On Thursday, May 2, 2019, the Board of Madison County Commissioners conducted Preliminary Budget Hearings beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Conference Room of the Madison County Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Ron Nye, Chairman, Jim Hart, and Dan Allhands present. Laurie Buyan, Commissioners Assistant, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the hearings were Bonnie O’Neill, Vicki Tilstra, Tony Forsythe, Tommy Luksha, Kathleen Mumme, and Van Puckett.

Facilities (Maintenance) Preliminary Budget Hearing: Tony Forsythe, Maintenance, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the maintenance department. Tony stated that he is not requesting anything additional on his budget except a raise. Bonnie presented a memo related to Tony’s wage request noting that due to his extensive experience and knowledge along with his duties and responsibilities of providing maintenance and grounds care for all of the County offices, recommending that his hourly wage be changed to a department supervisor’s wage effective July 1, 2019. Rain gutters at Placer Loop were also discussed.

Jane Bacon, Commissioner’s Clerk, was present to take minutes for the remainder of the hearings.

GIS Preliminary Budget Hearing: Tommy Luksha, GIS Coordinator, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the GIS department. Bonnie O’Neill, Chief Administrative Officer, Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, Kathleen Mumme, Clerk and Recorder, and Van Puckett, Sanitarian, were present for this portion of the meeting. Tommy is requesting an overall increase of 58.8%, for a total proposed budget of $107,818.67. Proposed staffing changes would increase Tommy’s hours to 40 per week and add paid student interns, for an increase of $23,861.48, or 35.15%. Discussion ensued about hours, productivity, and driving times. Van and Kathleen expressed support for increased GIS assistance, citing several areas including district mapping, permits, cadastral repair, and adding/correcting residences. Tommy pointed out that some of these projects are massive, and discussion ensued about workload prioritization, position classifications, hiring and cost details, skill levels, interested locals, and intern sources. He then discussed his plan to acquire a dedicated, used vehicle for the department, and estimated a cost of $5,000 which increases the budget by 7.37%. Tommy also discussed the purchase of a large-format laminator and film for a total of approximately $9,117, increasing the current budget by 12.25%, noted that several other departments have agreed to contribute toward the purchase, and Vicki discussed the possibility of purchasing it in the remaining fiscal year. Tommy will meet with the Board at a later date after discussing staffing options with Bonnie, getting NG 9-1-1 Grant results, and narrowing down details about a laminator and vehicle acquisition.

Road Review Committee Preliminary Budget Hearing: This topic was postponed to a later date.

With no further business, the hearings concluded at 2:10 p.m.

Ronald E. Nye, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: May 21, 2019