

**Anaconda-Deer Lodge County**  
**Commission Work Session Minutes**  
**6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 23, 2016**  
**Courthouse Courtroom**

Present: Commission Chair Hart, Commissioner Mulvey, Commissioner Lux-Burt, Commission Vice-Chair Vermeire, Commissioner Smith, CEO Ternes Daniels, County Attorney Krakowka

Others Present: Julie K. Pooley, Clerk of the Commission and Kathie Miller, Anaconda Leader

Commission Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and explained the Commission Rules of Procedure.

**Presentation/Request to Set Public Hearing – Downtown Master Plan**

Charly Loper, Planner I, presented aspects of the Downtown Master Plan to the Commission. She informed the Commission and members of the public that the plan is available at [www.anacondadevelopment.org](http://www.anacondadevelopment.org). Ms. Loper explained that the purpose of the Plan is to assist with the economic revitalization of downtown Anaconda, remain competitive in the grant process, assist with the Growth Policy, and act as a game plan for the newly formed TIF Board (Anaconda Urban Renewal Agency Board).

The process of developing the plan included researching previous Anaconda revitalization plans, holding two public meetings, conducting an online survey, and having the draft Plan reviewed by Accelerate Anaconda and the Planning Board.

Recommendations and future steps are discussed in Chapters 6 and 7 of the Plan. Ms. Loper did not discuss these in detail during the presentation but referred the Commission to the Plan for specifics which can be found at [www.anacondadevelopment.org](http://www.anacondadevelopment.org).

CEO Ternes Daniels thanked Ms. Loper and welcomed her to the Planning Department. She believes the Plan is a workable, a great guide and will get some action going downtown.

Jim Davison with Anaconda Local Development informed the Commission a lot of public input went into the Plan. He noted he is looking into some funding sources (CDBG, Main Street funds) to begin implementing a transportation plan. He also noted this is a great guide for the Urban Renewal District, and that the Department of Commerce has already made comments regarding the plan.

Rose Nyman asked Ms. Loper if the numbers on page 35 are from the 2010 census. Ms. Loper informed her that Paul Polzin from Butte conducted an economic analysis to determine the numbers. Ms. Nyman commented that the County has 43.6 million dollars in leakage, which is staggering, considering there is a demand for 20 million dollars of merchandise in the County.

Commissioner Lux-Burt has read a good portion of the report and believes it is well-done and is looking forward to working on some of the things mentioned in it. However, she would like to see a housing survey done along with a transportation survey and a request for funding for these items. In order to get the community thriving, she believes housing needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Hart asked the Commission if there was any opposition to setting the public hearing for March 15, 2016. With no one opposing, the public hearing was set for March 15, 2016.

**Discussion – Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan**

Judie Tilman created the plan with the assistance of County staff. According to CEO Ternes Daniels this Transition Plan should have been done in the 90's. It is a necessary requirement of the CDBG grants, as well as many other grants. Ms. Tilman and County staff went through all County-owned buildings to determine ADA compliance or lack thereof.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Bill of Sale Among Northwestern Energy, Atlantic Richfield Corporation (ARCO), ARCO Environmental Remediation, LLC, and Anaconda-Deer Lodge County for the Opportunity Triangle Development Compressor Site Lift Station and Force Main**

Dan Manson, who represents the County in various environmental areas, informed the Commission this Bill of Sale is with regard to sewer and water improvements for the Opportunity Triangle. He was asked to review the Bill of Sale for liability issues approximately six months ago. He recommended that the engineer issue a letter confirming the lift station and force main were built to the plans and specifications. The engineer issued the letter but not to the County. They re-issued the letter in December 2015. Mr. Manson is comfortable that no liabilities exist and he recommends moving forward with the Bill of Sale and taking ownership of the improvements.

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission conditions regarding rates are still outstanding and will be addressed in the near future.

Carl Nyman, Superfund Coordinator, noted that Ed Janney is working on some proposals for different rate structures because this is connected to Superfund and redevelopment work as well. He will have something to bring forward to the Commission in the next few weeks. He also noted that if lot 5 is ever developed the County will be obligated to provide back-up power.

Jim Davison informed the Commission he has had three (3) proposals in the past ninety (90) days for potential investors for lot 5.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – CDBG Economic Development TIG Welding Lab Project – Award of Bid for Electrical Service for the TIG Welding Lab Project**

CEO Ternes Daniels deferred to Jim Davison of Anaconda Local Development Corporation to discuss the agenda items related to the CDBG TIG Welding Lab Project. She emphasized that all bids had been approved by the CDBG program administrators in Helena.

Jim Davison informed the Commission that Ray Peterson Electric submitted the only bid for Electrical Services in the amount of \$7,500. He noted the work may come in under bid once the project gets underway. He recommended the Commission accept the bid.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – CDBG Economic Development TIG Welding Lab Project – Award of Bid for Welding Tools and Supplies for the TIG Welding Lab Project**

Jim Davison informed the Commission that General Distributing submitted the only bid for this portion of the project. General Distributing came in under budget with a bid of \$77,706.94, provided an educational discount and will supply items for eight (8) welding stations.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – CDBG Economic Development TIG Welding Lab Project – Award of Bid for the Construction Trailer for the TIG Welding Lab Project**

Jim Davison informed the Commission that three bids were received for the Construction Trailer: Pierce Leasing in Great Falls, MT and two bids from Standard in Florence, SD. Standard submitted one bid as an exception and was the low bid in the amount of \$98,998.00. If a down payment is provided, Standard will provide a discount of 1.5%.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – CDBG Economic Development TIG Welding Lab Project – Award of Bid for a Ventilation System for the TIG Welding Lab Project**

Jim Davison informed the Commission that the ventilation system was included as an exception with the Construction Trailer bid or simply was not included in the original bid. Including it as an exception increased the cost by approximately \$80,000, which went well beyond what was budgeted. Therefore, the decision was made to bid it separately. Four bids were received. General Distributing submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$12,000, and they can install a separate ventilation unit to each of the eight (8) welding stations. Job Corps finds this acceptable.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Award of Bid for Bathroom Renovations at Washoe Park, Legion Field and Benny Goodman Park**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission this project has gone out for bid twice and both times no bids were received. Local contractors were interested but had some issues. CEO Ternes Daniels and Jeremy Fadness from WWC met with Dale Harris of Harris Construction who came up with a proposal. Saltenberger Plumbing and Ray Peterson Electric will also provide their services to get the project done. The total to complete all three bathrooms will be \$169,900. CEO Ternes Daniels acknowledged this amount is a bit higher than anticipated but is within the budgeted amount.

Dale Harris informed the Commission the issues are mechanical and electrical, but should not complicate the project. He also noted the County could choose to use porcelain fixtures at Legion Field to cut down on cost since the bathrooms at the field are locked the majority of the time.

CEO Ternes Daniels noted the bathrooms are very old and there were some unanswered questions in terms of tying into the old electrical and plumbing system. However, these have been resolved. She respectfully requested the Commission place this item on next week's agenda and informed them she will have more information to them next week.

Commissioner Lux-Burt is happy to see the project moving forward and pleased to have local businesses working on the project.

Commissioner Hart echoed Commissioner Lux-Burt's sentiments. He suggested using steel fixtures at Legion Field as this field gets used quite often during the summer.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Agreement between Anaconda-Deer Lodge County and Steiner Thuesen, LLC to Rebid the New Hill Cemetery Irrigation Project**

CEO Ternes Daniels reminded the Commission it authorized the re-bidding of this project at the Commission Meeting last week. Initially, Carl Thuesen proposed \$7,000 to re-bid the project. After further negotiation, Mr. Thuesen agreed to charge the County \$3,698.64.

Commissioner Lux-Burt is okay with this amount, but thought \$2,300 for the pre-bid conference was a bit excessive.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Request for Bids for the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Fuel System**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission the County has not gone out to bid for a fuel contract since Pete Boyce was CEO. She strongly recommended the County go out for bid and consider doing so every three years.

Commissioner Hart agreed that it seemed a lengthy time to go without reviewing the contract and going out for bid.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Resolution No. 16-11, a Resolution to Place on the Primary Election Ballot a Question for Determination by the Qualified Electors of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County for the Levying of Four (4) Mills Providing for the Operation of the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Head Start**

Shannon Hurley, representing Friends of Head Start, respectfully requested that the Commission place this item on the agenda in order for it to go on the ballot.

CEO Ternes Daniels believes the money generated from this levy is well spent and a great investment.

County Attorney Krakowka asked for clarification that the ballot language is what he approved two years ago as he remembers there were some issues with the previous ballot language.

Commissioner Lux-Burt appreciates that this is a two-year levy so the voters have the opportunity to evaluate it every two years. She asked if it still needs to be a four (4) mill levy since enrollment is decreasing. Ms. Hurley informed the Commission that Head Start can still accept ninety (90) children and the majority of the funds that are generated from the levy support transportation costs.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Discussion – Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Head Start Enrollment Improvement Plan for the Period February 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017**

Gail Mickey, Head Start Director, presented the Head Start Enrollment Improvement Plan to the Commission. Ms. Mickey informed the Commission that Head Start is asking for a reduction in enrollment. She explained that Anaconda has not seen an increase in population for more than twenty (20) years, and the community does not have enough families with children between the ages of 3 and 5 to sustain an enrollment of ninety (90) children. Head Start is requesting to decrease enrollment by 10% for the 2016-2017 school year. In doing so, this keeps funding and services in place.

CEO Ternes Daniels remarked that the school district's pre-school program is grant-funded. If that program ceases to exist, Head Start's enrollment could increase to ninety (90) children again and have a waiting list.

Commissioner Hart asked Ms. Mickey what the chances are of enrollment increasing back up to capacity. Ms. Mickey stated it is possible. However, decreased enrollment has made classes smaller and safer.

Commissioner Lux-Burt commented it is beneficial to have six-hour classes, especially for working parents and parents that are attending school.

Ms. Mickey also noted that next year's pre-school class will be exclusively for 4-year olds, and 3-year olds will get services in a separate class.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Agreement between Anaconda-Deer Lodge County and Anaconda Police Protective Association**

CEO Ternes Daniels reviewed the changes to the agreement which is valid from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. Changes include an employer contribution of \$600 per full-time bargaining unit member per month towards health insurance; personal leave days as an incentive to perform the duties of a Field Training Officer and to be certified as a Breath Test Specialist Senior Officer; pay at time and one half per session for each off-duty officer attending for Firearms Qualification/Training. She also informed the Commission that Ryan Eamon is the President and Ryan Peterson is the Vice-President of the Anaconda Police Protective Association.

CEO Ternes Daniels went on to inform the Commission that Officer Susan Robbins is leaving at the end of May and Kurt Reisenauer is still out on medical leave. As such, the County is in the process of hiring a full-time and a part-time officer. Testing is scheduled the first week of March. The Police Commission will be involved in the hiring process.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Proclamation for Irish American Heritage Month**

With the month of March and St. Patrick's Day coming up, CEO Ternes Daniels noted this is a way to honor our Irish brothers and sisters.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Resignation of Carol Ann Durham from the Airport Board, Solid Waste Board, and as the Commission Appointed Ex-Officio Member on the Health Board and Authorization to Advertise to Fill the Vacancies**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission that Ms. Durham resigned from these boards when she moved away from the area about a year ago and was appointed to them when she moved back. She is now moving away, most likely on a permanent basis. CEO Ternes Daniels expressed her appreciation for Ms. Durham's service on these boards.

Commissioner Lux-Burt also expressed appreciation for the work Ms. Durham has done on the boards and asked that a letter of thanks be sent to her.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Appointment/Reappointment of a Member to the Tri-County Fair Board (one vacancy; 2-year term – Amanda Amberg has requested reappointment)**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission that Ms. Amberg has participated in the fair since childhood and has been serving on the board. Anaconda-Deer Lodge County supports the Tri-County Fair, and she certainly supports Ms. Amberg's reappointment to the board.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Appointment/Reappointment of a Member from Commission District 5 to the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Weed Board (one vacancy; 3-year term – Mike Burt has requested reappointment)**

CEO Ternes Daniels noted that Mr. Burt recognizes the importance of weed control in the County and is committed to the issue.

Commissioner Lux-Burt stated that although the Weed Board has not met too many times in the last couple of years, Michael Marker has it up and going again.

Item placed on the agenda.

**Appointments to the Anaconda Urban Renewal Agency Board (four vacancies – Business Owner Representative – no applicants; Economic Development Representative – Adam Vauthier has requested appointment; Banking Official Representative – Kristy McKay has requested appointment, Citizen-at-Large – Jamie Roessler has requested appointment)**

CEO Ternes Daniels recommended that the newly appointed members draw lots to determine the length of their terms, and the Commission agreed.

Item placed on the agenda.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **CEO Connie Ternes Daniels**

#### **PREP Grant Application**

CEO Ternes Daniels asked Katherine Basirico, Public Health Director to provide the Commission with information regarding this grant.

Ms. Basirico informed the Commission this grant would implement the Montana Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). Ms. Basirico noted that 46% of Montana high school students have had sex at least once in their lifetime. In addition, teen childbearing costs the taxpayers approximately 26 million dollars per year.

PREP educates youth on abstinence and contraception and other adult preparation topics. The goal of PREP is to prevent teen pregnancy and STD's and to help Montana's teens lead healthy, productive lives. The program utilizes evidence-based curriculum, focuses on grades 6, 7, 8 and high school, and is taught by a classroom teacher or family life educator. Ms. Basirico informed the Commission that Debbie Robinson is already trained as a PREP educator.

The program is divided into three sections: Draw the Line/Respect the Line which helps students develop personal sexual limits; Reducing the Risk which is designed for high school students and takes an active approach to prevent teenage pregnancy and STD's; and Preparing Youth for Adulthood which focuses on special topics such as healthy relationships and life skills.

If awarded the grant, Ms. Basirico would like to expand on the programs and add elements of substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention to the program. She will be meeting with the school district tomorrow to go over the aspects of the grant, and hopefully obtain their support.

CEO Ternes Daniels remarked that our community has many social issues and oftentimes those issues are best addressed through Public Health.

County Attorney believes this grant is an excellent idea, and although teen pregnancy will not go away, providing this type of education is a good idea.

Commissioner Lux-Burt believes these issues are a concern not only in our community but throughout Montana. She is also aware that the school district is protective of its classroom time but hopes they realize the importance of this program and are supportive of it. She feels kids need to learn about these issues from sources other than their peers.

Commissioner Hart commented that he likes the idea of the three areas emphasized in the program and noted it is extremely important for adolescents to have proper education on these topics. He believes adding mental health and suicide education is a great idea.

Item placed on the agenda.

### **Representative Zinke**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission that Kip McGuire, a staffer from Representative Zinke's office would like to address the Commission at its meeting next week. She requested this item be placed on the agenda. By consensus, the Commission agreed to place this item on the agenda.

### **Beaver Issue at Old Works/Cedar Street Bridge**

CEO Ternes Daniels and Carl Nyman, Superfund Coordinator went out to Old Works Golf Course today to assess the damage done by the beavers. CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission it is extensive. She and Mr. Nyman also assessed the tree damage down by the creek that Commissioner Mulvey was concerned about and believes the situation is very dangerous. At this point, she is trying to work out a plan to find out who owns the land, trees, creek, etc., to determine who is responsible for mitigating the damage.

Carl Nyman informed the Commission he met with Amy Chadwick, a woman from Missoula, after he and CEO Ternes Daniels assessed the damage. Ms. Chadwick has extensive experience managing beaver problems. Ms. Chadwick is going to come up with a proposal to submit to the County. Some of the options they discussed may actually give the County the opportunity to create more habitats for fish in the affected areas.

CEO Ternes Daniels emphasized that this is a public safety issue as the trees have the potential of causing damage to property if the County experiences a severe windstorm. She is glad that Mr. Nyman met with Ms. Chadwick and looks forward to a forthcoming proposal.

Kathie Miller with the Anaconda Leader informed the Commission that FWP is currently soliciting grant proposals and there may be some grant funding available to assist with the beaver problem.

### **Spanish-American War Flag Restoration Update**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission the flag is insured up to 1 million dollars. Barry DeChaine delivered the flag to the conservator in ~~Thompson Falls~~[Kalispell](#). It should be completed by Memorial Day, and will then be on permanent display at the library.

### **Transportation Alternatives Grant**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission the County was not awarded the Transportation Alternatives Grant for historic lighting. Most of the funding was awarded for ADA projects.

### **Beaverdam Park Closeout**

CEO Ternes Daniels informed the Commission she met with Joe Walsh from DOT and Jeremy Fadness from WWC to review all of the documentation related to Beaverdam Park. Jeremy Fadness did a tremendous job of organizing all of the information, and the meeting took less than an hour. The project is officially closed out.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

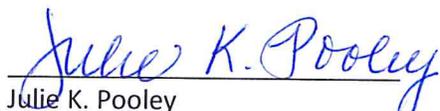
No public comment received.

**ADLC Public Meeting Dates**

Commission Chair Hart read the ADLC Public Meeting Dates.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Lux-Burt moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

  
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Julie K. Pooley  
Clerk of the Commission

  
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Kevin A. Hart  
Commission Chair

