

# TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES

August 26, 2015

## Approved As Amended

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pierre Jomini, Jerry Dunning, Trina White, Todd Cormier, Capt. Harper

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gene Wade, Sondra Baker

STAFF SUPPORT: Terry Smith, Aaron Lebsack, Lora Mattox, Erin Claunch

GUESTS: None

### BUSINESS MEETING:

**Call to order:** Todd Cormier called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm in the conference room of the Public Works Building, 2224 Montana Avenue.

**Minutes:** Motion for approval of the July minutes by Pierre Jomini. Seconded by Trina White. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

### STAFF REPORTS:

- **Update on Major Construction Projects:** Erin updated the Board on major projects for the 2015 construction season.
  - Poly Drive 32<sup>nd</sup> to 38<sup>th</sup>. The first lift of pavement will be placed west of Zimmerman Trail next week. Underground pipe work is in progress east of Zimmerman Trail and is expected to be complete by Labor Day. The intersection of Poly & Zimmerman is open to north-south traffic.
  - 17<sup>th</sup> St West waterline. This project is complete and the street is open to traffic.
  - Calhoun Lane. Work is progressing and should be substantially complete in the next month.
  - Overlays including Broadwater Ave from 24<sup>th</sup> St W to 16<sup>th</sup> St W and 19<sup>th</sup> St W from Broadwater Ave to Lewis Ave are complete. Final pavement markings, including reflective snowplow mountable pavement markers, will be installed on Broadwater after the new asphalt cures. Pierre commented that some agencies had abandoned the use of snowplow mountable pavement markers due to adhesion problems. Erin responded that these problems had been solved. Poly Drive from 13<sup>th</sup> St W to Virginia Lane should be paved in the next 3-4 weeks. The signal upgrade at Poly & Virginia is scheduled to be completed in October when the new signal equipment arrives.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave North storm drain. This project is still under construction with traffic reduced to two lanes.
  - Exposition Gateway project will be pushing into Main Street soon for water line work.
  - Colton Blvd from Zimmerman Trail to 38<sup>th</sup> St W is expected to start construction in mid to late September.

BOARD REPORTS:

- **Billings Area Transportation Safety Plan:** This plan will focus on traffic safety and is under the direction of the Montana Department of Transportation. Proposals from consultants are due at the end of the month. The plan will be broad based including education, enforcement, emergency medical, and engineering approaches to reducing the number and severity of traffic crashes.
- **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).** Lora reported that the UPWP is moving through the local approval process. New work items for the coming year include an update to the bike/ped plan and a study of the old railroad corridor on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North as a potential trail/greenway corridor connecting downtown to the East Billings Urban Renewal District (EBURD) area and Metra Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Kari Ln (Jomini):** Pierre followed up from a previous inquiry regarding Kari Ln. Pierre stated that the travel lanes as striped are too narrow to have parking on both sides with the center turn lane. He proposed sending a letter to whoever is responsible for the street. Terry noted this is a private street. The City does not maintain the street and has no parking enforcement authority. There does not appear to be a property owner or business association for the subdivision. Todd asked if staff could find out who is responsible for maintenance of the street and report back to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Traffic Signing Questions (Jomini):** Pierre gave a short PowerPoint presentation to the Board regarding signing problems & inconsistencies around the City. The point of his presentation was to encourage Board members to be alert for potential problems and report them to staff.
- **Construction Traffic Control – Permitting & Inspection:** Terry gave a PowerPoint presentation on construction traffic control permits and inspections. He briefly reviewed the types of work typically occurring in public streets, the permit process, monitoring of traffic control in work zones, how public notice is handled on larger projects, and some of the challenges faced by staff.
- **Access to New Middle Schools.** Item was delayed until a next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.