

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARINGS
May 28, 2021, Minutes**

On Monday, May 28, 2021, the Board of Madison County Commissioners conducted Preliminary Budget Hearings beginning at 1:05 p.m. in the Second Floor Court Room of the Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, Jim Hart and Ron Nye present. Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the hearings were John (Shorty) Roberts and Britani Allhands.

Commissioners Preliminary Budget Hearing: The Board reviewed the preliminary budget for the Commissioners' Office. No changes were requested for this budget.

Road General Preliminary Budget Hearing: The Board reviewed the preliminary budget for General Road and Street Services. Ron Nye asked about the FLAP grant funds versus the match amount. Jim responded that the grant is for 1.3 million with a local match of \$201,300. Ron asked if part of the match is to pay for gravel royalties. Jim responded that 30,000 yards are budgeted for. Ron asked why it's in Road General. Jim responded that the project will be done in Road District 3, but it is budgeted in Road General.

Road 1 Preliminary Budget Hearing: Dan Allhands reviewed the preliminary budget for Road District 1, stating that he increased line item 229, Operating Supplies by \$500; increased line item 231, Fuel, by \$5,000; increased line item 239, Tires and Tubes, by \$4,000; increased line item 357, Professional Services, by \$20,000 due to road issues; decreased line item 373, Meals, Travel and Lodging, by \$600; added a new line (472) for dust control; and increased line item 942, Equipment, from \$114,000 to \$150,000.

Road 2 Preliminary Budget Hearing: Ron Nye reviewed the preliminary budget for Road District 2, stating that he increased line item 239, Tires and Tubes, from \$15,000 to \$30,000; increased line item 349, Utility Services, by \$500; increased 357, Professional Services, by \$8,000 due to re-permitting gravel pits; and increased 362, Machinery Repair, by \$25,000 because it's already over. He noted that he used BARSSA to pay for gravel and increased 471, Asphalt and Filler, a little bit. He stated he carried over \$110,000 in 942, Equipment, and added some for a total of \$250,000.

Road 3 Preliminary Budget Hearing: Jim Hart reviewed the preliminary budget for Road District 3, stating that he increased line item 229, Operating Supplies by \$5,000; he increased line item 357, Professional Services, by \$10,000, just in case; increased 362, Machinery Repair, by \$5,000; increased Gravel by \$10,000; decreased Dust Control by \$30,000; and increased Lease from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Dan asked why the lease line is up so much. Jim responded that he hopes to lease trucks and plans to buy belly dumps. Shorty Roberts asked if he is still talking about three trucks. Jim responded that he is. Shorty stated that the trucks sit 90% of the time and that he has a hard time with it, adding that it shouldn't be a problem to share vehicles. Jim stated that he has a good idea of what is needed and that's why he set the budget the way he did. Ron stated that it makes it difficult for him when he's asked why you can afford it and I can't. He added that there is \$50,000 of gravel in the budget and they're going to buy three new trucks to haul it. Jim discussed how much has been spent on maintenance and that they won't have that with new trucks. Dan stated that he feels the trucks should be purchased over a period of time, not all at once, and that he's not a great fan of leasing. There was discussion about the cost of maintenance. Shorty stated that you'll still have maintenance with new trucks. Further discussion included giving the taxpayers the biggest bang for their buck, paving and chip sealing, and the increase in traffic in the Ennis area. Following much discussion, Ron Nye asked to schedule another meeting on June 2, 2021, to continue the discussion.

With no further business, the hearings concluded at 1:55 p.m.

Dan W. Allhands, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: July 20, 2021

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Executive Assistant

Attest: _____
Paula McKenzie, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County