



# APRIL 2021 BUTTE-SILVER BOW NEWSLETTER



**JP Gallagher**  
Chief Executive

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Butte-Silver Bow, like the rest of the world, faced the COVID-19 pandemic head on. This pandemic showcased Butte-Silver Bow's ability to address this emergency. Drawing on all our available resources, our local government and community continues to provide a first-rate response to this unprecedented crisis. Butte-Silver Bow will continue to work on testing, mitigation, vaccination, and eradication of COVID-19. While this has been an exceedingly difficult and challenging time, our future is looking bright. We are ready and eager to revitalize our local economy impacted by the pandemic as we look to fully reopen our community for the spring and summer of 2021.

Thank you to all Butte-Silver Bow Citizens for your steadfast resolve in supporting your family, friends, neighbors, and businesses in Butte. There is no better phrase than "Butte Tough" to describe our community.

## Clerk and Recorder/Election Administrator

The Close of Voter Registration for the School Elections is April 4. After this date, voters can still register/update but their registration is considered late registration. This year, all school elections are mail ballot elections. Elections are scheduled for School Districts 1 (high school and elementary), 3 (Ramsay), 4 (Divide) and 4 (Melrose). Candidate filing for Walkerville mayor, Alderperson 10N and 10S begins April 22.

We would like to remind you that if you need to record a document, you must be in our office by 4:10 pm of a business day for your document to be recorded that day. You can also record your documents electronically by using an e-recording service such as [www.simplifile.com](http://www.simplifile.com). For a small fee you can record your documents at your convenience and shorten the recording gap time. Recording fees still apply (\$7.00 per page and you must leave a three-inch margin at the top of the first page; otherwise, it is \$10.00 for the first page and \$7.00 for each subsequent page).

**Linda Sajor**

Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator

## Health Department

The Butte-Silver Bow Health Department continues to focus on the COVID-19 event, with ongoing management of newly confirmed virus cases and the vaccination of residents. All Montanans are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, and the first clinics in Butte under these new eligibility requirements will be held April 5 and 7 at the Butte Civic Center. Restrictions on various establishments regarding capacity limits and closing times were recently lifted, with closing times moving to 2 a.m. and capacity limits at 100 percent. A local mandate regarding face coverings also was rescinded. Health Department staff continue to be available to the public for consult on event planning – event planners may call 406-497-5027 for this consultation.

**Karen Sullivan**

Health Officer

## Butte-Silver Bow Law Enforcement

The Butte-Silver Bow Law Enforcement Department reports a relatively calm St. Patrick's Day with only two arrests. The sunny afternoon allowed people to celebrate outside and hopefully minimize the chances of COVID-19 infections.

We were glad the number of arrests was low, as our detention center continues to house around 100 inmates on a daily basis.

We urge all BSB citizens to get COVID vaccinations as soon as they can. We are all in this together! So, please continue to take every precaution so we can all return to normal as soon as possible.

Don't forget, there is a secure drug drop off box in the lobby of the Law Enforcement Center. You can turn in unused medication 24 hours 7 days a week.

People with information about any criminal activity are urged to call 497-1120 or 911 in an emergency.

**Ed Lester**

Sheriff

## Public Notice Regarding Tax Deeds

Tax Lien and Deed Process Encourages Delinquent Taxpayers to Pay Back Taxes Now to Avoid Additional Fees.

For taxpayers that have 2017 tax liens, they have until April 30, 2021 to redeem their property from the tax deed list by paying the first half of their 2020 taxes and their full year of 2017 taxes plus the current Tax Deed Fee.

When a tax lien becomes three years delinquent, it goes on the tax deed list. If delinquent taxes are not paid by April 30, 2021 by 5:00 p.m., the 2nd half of the 2020 taxes plus additional Tax deed fees will be added to the parcel. The additional fees are based on the liability that the City and County of Butte-Silver Bow has against the property, and there may be a substantial fee that will become part of the redemption costs, such as fees for processing as well as title searches.

The Butte-Silver Bow Treasurer and Assessor are encouraging everyone with a delinquent 2017 tax lien to pay the redemption amount before the April 30, 2021 deadline, as the amount of money saved by the taxpayer will be significant. Please contact the Tax Department at 406-497-6303, you may also qualify for Tax Assistance.

Department staff have been attending routine design review meetings for the corridor/Silver Bow Creek Conservation Area projects. This process is currently between the 30% and 60% design stages. Staff have been drafting/reviewing program work plans and responding to comments from the EPA and MDEQ and incorporating the comments into the draft work plans.

**RMAP Program**

- The program has conducted environmental assessments at 19 residences and has completed 14 abatement projects.
- Preparing work plans and completing access agreements with property owners in preparation for upcoming yard abatements.
- Finalizing the annual Construction Completion Report that will be submitted to AR, EPA, and MDEQ.

**BRES/Stormwater O&M**

- The crew has been preparing (removing ice from inlets, removing sediment accumulations etc.) the superfund stormwater structures for spring run-off.
- Snow and ice removal from 45 drop inlets across BPSOU so that they can capture surface flows.
- Removing garbage and debris from BRES Sites throughout BPSOU.
- Staging and stockpiling materials for upcoming maintenance on BRES Sites.

**Restoration Program**

- Preparing work plans and species selection for submittal to the NRD and BNRC. The planting efforts will occur at the Anselmo, Anselmo Timber Slope and adjacent to Seraph Road. These efforts will install 3000-3500 plants to promote diversity.

**Butte Civic Center Update**

- COVID Vaccine Clinics Continue. Appointments are available online at [www.butteciviccenter.com](http://www.butteciviccenter.com) or calling 497-6401 or 497-5008. Clinics will continue every Tuesday and Wednesday unless otherwise noted. There will be no Clinic March 31st. COVID Vaccine Clinics are available to all ages on April 5th to the 7th and appointments must be made.
- Advantage Butte Volleyball Classic – April 2 & 3 (8am-8pm each day) Club volleyball. Full concessions for the first time since March 13, 2020
- Jury Selection for Judge Whelan’s court -April 15th & 16th
- Montana Tech Graduation -April 24th

**Broadband and Cellular Enhancements for all Silver Bow County Residents**

Even before COVID-19, Butte-Silver Bow’s Economic and Community development agencies were working with a Broadband Feasibility team to address the concerns of providing broadband access to all citizens in Silver Bow County. There are some exciting technologies including Private Cellular Network. A Private Cellular Network could work with and enhance the Public Cellular network to provide Emergency Services, Public Schools, Utilities, and Silver Bow County citizens access to broadband internet regardless of location.

**Water Company Construction/ Treatment**

The Water company construction crews are installing the remainder of the 36-inch Transmission main from South Rocker toward I-15 crossing south of Buxton. This mild winter made the process easier than in previous years. The rest of the crews are staying up on the leak repairs around town and maintaining the transmission lines from other treatment plants and reservoirs. The water treatment plants are going through some preventative maintenance, especially at the Moulton Plant. Some extensive cleaning of tanks has been under way for the past couple months to ensure the quality of our drinking water. There are some big projects in the hopper for Basin Creek Dam and The Moulton Reservoir. More to come as details unfold.

**Metro Sewer construction/ Treatment**

Metro construction is continuing the manhole lid replacement with the end result being less storm water heading through our Treatment facility. Catch basins as well as culverts are also needing some extra attention this time of the year. The Treatment Plant crews are doing some preventative maintenance before the nutrient season commences. A Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) project went out to bid and was awarded to Hoffman R&M Services. This sewer line replacement and relocate project will focus mainly east of Excelsior on Empire, Hornet, Zarelda, Alabama, and Clark. Some of it will be off Blacktail Lane and on Whiteway.

**Landfill**

The Cell 4 expansion was a success. The crew started putting the first lift of trash in the new cell earlier this year. We have to be careful when putting the base in the cell to ensure we do not damage the liner. We expect to get busier soon with the weather improving. We are also starting the final plans for finishing out Cell 3.

**Roads**

The whole road crew has been busy with the new shop move. With the mild winter we were able to get most of the shop area cleaned up and moved to the Beef Trail site before the big storms hit. Sweeping crews are picking up the sand that was distributed on the streets this winter, and pothole patching is also under way. Once the ground thaws and most of the snow melts, our graders will be heading out to the rural roads to get them fixed. The Mill/Fill project from last year will begin as soon as weather permits, and we also will open bids on 3/24 for this year’s Mill/Fill project.

**Shop**

The shop is in the process of moving. We received the green light last week to begin the transition to Beef Trail. There has been a lot of accumulation over the past 40 years, but Jerry and his crew are doing their best to sort through it to ensure we do not just move it to move it. The new shop area is substantially complete, which means we can move into the buildings with minor finish to be completed. Landscaping, some dirt work, electrical, paint touchup etc. are among the finish work to be completed.

With budgets just around the corner we have quite a few more projects we would like to do. It will take some time to sort them out.