

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

IMAN 
CHILCOTT 
FOSS 

KANENWISHER 

STOLTZ 

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

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

Date.....May 13, 2011

► Minutes: Stacy Bartlett

► The Board met for discussion and possible decision on Meridian Road speed limit. Also present were Road Supervisor Dave Ohnstad and Roger DeHaan. Chairman Iman opened the meeting at 9:10am. Commissioner Stoltz was absent for this meeting. Roger gave a summary of excessive speeds on Meridian Road and requested temporary signs until Highway 93 construction is done. People are using this route to avoid the construction. Dave recommended an interim speed of 35mph until construction is complete. On the non-paved portion of Meridian, he would be hesitant to set a 35mph and would recommend at 25mph on this portion. He stated a 25mph limit would impact the amount of dust, uphold road quality/surface stability and deter those wanting a high speed alternate route. There was discussion of Highway Patrol monitoring this at the County's request and setting 35mph the full length of Meridian instead of 2 speed limits. The commissioners' authority to set these temporary limits for public safety and a permanent ordinance at a later date were also discussed.

Commissioner Kanenwisher made a motion to institute a temporary speed limit of 35mph on the surfaced portion and 25mph on the unsurfaced portion of Meridian Road from the 93 intersection on the south end and including Bell Crossing west back to US 93 on the north during road construction of Hwy 93. Commissioner Foss seconded the motion and all voted "aye". Dave will prepare a public notice for Commissioners review and post the signs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

► The Board met for discussion and possible decision on the County Attorney's office Civil Project Prioritization. Also present were County Attorney Bill Fulbright, Civil Counsel Karen Mahar, and Civil Counsel Dan Browder. Chairman Iman opened the meeting at 10:08am.

Bill gave background of the County Attorney's responsibilities and their relationship/legal assistance to all departments including those under the supervision of the County Commissioners. Karen reviewed Montana Code, statutes and the history of the relationship between the County Commissioners and County Attorneys' offices and how priorities were set. She suggested the Board look at an information management system. Discussion included setting policy/procedures, budgeting, prioritization (including codification and lawsuits), attorney opinions and the flow of communication. A list of project priorities maintained by Karen and Dan was handed out to the Board. There was discussion of sensitivity to public review of this list.

There was consensus among the Board to draft an outline or matrix of the process to set policy. Once this is drafted, a meeting will be set with the County Attorney's office to discuss and decide the next steps.

There was further discussion with regard to codification. Dan reviewed the history and ongoing codification project, which includes not only ordinances, but resolutions. An outside contractor provided the first draft in 2005. Dan has been working on this since his hire in 2008 when time permits. Dan stated these could be broken down by title for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.

► The remainder of the day was spent in office management.