400**

Commissioner Briggs gave a brief overview. During the course of the Copper Basin Subdivision project, there was a request that instead of creating a park within a subdivision a contribution be made to the Art Higgins Memorial Black Eagle Park. These funds were deposited with the County. This is a release to the Black Eagle Park Board for use of those funds for park improvements. Commissioner Weber asked if we have an agreement with the Park Board and if those projects have been reviewed by the Public Works Director. Commissioner Briggs acknowledged they had been reviewed.

Commissioner Weber made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 13-31: Budget Appropriation for pass through of funds for improvements to the Art Higgins Memorial Black Eagle Park in the amount of \$7,400. **Motion carries 3-0**

**AGENDA ITEM #2**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE:**

**Resolution 13-32: Budget Appropriation for the purchase of a vehicle from Taylor's Auto Max for the Coroner. Total Amount: \$9,000**

UnderSheriff John Stevens stated this was a replacement vehicle for the Coroner. Commissioner Salina made a **MOTION** to approve Resolution 13-32: Budget Appropriation for the purchase of a vehicle from Taylor's Auto Max for the Coroner. Total Amount: \$9,000 **Motion carries 3-0**

**AGENDA ITEM #3**

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE:**

**Contract 13-67: by & between Cascade County & Great Falls Turf Club**

Carey Ann Shannon stated this contract establishes the relationship with the Great Falls Turf Club for proposed horseracing at the Montana State Fair. There have been multiple drafts with minor changes. Commissioner Weber thanked the GF Turf Club and the County Attorney for all of their work. This is definitely “new turf” and we appreciate the work of the GF Turf Club.

Commissioner Briggs stated that he would not be able to vote for this contract as there are too many expenses. Based on a budget analysis he has reviewed, it shows a \$47,000 to \$48,000 loss.

Commission Salina stated that we all have questions. We hope the Turf Club would work well with the horse people. This has been citizen driven and there have been many questions in this contract. The Commission is relying on good faith with the Turf Club.

Commissioner Weber stated that she wants to see if this can work. The grounds have not been maintained for a few years. The county has many events at the ExpoPark where the county does not recoup its expenses. Our greatest hope is that we can build a nest egg for next year.

Sparky Kottke, President of the GF Turf Club stated that this is a public community affair and thanked the Commission for approving the contract. Now they will be able to begin looking for sponsors. Getting the contract signed is necessary to attract donations, sponsorships and revenue from the Board of Horse Racing. Kelly Manzer has been reviewing financials and some of the big concerns can be alleviated. The Turf Club has been conservative in their calculations. She loves the fairgrounds and thinks we can all make money. The Turf Club wants to work with the County. Commissioner Briggs stated he would like to see Kelly’s numbers and find a positive.

Commissioner Weber made a **MOTION** to approve Contract 13-67: by and between Cascade County and the Great Falls Turf Club for horse racing at the Montana ExpoPark on July 20<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, July 27<sup>th</sup>, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Motion carries 2-1**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISIONS OF BOARD AND ALLOWANCE OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS THE COMMISSION HAS JURISDICTION, ON ITEMS NOT COVERED BY TODAY’S AGENDA.**

No Comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be a Work Session held on May 22, 2013 in the Commission Chambers at 2:00 p.m.

