

January 20, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on January 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present Commissioner John H. Jackson, Commissioner Michael J McGinley, 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.

Updates on County Projects

Road Supervisor Bob Ferris was present and reported the following. They have been getting work done in the shop recently since there has not been any snow. The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK
January 11th to January 17th 2026
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Plow Snow on the Byway, Horse Prairie
 - Signs on Old Stage Rd
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Weld Fabricate, Shop Clean, Shop Inspection
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Equipment Repair and Setup
- General Welding and Fabrication
- Shop Maintenance, Shop Cleaning
 - Checked Local Roads

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Landfill Supervisor Nick Hoem, County Planner Tina Caron, and MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore joined the meeting.

Nick added that garbage intake is slowing down. Sheriff is doing a cleanup at old shooting range.

Jack commented today they are doing interviews for 4H project manager. Quiet rest of week.

Shonna mentioned they are getting NW Energy and Montana energy alliance to get propane hooked up to the generator. Will be finished in CA office this week.

Stacey added today candidate filing opens for Special Districts. Working on candidate packets for county election. She is out Wednesday and Thursday.

Amber commented that the EQC meeting last week went well, getting feedback to make updates. Starting to put together the weekday schedule for spraying.

Tina mentioned there will be some cell tower work in Dell and the car chargers will be made more efficient there as well. DNRC started a floodplain bootcamp and she has been attending those. There are some violations in the county that will be coming up soon.

Tracy commented that last week was the CWPP deadline. The CA office is wired up.

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-05 Dissolution of Fox Run Special District

A resolution of intent was adopted by the Commissioners on December 22, 2025. There have been no objections or public comments made in opposition to the dissolving of this district.

With no further discussion, the following motion was made.

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-05. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

115977 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-05 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/20/2026 At 10:30 AM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: Stacey L. Saesbren

RESOLUTION 2026-05

RESOLUTION TO DISOLVE THE FOX RUN SPECIAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 7-12-2124 of the Montana Code Annotated, a board of county commissioners has the authority to dissolve a rural special improvement district if it would be in the best interest of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverhead County Board of County Commissioners created the Fox Run Special District for the purpose of constructing certain local improvements and financing the costs thereof. Resolution 2020-05 created the Fox Run Special District on January 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-05 stated "If the hard surfacing project is not begun within 4 (four) years from the passage of this referendum, the District shall expire and be terminated."; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2023, the board members of the Fox Run Special District decided to dissolve the special district; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined there is no outstanding debt from the Fox Run Special District; and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2025, the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners passed a Resolution of Intent with no public comments or objections.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners are dissolving the Fox Run Special District as of this date.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



C. Thomas Rice
C. Thomas Rice
Chairman
John H. Jackson
John H. Jackson
Commissioner
Michael J. McGinley
Michael J. McGinley
Commissioner

Attest:
Reynolds

Stacey Reynolds, Beaverhead County Clerk and Recorder

Bob was present and questioned who will maintain the roads now that it is not county. McGinley replied that it is on the HOA to maintain now. Discussion ensued about other subdivision roads in the county.

911 Communications Meeting

The minutes of the 911 Communications Meeting will be filed with the Clerk and Recorders office once approved.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the January 5, and January 12, 2026 meetings were read and the following motion was made:

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

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-06 Renewing the Ambulance District

Sky Jones was present and discussed this resolution is intention to renew the ambulance district for the county for the next 5 years. It needs to go to a public hearing as well as a publication in the paper to adopt this in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding who is on the board, who will the board report to, whether it is appointed or elected. It is a county elected board that takes the money to the treasurer, and the board applies to the treasurer to get funding for various things. The same elected trustees will move forward.

Discussion ensued regarding changing the 5 years to a longer duration. Sky believes there is a 13-year max, and it cannot be unlimited.

Kathy elaborated on the use of the funds and future outlook on needing the funds for wages. It was also discussed appropriate use of funds and the district board.

Sue asked if in the future they needs more funds but it is within the 5 years. It needs to be within the maximum of \$35 allotted originally and can be changed at the next renewal resolution.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded that Resolution 2026-06 be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

115986 Filing 0:00 File: RESOLUTION 2026-06
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/20/2026 At 3:49 PM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: Stacey Reynolds [Signature]

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ORDER A REFERENDUM ON THE EXTENSION OF THE BEAVERHEAD AMBULANCE SERVICES SPECIAL DISTRICT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Beaverhead County, Montana (the "Board"), as follows:

Section 1. **Intention to Order a Referendum on the Special District.** Pursuant to the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. §§ 7-11-1009(4)(b), the Board deems it to be in the public convenience and necessity to order a referendum on the extension of the special district to provide emergency medical services, emergency and non-emergency ambulance response services, and other emergency services beneficial to the inhabitants and members of the general public within the Ambulance District.

Section 2. **Name of Special District.** The name of the special district is the Beaverhead Ambulance Service Special District (the "Ambulance District").

Section 3. **Continuing Necessity for Proposed Special District.** The Board finds the continued provision of emergency medical services, emergency and non-emergency ambulance response services, and other emergency services is critical to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Beaverhead County. The number of ambulance calls and patient transports for BEMS continues to increase. In order to continue meeting the needs of the citizens of Beaverhead County by having sufficient staffing levels BEMS has determined having a paid emergency response attendant on duty for all shifts, supplemented by volunteer emergency responders and staff, and at least a part-time non-member manager is necessary. The funds for providing the emergency medical and ambulance services come primarily from patient billing fees charged to users of those ambulance services. Those funds are not adequate to pay for full-time employees on shift and to pay for responding volunteers, to continue to acquire, replace and maintain supplies, equipment, and vehicles to provide the emergency medical and ambulance services.

The Ambulance District serves the area identified on the Ambulance District map. Assessments on property within the Ambulance District would continue to be used to supplement the fees received for providing the emergency medical and ambulance services currently being provided and as the need for ambulance services increases.

Section 4. **General Description of Territory or Lands Included in Special District.** The general description of the real property to be included within the boundaries of the Ambulance District is set forth in Exhibit A, and incorporated herein by this reference. A map showing the boundaries of the Ambulance District is attached as Exhibit B, and incorporated herein by this reference.

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ORDER A REFERENDUM ON THE EXTENSION OF THE BEAVERHEAD AMBULANCE SERVICES SPECIAL DISTRICT

115986 File: RESOLUTION 2026-06 Page:3
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 1/20/2026 At 3:49 PM

Passed and Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Beaverhead County, Montana, this 20 day of JANUARY, 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

C. Thomas Rice
C. Thomas Rice, Chairman

John H. Jackson
John H. Jackson, Commissioner

Michael J. McGinley
Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner

Attest:

Stacey Reynolds
Stacey Reynolds
Clerk and Recorder

Approved as to form and content:

Sky S. Jones
Sky S. Jones
Beaverhead County Attorney

Plan is to have a public notice published on January 28th, February 4th and adopted and signed on February 5th after the public hearing.

Sky will look if the notices need to be mailed out to all in the district or just public notice published and public hearing.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda

New or Unfinished Business/Other Topics of Discussion

Tom Wagenknecht joined the Commissioners to discuss the CWPP and it will be an action item on next week's agenda.

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

Payment of Invoices

CK # 219502 Nick Hoem \$40.00 Re-Issue lost (Indemnity Bond)
CK # 219503 Tabitha Sexton \$207.78 Re-Issue lost (Indemnity Bond)
Ck # 219504 Missoula Textiles \$12.73
Ck # 219505 Safeway \$1250.00 Detention Meals
Ck # 219506 AMPHO \$1,000 Public Health Dues
Ck # 219507 Stockman Bank \$757.91 Credit Cards
Ck # 219507 The Gallery \$96.25 Museum
Ck # 219509 Stockman Bank \$14.99 Credit Card

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$38,026.63 beginning with check #219510 and ending with check #219547. 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 5:00 p.m.

Attest: M. Murphy
Clerk of the Board

Approved: J. Thomas Price
Chairman of the Board