Glacier County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
Regular Meeting
Browning, MT

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regularly scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 11, 2025. Commissioners Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Mary Jo Bremner and Sam Bird III were present. Mandi Bird Kennerly was taking minutes.

Present at the Meeting: Jimmy Racine, Glacier County Weed Department Director/Supervisor

Present via GoToMeeting: (1) Caller; Chancy; Snoop

A. Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Approval of Agenda
Commissioner Bird motions to approve the agenda; Commissioner Bremner seconds the motion; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

C. Discussion: Public Hearing #1 Resolution No. 2025-04 FY2024-2025 Approve Budget Amendment – 2916 Unanticipated Grant Revenue – Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO/Glacier County Commissioners
Commissioner Billedeaux presents Resolution No. 2025-04 FY2024-2025 Approve Budget Amendment – 2916 Unanticipated Grant Revenue for the first public hearing that is required. Commissioner Billedeaux asks Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO to explains why this resolution is needed. Chancy via GoToMeeting explains that this is grant revenue that was received around two weeks ago for the COPS Grant and was unanticipated revenue this fiscal year. He states that two public hearings are required before approval per MCA 7-6-4031 and 7-6-4006(4). The money received was in the amount of $500,000.00 for the COPS Grant and will be used to upgrade the 911 Radio System (Motorola). Commissioner Bremner thanks Congressman Zinke and everyone involved in securing this grant, she states that only 10 entities received the funds & Glacier County was one.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION
FY2024-2025 Approve Budget Amendment – 2916 Unanticipated Grant Revenue
Resolution No. 2025-04

WHEREAS, the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006(4), grants the Board of County Commissioners the power and authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year by conducting (2) public hearings at regularly scheduled meetings; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to amend its FY2024-2025 approved budget and increase

budgeted appropriations to the COPS Grant Fund #2916 in the amount of $525,324 as set forth in this Resolution in order to fund a needed unanticipated expenditure to purchase equipment for Public safety services; and

WHEREAS, revenue to finance the unanticipated expenditure will be funded through Unanticipated Federal Grant revenue of $500,000 and an Interfund Transfer from ARPA Fund #2991 of $25,324.

Revenues	**Description**	**Prior Amounts**	**New Amounts**
2916.331025	DOJ – COPS Grant	$ 0.00	$ 500,000.00
2916.383000	Interfund Operating Transfer	$ 0.00	$ 25,324.00

Revenues	**Description**	**Prior Amounts**	**New Amounts**
2916.420160.940	Machinery & Equipment	$ 0.00	$ 525,324.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Glacier County Board of Commissioners hereby amend the original FY2024-2025 budget by increasing appropriations in the amount of
$525,324.00, and directs the County Clerk & Recorder to allocate the increase to the above identified fund, function, and object code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above appropriation shall become effective on February 13, 2025.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

D. Discussion: Public Hearing #1 Resolution No. 2025-05 FY2024-2025 Approve Budget Amendment – 2921 Unanticipated Grant Revenue - Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO/Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Billedeaux presents Resolution No. 2025-05 FY2024-2025 Approve Budget Amendment – 2921 Unanticipated Grant Revenue for the first public hearing that is required. Commissioner Billedeaux asks Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO to explains why this resolution is needed. Chancy via GoToMeeting explains that this is money from the Byrne Grant that was unanticipated grant revenue in this fiscal year. The grant funds will be spent on (4) new police cruisers and to update the electronic lock system in the jail. He states that two public hearings are required before approval per MCA 7-6-4031 and 7-6-4006(4).

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION
FY2024-2025 Budget Amendment – 2921 Unanticipated Grant Revenue
Resolution No. 2025-05

WHEREAS, the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006(4), grants the Board of County

Commissioners the power and authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year by conducting (2) public hearings at regularly scheduled meetings; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to amend its FY2024-2025 approved budget and increase budgeted appropriations to the Department of Justice-SVOR Reimb Grant Fund #2921 in the amount of $410,000 as set forth in this Resolution in order to fund a needed unanticipated expenditure to purchase equipment for Public safety services; and

WHEREAS, revenue to finance the unanticipated expenditure will be funded through Unanticipated Federal Grant revenue of $410,000.

Revenues	**Description**	**Prior Amounts**	**New Amounts**
2921.331024	Dept of Justice Grant	$ 0.00	$ 410,000.00

Revenues	**Description**	**Prior Amounts**	**New Amounts**
2921.420100.940	Machinery & Equipment	$ 0.00	$ 278,921.25
2921.420200.940	Machinery & Equipment	$ 0.00	$ 131,078.75

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Glacier County Board of Commissioners hereby amend the original FY 2024-2025 budget by increasing appropriations in the amount of
$410,000.00, and directs the County Clerk & Recorder to allocate the increase to the above identified fund, function, and object code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above appropriation shall become effective on February 13, 2025.

E. Approval: Resolution No. 2025-06 Resolution Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Billedeaux presents Resolution No. 2025-06 Resolution Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members for approval. He states that he believes that the approval of this resolution is important, and we should continue to allow MACo to lobby on our behalf and the other 55 counties in Montana. Commissioner Bremner states that they have been our voice for many years and they advocate for all the counties in Montana. Commissioner Bird is in agreement with both commissioners.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Commissioner Bremner motions to approve Resolution No. 2025-06 Resolution Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members; Commissioner Bird seconds the motion; motion carried.

Glacier County Resolution
Resolution Opposing Legislation Limiting or Prohibiting Montana Association of Counties
Lobbying on Behalf of Its Members
Resolution No. 2025-06

Whereas, Glacier County is a member of the Montana Association of Counties;

Whereas, Mont. Code Ann. § 7-5-2141 authorizes and empowers Montana's counties to join and pay for such membership with county funds, allowing for the cooperation with other counties of this state to further good governance and to protect county interests;

Whereas, the "Montana Association of County Commissioners" was formed in January 1909, for the purposes of providing advocacy on behalf of its members at the State Legislature; Whereas, in 1973, the Association was reorganized as the "Montana Association of Counties" to allow for the creation of a permanent office and authorized the hiring of an Executive Director and appropriate staff to further that purpose;

Whereas, the Montana Association of Counties represents all 56 counties in Montana and shares the same constituents as the entire Montana Legislature;

Whereas, without Association representation on legislation that impacts counties throughout the state, advocacy by elected county officials will be muted through lack of representation in the Capitol Building;

Whereas, the alternative of sending Commissioners to Helena will result in significant time and costs incurred by each member county;

Whereas, while Zoom is an option for remote testimony, in our opinion it is not as effective as physical presence on a daily basis as legislation develops and does not allow meaningful participation outside the hearing rooms;

Whereas, local governments are intergovernmental partners in performing the work demanded by our like constituents, and the passage of legislation requiring local governments to carry out the demands of the legislature requires consultation with intergovernmental partners to ensure the consequences are intended and decisions are informed (Bradley v. Saxbe,D.C.D.C. 1974. United States District Court, District of Columbia);

Whereas, the State of Montana, The Legislature, Governor's Office, and other Statewide Elected Offices utilize and pay dues or fees with taxpayer funds for membership in similarly missioned organizations for advocacy on their behalf, which is inconsistent with the effort to limit the counties collective voices;

Whereas, the Montana Association of Counties, with direction from its leadership as elected by the full membership, carries out advocacy on the collective policies and direction of County Elected Officials, primarily County Commissioners.
Therefore, Be It Resolved, by order of the Glacier County Commissioners, they hereby oppose any legislation that limits or prohibits lobbying by the Montana Association of Counties.

Dated this 11th day of February, 2025.

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\s\ Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Chair
\s\ Mary Jo Bremner, Vice-Chair
\s\ Sam Bird III, Member
ATTEST:
\s\Mandi Bird Kennerly, Glacier County Clerk & Recorder

F. Approval: Purchase Flatbed ($7500.00) – Jimmy Racine, Glacier County Weed Department Coordinator/Supervisor

Jimmy Racine, Glacier County Weed Department Director/Supervisor explains that he had met with the commissioners previously about purchasing a flatbed for the new weed department vehicle and was requested to return when he had an amount of the purchase. He found a flatbed at XB Trailer Sales in Great Falls in amount of $7,500.00 ($5,500.00 Flatbed & $2,000.00 install) and is requesting approval to purchase – no invoice/quote was provided. The commissioners agree to approve.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Commissioner Bird motions to approve the purchase of a flatbed with install in the amount of $7,500.00 to XB Trailer Sales in Great Falls; Commissioner Bremner seconds the motion; motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

G. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

H. Next Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2025 – Cut Bank

Commissioner Bremner motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.; Commissioner Bird seconds the motion; motion carried.