

January 5, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on January 5, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present Commissioner John H Jackson, Commissioner C. Thomas Rice and Commissioner Support Specialist Dana Basile.

Pledge of Allegiance

At this time, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance aloud to begin the day.

Reorganization of the Board

Commissioner Jackson motioned for Tom Rice to be the chairman. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Rice motioned for John Jackson to be vice-chairman. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Rice will be the chairman; Commissioner Jackson will be the vice-chair for 2026.

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris was present and reported the following. They were able to plow a little snow and haul gravel on Sweetwater.

The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK December 28th to January 3rd 2026 Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Plow Snow on the Byway, Horse Prairie
 - Haul Gravel on Sweetwater
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Plow Skinner Meadows, Miner Lake, Big Lake, Big Swamp, Little Lake, Jackson and Jackson Dump
- Shop Clean, Equipment Move, Weld, Clean Burner, Sand box
 - Equipment Repair Shop
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Flood Repair on South Valley Rd
 - Equipment Repair
 - Checked Local Roads

Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, County Superintendent Mike Miller, Food Use Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, Land Use Sanitarian/DES Tom Wagenknecht, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, County Planner Tina Caron, Landfill Supervisor Nick Hoem, County Attorney Sky Jones, Clerk of District Court Carly Anderson, and MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore joined the meeting.

Nick added they hired for the operator position and he starts January 16th.

Jack added that he has received a few applications for the 4H position. He will be around the county this week for hay samples.

Tom mentioned that there was an ice buildup on the Blacktail Creek south of town this weekend he is monitoring. He is working on the CWPP, permits, and DES.

Shonna commented that the locks were changed in the CA office. They're starting to move in this week. The heater is going out in the men's restroom, looking to replace it. There will be power disruptions on Wednesday due to the installation of the generator. Police Department and Sheriff will run on the existing generator.

Joyce added the new online forms are not ready with the state so she is still using the paper version.

Mike mentioned that school is back in session, and he will be out visiting the schools on Wednesday.

Amber commented on grants being due tomorrow. She has a planning meeting for the EQC panel this week.

Tina added that she is back and playing catch up.

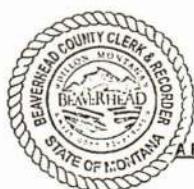
Tracy mentioned he is working on the County Attorney office for internet and phones.

Sky added that there have been no new applicants for deputy county attorney.

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-01 Set Commission Dates

Commissioner's meetings will remain on Mondays unless there is a holiday, and the meeting will be on Tuesday.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Rice seconded that Resolution 2026-01 be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



115924 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-01 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/6/2026 At 3:45 PM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: *Stacey J. Reynolds*

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-01

**A RESOLUTION TO SET COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TO
ESTABLISH LOCATIONS FOR POSTING PUBLIC NOTICES**

WHEREAS, Section 7-5-2122 MCA requires that county commissioners establish a regular meeting date and that the public be notified of this date.

WHEREAS, by resolution county commissioners shall set a time schedule for posting public meetings; and

WHEREAS, Opinion #13 of the Montana Attorney General states that 48 hours is considered sufficient to notify the public of meetings.

WHEREAS, HOUSE BILL 334 (2013) establishes requirements when public notice is to be provided by posting and is codified as 7-1-2123 MCA.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners that Mondays will be the Commissioners' regular meeting days. If Monday is a holiday, the meeting will take place on Tuesday. Regular meetings will be held in the Commissioners' Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse unless otherwise posted. If for some reason a meeting is cancelled, a notice will be posted at least 48 hours before the cancelled meeting was to be held.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public meeting notices of the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners will be posted throughout the County at least 48 hours before each public meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be filed with the Beaverhead County Clerk and Recorder, will be posted on the bulletin board near the west entrance on the first floor of the Courthouse, will be posted on the bulletin board located by the door of the County Commissioners' meeting room, will be posted at other places throughout the County, and will be given to the news media.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners this 5th day of January 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSION

MICHAEL J. MCGINLEY
Commissioner

C. Thomas Rice

C. THOMAS RICE
Commissioner

John H. Jackson

JOHN H. JACKSON
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Stacey Reynolds
Stacey Reynolds
Beaverhead County Clerk and Recorder

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-02 Adopt Milage and Per Diem Rates

Beaverhead County will follow the milage and per diem rates of the state.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Rice seconded that Resolution 2026-02 be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



115925 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-02 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/6/2026 At 3:46 PM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: *Stacey Reynolds*

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-02

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MILEAGE AND PER DIEM RATES

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that effective January 5, 2026; the Beaverhead County Commissioners adopt the State's milage rate and lodging rate, and the per diem rate for business travel as per Beaverhead County Personnel Policy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners this 5th day of January 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSION

MICHAEL J. MCGINLEY
Commissioner

C. Thomas Rice
C. THOMAS RICE
Commissioner

John H. Jackson
JOHN H. JACKSON
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Stacey Reynolds
STACEY REYNOLDS
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-03 Establish Fire Season

The fire season will be from January 1 thru December 31, 2026.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner Rice seconded that Resolution 2026-03 be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



115926 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-03 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/6/2026 At 3:47 PM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: *Stacey Reynolds*

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-03

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FIRE SEASON

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that pursuant to Beaverhead County Ordinance 2004-6, the Beaverhead County Commissioners establish for the 2026 calendar year the following fire season: January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026. This season may be adjusted depending upon weather and moisture conditions later in the year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Beaverhead County Commissioners this 5th day of January, 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSION

MICHAEL J. MCGINLEY
Commissioner

C. Thomas Rice
C. THOMAS RICE
Commissioner

John H. Jackson
JOHN H. JACKSON
Commissioner

Attest:

Stacey Reynolds
STACEY REYNOLDS
Beaverhead County Clerk and Recorder

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the December 29, 2025 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Rice moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that the minutes be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda**New or Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion**

Routine matters occupied the attention of the Board for the remainder of the day.

Payment of Invoices

CK # 219413 Safeway Detention Meals \$1075.00
Ck # 219414 BVHD Co 4H Horse Committee \$60.00 Re-issue lost (Indemnity Bond)
Ck # 219415 MT Dept of Admin Filing Fee \$2500

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$25,573.16 beginning with check #219416 and ending with check #219446. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction**Adjourn**

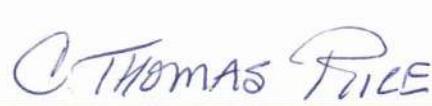
There being no further business to come before the Board; the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Attest:



Clerk of the Board

Approved:



Chairman of the Board