



## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

### **Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the GN Lodge Room**

---

- **Present:** Ashley Stuart, Juli Snedigar, Anne Boothe, Anna Merriman, Kathy Bagley, Jessica Oyler, Duane Murray, April Ritchey, Kelly Murray, Gary Knudsen, Gina Simanton, Scott Simanton, Jake Stuart, Richard Dunbar, Bob Galt, Mark Kunze, Lisa Kunze, Bill Myers, Ann Sautter, Carmen Norville, Bruce Christofferson, Marko Manoukian, Linda Manoukian, Logan Lund, Carly Bishop, Misty Kuhl, Matt Kuhl, Casey Cote.
  
- **Call to Order & Welcome:** President Mark Kunze called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present at the meeting. President Kunze thanked First Security Bank, First State Bank and Independence Bank for sponsoring the appetizers and the GN for hosting the meeting. President Kunze also recognized and thanked the PhillCo executive board, board of directors and community fund committee members.
  
- **Review Minutes/Treasurer's Report:** Review/approve minutes from the 2017 annual meeting. Richard Dunbar moved to approve the minutes as presented. Logan Lund seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  
- **Montana Corporation Annual Report:** Ashley reported that PhillCo is in good standing with the State of Montana. She will send in the new 2018 officers after they are elected.
  
- **Annual Report:** Ashley gave the 2017 annual report. She started by thanking the board for their work in 2017. Highlights from the year included:
  - Community Development & Trainings:
    - Ashley attended the spring and fall MEDA conferences that she felt were great conferences to attend. She thanked the board for funding her travel to those.
    - Missouri River Country Tourism board – Ashley is currently the Vice President of Missouri River Country Tourism. In 2017, Malta hosted the Missouri River board in Malta at the Tin Cup. Malta also hosted a monthly meeting where they toured Blue Ridge Brewery. Missouri River also worked to get a \$5,000 grant for the town of Zortman. With those funds Zortman started a website ZortmanMontana.com, they did radio ads and new signage was secured.
    - Bear Paw Development – Ashley is a member of Bear Paw. PhillCo works closely with their Small Business Development center.
    - Hi-Line Arts Trail – PhillCo is a partner in this project. We will see the first installment, a mural on the north side of Art's Furniture in 2018.
    - Phillips County Needs Assessment Group – Ashley has been a part of this group that meets monthly. Ward VanWichen has been heading this up.
    - Hi-Line Futures Foundation – Ashley has been a part of this since it started. They are currently exploring options of building a new pool or renovating the old pool. The fall Brewfest has been a very good fundraiser for the group.
    - Rancher's Stewardship Alliance – PhillCo helped with the Phillips County Proud celebration that was very well attended again this year.
    - Hi-Line Technology Conference – Ashley reported that the group is working on coming up with ideas for 2018.

- Community Identified Needs:
  - Phillips County Grain Terminal – Ashley has been a part of a working group made up of local farmers, businesses, and state and local government officials. They have been working on several leads to get a grain terminal in Phillips County. Ashley has sent an email to the newest contact and hopes to hear back from them next week.
  - Non Profit Community Group Summit – PhillCo worked with other non-profit groups including Rancher’s Stewardship Alliance to bring a board training to Malta. Paul Lachapelle of MSU Extension came to Malta and put on the training.
  - Phillips County Branding Project - Ashley reported the committee is in the final stages of project. There have been several working group meetings and the group is working with Montana Grafix on design finalization
- Economic Development:
  - Beautification Grant - Ashley reported that in 2018, the beautification committee is going to look at the guidelines. Funds are currently available funds available. Since the program started in 2012, PhillCo has contributed just over \$50,000 to area businesses. The latest business to use the Beautification program was the Liquor Haven/Travel Haven on their new property.
  - MBIDD – At this time the cleanup at the MBIDD property continues. Digging has been completed and we will wait until spring to determine the grass establishment. At that time, NewFields will submit the final document to DEQ.

Ashley thanked the board, commissioners, City, Bear Paw Development and all of the other organizations that PhillCo has partnered with in 2017 and is looking forward to working with them all in 2018.

- **Election of Directors for three year terms (term expires 12-31-2020):**

- Re-election of directors:
  - Gary Knudsen
  - Jane Knudsen
- Election of new directors:
  - Mayor John Demarais

President Kunze asked for a motion to approve the election of directors. Marko Manoukian moved to elect the directors. Logan Lund seconded, motion carried.

- **Presentation of Certificates of Recognition:** In honor of businesses and entrepreneurs in Phillips County and their recent accomplishments in 2017, the following businesses were presented with a certificate from PhillCo.

- **New Businesses:**
  - Pip’s Diner – Chris & Heidi Pippen
  - Coffee Corner – April Ritchey
  - 406 Spray Tan – Jessica Oyler
  - Inky’s Studio – Heather Jenkins
  - Donny’s Framing Shop – Donny & Kathy Bagley
  - Active Solutions Physical Therapy – Carmen Norville
- **Change of Hands:**
  - **Ezzie’s Wholesale** – Bill Myers & Mark Kunze
- **Expansion:**
  - **The Liquor Haven** – Scott & Gina Simanton

- **Amend PhillCo Bylaws**

- **No amendments suggested to the bylaws for 2017-2018**

- **Other Business**

- **Recognize Board / Officer Retirees**

- Shyla Jones – City of Malta Mayor (Community Fund Committee, Executive Committee, Board of Directors)
    - Mark Kunze – President (2015-2017)

Shyla was unable to attend, but Ashley will get her certificate to her. Ashley thanked Mark for his time as President. Mark will remain on the PhillCo board.

- **Meeting adjourned** – Marko moved to adjourn, Logan seconded. Meeting adjourned.