

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

IMAN 

CHILCOTT 

FOSS 

KANENWISHER 

STOLTZ 

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Members Present.....Commissioner J.R. Iman, Commissioner Greg Chilcott, Commissioner Suzy Foss, Commissioner Matt Kanenwisher and Commissioner Ron Stoltz

Date.....August 8, 2011

► Minutes: Beth Perkins

► The Board met with Dan Mayer regarding an increase of benefits for Veterans Burial and the County budget at 9:00 a.m. Present were Rep. Gary MacLaren, CFO Klarryse Murphy and several citizens.

Dan Mayer presented the Board with a proposal of HB 156 Veterans Burial Benefits which would raise the payment toward interment expenses from \$250 towards the cost of burial to \$500 and \$70 towards the cost of a head stone to \$100. Commissioner Iman opened board deliberation. Commissioner Foss stated this is a significant increase of approximately \$30,000. If there is a way to find the funding, she is in support of this. Commissioner Kanenwisher agreed with Commissioner Foss. Commissioner Chilcott expressed his frustration with the State passing unfunded mandates and leaving the County to foot the bill. It's is not an issue of the Veterans but how to fund the extra \$30,000. Commissioner Stoltz would like to be in support of this but finding the funding is the big question. He doesn't see how until the Board goes through the budget process.

Commissioner Iman opened public comment.

Rep Gary MacLaren stated it has been 20 years since this fee has been increased. In the meantime, veterans pass and their families need this help. He urged the Commissioners to fund this fee.

Richard Clark read a prepared statement and 100% of the money raised for veterans stays in this County. All veterans have given up a portion of their lives for this Country and County. Please honor the veterans and pass this funding.

George Carpati stated this is needed funding. Federal government steals social security blind and no one sues them. Perhaps the Board should use the Title X funding.

Commissioner Iman closed public comment.

Commissioner Kanenwisher addressed the budget issue and how the Board will start budget deliberations next week with projected revenue coming in for the County. Commissioner Iman stated the final budget must be adopted September 1<sup>st</sup> and this funding will be considered at that time. The Board concurred.

Commissioner Iman requested any public comment not otherwise on the agenda.

Richard Clark stated Camas Creek Loop road is in disrepair. The Road Department only mowed the ¾ mile of paved surface and nothing for the gravel portion. If this road is this bad, then you know other roads are as bad if not worse. They also skip potholes and fill every other one. He would like to know why not fill every one when they are there doing road work.

George Carpati discussed the decision made on Thursday regarding Title X funding. He stated at first he was opposed to abortion and then after thinking about it he changed his mind. It would be better to take care of the problem in the beginning rather than suck up welfare.

Commissioner Iman closed public comment not otherwise on the agenda.

► The Board met for the following administrative matters at 9:30 a.m.:

- Election for FY 2011 Payments on Secure Rural Schools: Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to select Title Two election for FY 2011 payments of Secure Rural Schools funding. Commissioner Kanenwisher seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. (5-0)
- Approval payment for Intoxilizer Center: Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to approve the payment on the Intoxilizer Center in the amount of \$38,184.30. Commissioner Foss seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. (5-0)
- Appointment of TBID Chairman: Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to appoint Marie Christopher as Chairman of the TBID Board of Trustees. Commissioner Stoltz seconded the motion and all voted “aye”. (5-0)
- Other Administrative direction to staff: Maintenance requested authorization of a credit card for John Deere Murdocks. The Board concurred.
- There will be some high school students doing some filming around the administrative building after 5:00 p.m. The Board concurred.
- Karen Houston called to remind Commissioner Chilcott to purchase a door prize for MACo. Commissioner Foss agreed to purchase the door prize for the Board.
- Administrative Assistant Glenda Wiles discussed a bill regarding Robak litigation from MACo for a \$5,000 deductible and a bill for Shook litigation for \$20,000. She stated MACo cancelled the bill for the \$5,000 deductible and never received an actual bill for the \$20,000. Commissioner Chilcott recapped the litigation settlement to the Board.
- Sheriff Hoffman was out of state from July 27<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup> with Board approval.

► The Board met for the Harvest Moon Bakery Micro Loan Check presentation at 3:00 p.m.



## Veterans Helping Veterans

### Veterans Burial Benefits

August 8, 2011

The Montana Code provides that the county of residence where a veteran dies provides a sum of money to defer interment expenses. At present, and for the last 20 some years Ravalli County has supported and thanked it's veterans by paying \$250 towards the cost of burial and \$70.00 towards the cost of a head stone of veterans who lived in Ravalli County when they died.

The 2011 Montana Legislature passed HB 156 to raise the payment toward interment expenses and that law is now in effect. The only change in this bill from previous law dealing with veterans' burial expenses was in Section 1 (Section 10-2-501 MCA). On lines 4, 6 and 8 \$500 replaced \$250 and on line 10 \$100 replaced \$70.

In 2009, Ravalli County helped defer interment expenses for 122 veterans at a cost to the county of \$39,000. In 2010, Ravalli County helped defer interment expenses for 144 veterans at a cost to the county of \$46,080. As of July 31, 2011, Ravalli County helped defer interment expenses for 55 veterans at a cost to the county of \$17,600. The veterans' community and especially the grieving families appreciate and thank the county for this benefit.

The cost of living and dying has increased tremendously over the last 20 years and I urge the Ravalli County Commissioners to raise the sum of money to defer interment expenses to \$500.

Daniel F. Mayer  
Ravalli County Veterans Burial Supervisor

SIGN IN SHEET – COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM

**\*\*PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME LEGIBLY\*\***

THANK YOU!

DATE: 8/8/11

MEETING: \_\_\_\_\_

RICHARD CLARK

Bill Beckwith

Shirley & Wes Maydole

AL Fox

Bill Ellis

Bob Fowler

MELINDA HUTTON

George Mayer

Adele Dicken

Sha T Holt

George Karpis

Edna Nasca

Harry Patton