



2026 CANDIDATE FILING INFORMATION

Primary Election: June 2, 2026

General Election: November 3, 2026

First Day to File: Tuesday, February 17th, 2026

Last Day to File: Wednesday, March 4th, 2026 at 5:00pm

Write-in Candidate Deadline (Primary): March 4th, 2026 at 5:00pm (local government candidate)

Write-in Candidate Deadline (General): August 5th, 2026 at 5:000pm (local government candidate)

Filing forms can be picked up at:

Beaverhead County Clerk & Recorder's/Election Office

2 South Pacific #3

Dillon, MT 59725

406-683-3720

Email: elections@beaverheadcountymt.gov

Web address: [Election Office | Beaverhead County](#)

Candidate Campaign Finance

All candidates must file their C1 or C1A on CERS online with the Commissioner of Political Practices within 5 days of filing for office.

For more information, contact the office of the Commissioner of Political Practices

Phone: (406)444-2942

www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

See the following pages for qualifications for the various elected offices

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR COUNTY OFFICE

7-4-2201. General qualifications for county office. A person is not eligible for a county office who at the time of election is not:

- (1) of the voting age required by the Montana constitution;
- (2) a citizen of the state; and
- (3) (a) an elector of the county in which the duties of the office are to be exercised; or
(b) in the case of an office consolidated between two or more counties, an elector in one of the counties in which the duties of the office are to be exercised.

13-10-202. Filing fees. Filing fees are as follows:

- (1) for offices having an annual salary of \$2,500 or less and candidates for the legislature, \$15;
- (2) for county offices having an annual salary of more than \$2,500, 0.5 percent of the total annual salary;
- (3) for president in a presidential preference primary, an amount equivalent to the filing fee required for a United States senate candidate;
- (4) for other offices having an annual salary of more than \$2,500, 1 percent of the total annual salary;
- (5) for offices in which compensation is paid in fees, \$10;
- (6) for officers of political parties, presidential electors, and officers who receive no salary or fees, no filing fee is required.

7-4-2312. Salary and bond of officer following consolidation.

- (1) (a) When two or more offices are consolidated under a single officer, the officer must receive a salary determined by the board or boards of county commissioners. However, the salary may not be more than 20% higher than the highest salary provided by law to be paid to any officer whose duties the officer is required to perform by reason of consolidations.
(b) The board or boards shall, in conjunction with setting elected officials' salaries as provided in 7-4-2503, adopt a resolution fixing the percentage adjustment of the salary of the office holding the consolidated office for the term beginning January 1 immediately following the adoption of the resolution. The board shall adopt the resolution for the subsequent term of the consolidated office prior to the first day of candidate filing for that term.
- (2) The officer shall give a bond in an amount equal to the highest bond required by law of any officer whose duties the officer is required to perform by reason of the consolidation of offices.

13-10-325. Withdrawal from nomination.

- (1) (a) A candidate for nomination or a candidate for election to an office may withdraw from the election by sending a statement of withdrawal to the officer with whom the candidate's declaration, petition, or acceptance of nomination was filed. The statement must contain all information necessary to identify the candidate and the office sought. Unless filed electronically with the secretary of state, the statement of withdrawal from nomination must be acknowledged by an officer empowered to acknowledge signatures or by the officer of the office at which the filing is made.
(b) A candidate may not withdraw after the candidate filing deadline established in 13-10-201(7).
- (2) Filing fees paid by the candidate may not be refunded.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER- DISTRICT NO. 1

6 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$350.10

Incumbent: C. Thomas Rice

7-4-2107. Compensation of county commissioners.

- (1) Subject to subsection
- (2), each member of the board of county commissioners shall receive an annual salary equal to the annual salary established in 7-4-2503 for the clerk and recorder plus \$2,000.

7-4-2104. Commissioners to be elected by district.

- 1) At each general election, the member or members of the board of county commissioners to be elected must be selected from the residents and electors of the district or districts in which the vacancy occurs, but the election of the member or members of the board must be submitted to the entire electorate of the county unless otherwise provided for under:
 - (a) a plan of government provided for in a county adopting an optional or alternative form of government; or
 - (b) a court order.
- (2) A person may not be elected as a member of a board of county commissioners unless the person has resided in the county and the district for at least 2 years immediately preceding the general election.

COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER / ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$340.10

Incumbent: Stacey Reynolds

7-4-2503 (e) If the clerk and recorder is also the county election administrator, the clerk and recorder may receive, in addition to the base salary provided in subsection (1)(a), up to \$2000.00 a year.

COUNTY TREASURER

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$340.10

Incumbent: Cathy Hucke

7-4-2503-(f) The *county treasurer*, clerk of district court, and the justice of the peace may each receive in addition to the base salary provided in the subsection (1)(a), up to \$2000.00 a year.

SHERIFF/CORONER

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$420.12

Incumbent: David Wendt

7-4-2503 2 (b). The county sheriff must receive, in addition to the salary based upon subsection (1), the sum of \$2,000 a year.

(c) In addition to the salary provided for in subsections (1) and (2)(b) the county sheriff may receive any additional salary as determined by the board of county commissioners. The additional salary provided in this subsection (2)(c) must be included as salary for the purposes of computing the compensation for undersheriffs and deputy sheriffs as provided in 7-4-2508

Qualifications of Election or Appointment to Office of Sheriff

7-32-2133. Qualifications for election or appointment to office of sheriff.

- (1) In addition to meeting the qualifications for county office provided in 7-4-2201, a person is not eligible for the position of sheriff at the time of election or appointment unless the individual:
 - (a) is a high school graduate or has been issued a high school equivalency diploma by the superintendent of public instruction or by an appropriate issuing agency of another state or of the federal government;
 - (b) is at least 18 years of age;
 - (c) is a United States citizen;
 - (d) possesses or is eligible to possess a valid Montana driver's license;
 - (e) has not been convicted of a crime for which the person could have been imprisoned in a federal or state penitentiary;
 - (f) is eligible to receive and disseminate criminal justice information through the criminal justice information network as defined in 44-2-301.

(2) An elected or appointed sheriff who fails to obtain access to the criminal justice information network as required in subsection (1)(f) forfeits office for failure to satisfactorily meet the qualifications required of a sheriff.

7-4-2503 (g) The county coroner may be a part-time position, and the salary may be set accordingly.

7-4-2904. Qualifications for office of county coroner.

(1) In addition to the qualifications set forth in 7-4-2201, to be eligible for the office of coroner, at the time of election or appointment to office a person must be a high school graduate or holder of an equivalency of completion of secondary education as provided by the superintendent of public instruction under 20-7-131 or of an equivalency issued by another state.

(2) Each coroner, before entering the duties of office, shall:

- (a) take and file with the county clerk the constitutional oath of office; and
- (b) certify to the county clerk that:

(i) the individual has successfully completed the basic coroner course of study provided in 7-4-2905 or that the individual has completed the equivalent educational requirements approved by the public safety officer standards and training council established in 2-15-2029; or

(ii) the individual intends to take the basic coroner course at the next offering of the course if the coroner has been appointed or was elected by other than a local government general election and, from the date of appointment or election and assumption of the duties as coroner, a basic coroner course was not offered. A coroner forfeits office for failure to take and satisfactorily complete the next offering of the basic coroner course.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$630.50

Incumbent: Sky Jones

7-4-2701. Qualifications for county attorney in certain counties.

(1) A person is not eligible for the position of full-time county attorney in counties that have a population in excess of 30,000 unless the person is a citizen of the United States and has resided in the state 2 years immediately before taking office and has been admitted to the practice of law for at least 5 years before the date of election or appointment

(2) A person is not eligible for the position of full-time county attorney in counties that have a population of less than 30,000 unless the person is a citizen of the United States and has resided in the state 2 years immediately before taking office and has been admitted to the practice of law for at least 3 years before the date of election or appointment.

(3) A person is not eligible for the position of part-time county attorney in counties that have a population of less than 30,000 unless the person is a citizen of the United States and resides in the state and has been admitted to the practice of law before taking office.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$340.10

Incumbent: Randi Braddock

7-4-2503-(f) The county treasurer, clerk of district court, and the *justice of the peace* may each receive in addition to the base salary provided in the subsection (1)(a), up to \$2000.00 a year.

7-4-2503 (h) The justice of the peace for a justice's court of record may receive, in addition to the base salary provided in subsection (1)(a), compensation up to an amount allowed by 3-10-207

3-10-202. Oath -- proof of certification.

(1) Each justice of the peace, elected or appointed, after receipt of the certificate of election or appointment, shall, before entering upon the duties of office, take the constitutional oath of office, which must be filed with the county clerk.

(2) Before the county clerk may file the oath, the elected or appointed justice shall satisfy the clerk that the justice is certified as provided in 3-1-1502 or 3-1-1503.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$15.00

Incumbent: Michael English

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

4 Year Term

Filing Fee: \$340.10

Incumbent: Robert "Mike" Miller

7-4-2503 (2) (a) An elected county superintendent of schools must receive, in addition to the salary based upon subsection (1), the sum of \$400 a year, except that an elected county superintendent of schools who holds a master of arts degree or a master's degree in education, with an endorsement in school administration, from a unit of the Montana university system or an equivalent institution may, at the discretion of the county commissioners, receive, in addition to the salary based upon subsection (1), up to \$2000 a year.

20-3-201. Election and qualifications -- part-time office allowed.

(1) A county superintendent must be elected in each county of the state unless a county manager form of government has been organized in the county. The county superintendent must be elected at the general election preceding the expiration of the term of office of the incumbent.

(2) Upon verification by the county clerk and recorder, a person is qualified to file for and assume the office of county superintendent who:

- (a) is a qualified elector;
- (b) holds a valid, current class 1 professional certificate, class 2 standard certificate, or class 3 administrative and supervisory certificate issued by the superintendent of public instruction; and
- (c) has at least 3 years of successful teaching experience.

(3) (a) When the office of county superintendent of schools is consolidated with another county office within the county, the officeholder must have the qualifications listed in subsection (2) or shall, with the approval of the governing body, contract for the full performance of the duties required of a county superintendent in 20-3-207 and 20-3-210 with:

- (i) another county superintendent, with the approval of the governing body of that county;
- (ii) a former county superintendent; or
- (iii) a person who:
 - (A) is a qualified elector;
 - (B) holds a valid administrative certificate as provided in 20-4-106(1)(c);
 - (C) takes the oath of office in 20-1-202;
 - (D) is bonded in the manner provided for county officers in Title 2, chapter 9, part 7; and
 - (E) attends instructional training in the duties of a county superintendent as offered by the superintendent of public instruction.

(b) Whenever a governing body contracts with a person for performance of the duties required of a county superintendent under the provisions of subsection (3)(a)(iii), the contract must be for at least the duration of 1 school fiscal year.

(c) The superintendent of public instruction shall prescribe a contract form to be used.

4) The board of county commissioners may establish the office of county superintendent as a part-time office under the provisions of 20-3-213, and adjust the salary established in 7-4-2503 to make it commensurate with the reduction in hours. A part-time county superintendent shall perform all duties of that office that are required by law.