

March 30, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on March 30, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present Commissioner John H. Jackson, Commissioner Michael McGinley 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 not present.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK

March 22nd to March 28th 2026

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Haul Gravel on Ten Mile Road
- Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Road Repair and Blade Upper North Fork
- Culvert Repair on Little Lake and Lower North Fork
 - Plow Gibbonsville
 - Equipment Setup
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Plowed Snow South Valley Road
- Bladed West Rd and Little Sheep Creek
- Flood repair on South Valley Road
- Removed Winter Travel Restriction Signs
 - Cleared Rocks off Road
- Equipment Cleaning and Repair
 - Checked Local Roads

Land Use Sanitarian Tom Wagenknecht, Superintendent of Schools Mike Miller, County Attorney Sky Jones, Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Jail Commander Ian Ternes, Clerk of District Court Carly Anderson, Human Resources Director Theresa Eathorne, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, and County Planner Tina Caron, joined the meeting.

Tom commented that he was in Bozeman for a training with the incident management team. He has also been dealing with violations.

Mike added that the schools are quiet and he will be making the final teacher observations for the school year.

Stacey mentioned that they had election judge training last week, and the ballot proofs have been approved and ordered.

Carly added it is a busy court week. She is going to Missoula for water court training.

Randi commented that on Friday she toured Montana State Prison with other judges. It was a busy weekend with 3 felony warrants and a search warrant.

Tina mentioned planning department is busy with floodplain issues and subdivision regulations.

Ian added that the deputies were busy this weekend and utilized the K9 unit. There are 21 inmates today.

Tracy commented that he is working on GIS projects and setting up computers for road and landfill to get on Daily Timecards.

Sky mentioned being busy with hearings all week and prepping for upcoming trials.

McGinley updated about the Rural Energy Academy- a Brightnight energy rep came in last week and presented. There is a need for a transmission line through Beaverhead.

Department Head Meeting

McGinley began with new HR and payroll. They are looking to go totally online. He added we just finished our audit last week and some things came up. They were very thorough. He wants to go through it a bit.

First, payroll. Having one payroll clerk, there needs to be a second check added for checks and balances. All need to be on direct deposit- no more paper checks. Second- county credit cards. We will be putting together a policy on credit cards use. They are a valuable tool but we need to be aware of fraud.

Other one was accounting and moving numbers.

Another topic is claims approval. Travel vouchers need to be checked before signed by dept head. The auditors took 50 claims from over the year and checked them. There was one with incorrect math. He went into detail about the claim found. Discussion ensued about travel claims and current policy. The county follows the rates set by the state- they change in January. Theresa added she has the current list in her office.

Theresa updated that there is only one paycheck that is not direct deposit. She is working on getting everyone on the digital timecards. McGinley added those also need to be checked by someone before submitting. Discussion about policy regarding time cards.

McGinley added as the year goes on, we will start making policy on all the addressed issues to be more black and white.

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-11 Health Insurance Policy

McGinley began with stating this policy is to make clear the way we handle health insurance for $\frac{3}{4}$ time employees. This policy is to clarify that three quarter time employees will only have $\frac{3}{4}$ benefits.

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded that Resolution 2026-11 be approved. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Scan of resolution seen here:



116243 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-11 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 3/30/2026 At 11:39 AM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: Shannon Burkenpa

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-11

RESOLUTION ON HEALTH INSURANCE ELIGIBILITY

WHEREAS, Beaverhead County is a member of MACo Health Care Trust to provide Health Insurance to employees which also includes dental, vision, and life insurance; and

and WHEREAS, it is required of Beaverhead County to offer health insurance to all employees who work 30 hours or more per week (3/4 time); and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of Beaverhead County to provide 100% of premium for the employee portion of the rate and employee's to be responsible for any spouse, children, or family portion. This premium will be prorated for any ¾ time employee; and

THEREFORE, this will be the Health Insurance Eligibility Policy for Beaverhead County beginning July 1, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Beaverhead County Commissioners this 30th day of March, 2026.

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSION

Michael J. McGinley
MICHAEL J. MCGINLEY
Commissioner

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 March 23, 2026, meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley 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

Brad Booth from Grasshopper Fire district stopped in to discuss budget with the commissioners.

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#219909 Safeway Detention Meals \$1930.00
- CK#219910 City of Belgrade Bond Fee \$100.00 (Betty)

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$95,979.73 beginning with check #219911 and ending with check #219974. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

Discussion- DIS Technologies Presentation

Lisa Hofferber and Erin Dickey from DIS Technologies was present to discussion their services with the Commissioners.

A list of services include IT, cybersecurity, cameras, phones, door control systems, etc. They can also help with budgeting and computer orders.

Currently the county uses the phone system, IT support, and camera services. We have been using them for a very long time.

McGinley commented that the goal is to get one company to umbrella over all the county needs.

Erin briefly went over budgets, estimated costs, and timelines such as recommendations for replacements of devices or warranty expirations. They can also help manage county emails and website.

McGinley questioned about the cameras we purchased through RedTail and if they could take over management of them. There is a contract in place we would need to look into but Lisa said they should be able to once they look into the credentials. Kari commented that their system is special as law enforcement security in the jail.

McGinley discussed briefly how many different companies actually work with the county and needing to downsize to just one. Redtail, Univision, DIS, MACo, etc. He would like to discuss appointing one company to be the main one for the county.

Kari added that Univision also reached out and would like a chance to present what they can do for the county. Currently the sheriff/jail is managed by Univision with 24/7 help. She would like an estimate to compare the services offers.

Stacey added her office needs a high level of security and assistance and they prefer DIS. They have different needs than the jail security. There may be a need for two companies to oversee the courthouse.

Lisa added they have experience with law enforcement and have half the state as customers right now. They can get numbers for Kari once they get more information on needs and devices.

Nick added that he thinks it should be all under one so it is easier in the long run.

Tracy added that we need to ask for quotes from all companies and then compare like we do with other things.

Kari added that she will find out from RedTail what all we have and are being charged. We can also get Univision to come put a quote in for taking all and DIS get a quote together.

Tracy will take DIS around to look at the equipment so they can get a quote together.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board; the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Attest:



Clerk of the Board

Approved:



Chairman of the Board