

**Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Study Commission Meeting
6:00 p.m. Thursday, November 13, 2014
Courthouse Courtroom**

Present: Heather Edwards, Dan Tocher, Linda Sather, Adam Vauthier, Terry Galle

Others Present: Commission Chairman Kevin Hart and Administrative Assistant, Julie Hoffman

Kevin Hart called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Introductions

Members of the Study Commission went around the table and introduced themselves.

Kevin Hart announced that he requested to be appointed by the Anaconda Deer Lodge County Commission to serve as the Ex-Officio member for the Study Commission.

Heather Edwards announced that Julie Hoffman will be the administrative assistant for the Study Commission.

Discussion – Appointment of a Temporary Presiding Officer

Heather Edwards stated that a temporary presiding officer can be elected now and a permanent one can be elected after the training. Linda Sather suggested that a permanent presiding officer be elected at this meeting.

Linda Sather made a motion to elect Heather Edwards as the permanent presiding officer; seconded by Dan Tocher.

Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Hart stated that the Study Commission can also elect a vice-chair in case the presiding officer is absent.

As such Terry Galle made a motion to elect Adam Vauthier as Vice-Chair; seconded by Linda Sather.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Conference Calls if unable to attend meetings

Terry Galle asked if there is equipment available to do a conference call if a member of the Study Commission will be absent for a meeting. Heather Edwards informed Terry that it is possible to set-up a conference call if that situation arises. She stated there is access to a speaker phone in the courtroom as well as the jury room.

Discussion – Tentative Meeting Schedule

The group consensus was that Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. would be the best night. However, Kevin Hart suggested holding off on a setting a firm day/time until training is complete. He did encourage an

evening time so that the public can participate. Heather Edwards suggested not taking any action tonight and placing it back on the agenda after the training is complete.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Linda Sather – nothing to report
- Dan Tocher – Dan asked if it was possible to get a copy of the Charter from the past. Kevin suggested asking about this at the training.
- Heather Edwards – Heather had several questions about the Charter with regard to cleaning up the language in sections of the Charter relating to the CEO and Chief of Law Enforcement and being appointed versus elected. Kevin Hart encouraged Heather (and the other members of the study commission) to keep a list of questions for the training.
- Terry Galle – Terry questioned why the city/county chose to form a consolidated government. Kevin Hart and Linda Sather explained it was for financial reasons and it was done prior to the Smelter closing.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Rose Nyman – 121 E. 3rd: Ms. Nyman inquired about the Oath of Office. Heather Edwards stated she has emailed the county Elections Administrator and the Secretary of State but has not heard back from either of them. However, Dan Tocher pointed out that in the Charter it states they are to do so.

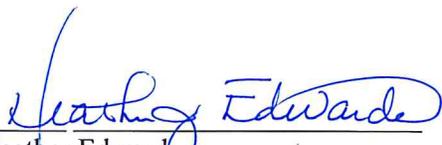
Kevin Hart stated that the Clerk and Recorder's office can do the Oath. Heather Edwards suggested it could take place at the next Commission Meeting so that everyone can take the Oath at the same time.

Ms. Nyman also reminded everyone to ask for public comment after each agenda item. She also went on to state that district zoning with regard to Commissioners is a hot button issue and it is something the Study Commission may want to take a look at.

Meeting adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.


Julie Hoffman
Administrative Assistant


Heather Edwards
Study Commission Chair