

April 20, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on April 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 that they will be redecking Browne's bridge this week so it will be closed. Got a little moisture so they are blading roads.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK
April 12th to April 18th 2026
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Blade Town of Bannack, Bannack Bench, Argenta, Ten Mile, White Ln, Smith, Carter Cr, Sweetwater, Trout Cr, Nissen, Stonehouse
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Shop Clean, Safety Meeting
 - Equipment Repair
 - Inspect Culvert
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Blade Nicholia Ck, Meadow Nicholia Cut Across, Cabin Ck Rd, and South Valley Rd
 - Welding and Fabrication
 - Safety Meeting
 - Checked Local Roads

County Attorney Sky Jones, Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Human Resources Director Theresa Eathorne, Food Use Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, Land Use Sanitarian/DES Supervisor Tom Wagenknecht, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Jail Commander Ian Ternes, Clerk of District Court Carly Anderson, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, and County Planner Tina Caron, joined the meeting.

Tom added there is a radio failure at Mauer, Nick is up there looking into it with Sheriff Wendt. Sanitation permits coming in. He is working on violations. Last week he was in Billings for a public health/environmental health meeting and it was informative.

Jack mentioned last week he had hunter education and it was 34 kids. This week he is attending the EMT class interest meeting, and next week he will be in Havre.

Theresa commented that she is working on payroll today. She emphasized safety trainings needed for workers' compensation.

Shonna added that last week they got the pump fixed in the jail. They finished painting the hallway and helped set up booths for election.

Joyce mentioned Board of Health meeting was last Friday. They went to the Confluence conference last week. Online food safety class is on the website and

anyone can take it. They got approved for an FDA grant for \$14,000 towards the department. She will be doing another ServeSafe training in the Fall.

Stacey commented mailed out all ballots for special districts election on Friday. Reminder a new law, as soon as ballots available in person, we are considered a polling place.

Carly added they are 20 days out from Convention. Today is mediation in the courtroom.

Amber mentioned last week was new coordinator training in Bozeman. This week Thursday is southwest applicator training with Madison County weeds at Twin Bridges Fairgrounds.

Tina commented nothing new, just working on permits and floodplain.

Tracy added that he is working on quotes for phone system replacement.

Ian mentioned he was in Glendive for Jail Commanders meeting last week. He is working on changing the law for medical payments in MCA. Jail is currently at 21 inmates.

Randi commented she is leaving for conference in Billings this afternoon.

Sky added he was in DC last week. No district court this week.

McGinley added about the county vehicles and milage reimbursement.

Discussion and Action- Anderson Bridge Floodplain Permit

County Planner Tina Caron was present and stated this was a week too early. It will be moved to next Monday, April 27 agenda.

Discussion and Action- Alcohol Tax Designation/Service Provider Designation

This is a yearly form that needs to be submitted to designate the service providers that are partially funded by the alcohol tax.

Randi Braddock was present to propose a change in percentages back to 50/50. Southwest Chemical Dependency now offers telehealth and more type of classes. She shared numbers from Southwest Chemical Dependency regarding Beaverhead County and patient treatment.

McGinley asked if they could give them more percentage than 50/50 and Judge Braddock replied not right now.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and
Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve the provider
designation at 50/50 split. A verbal vote was taken and the
motion carried unanimously.



116308 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-3 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 4/20/2026 At 10:12 AM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: R. Field

Service Provider Designation Form

Beaverhead

When designating a provider, the designated provider will be responsible for working with county commissioners to develop and seek Department approval for the countywide plan and annual updates.

The following designation will be effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Program Name	Total % given	Prevention	Outpatient	Residential Home	Inpatient	Detox
Southwest Chemical Dependency Program	50%		x			
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch						
Starr Addiction Services	50%		x			
Butte Cares						

Fiscal Year: 2026 (07/01/26 - 06/30/27)

The Board of County Commissioners, hereby, designates the above State-Approved SUD Treatment and/or Prevention, and/or public health department and/or tribal council Provider(s) to receive earmarked alcohol tax monies and/or State-Approval for the provision of substance misuse/abuse treatment and prevention services in the county indicated above in accordance with 53-24-206, MCA. The Board of County Commissioners also acknowledge that revenue generated by 16-1-404, 16-1-406, and 16-1-411 for the treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of substance misuse/abuse that has not been encumbered for those purposes by the counties of Montana or the department must be returned to the state special revenue fund for the treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of alcoholism within 30 days after the close of each fiscal year and must be distributed by the department the following year as provided in 53-24-206(3)(b).

The Board of County Commissioners acknowledges that revenue generated by 16-1-404, 16-1-406, and 16-1-411 earmarked to the counties for the treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of alcoholism in fiscal year 2024 was encumbered for those purposes. Any unencumbered funds were returned to the department within 30 days after the close of the fiscal year in accordance with 53-24-108(6).

The Board of County Commissioners confirms these designations represents the majority of county commissioners on the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Signature: C. THOMAS RICE Date: 4/20/26

Commissioner Signature: John B. Jackson Date: 4/20/26

Commissioner Signature: Michael J. Madsen Date: 4-20-26

Agreement 2024-03

Discussion and Action-Support Letter for Federal Permitting Reform

McGinley added the Rural Energy academy that we are participating in is bringing in different people wondering what is going on. This is a letter encouraging them to streamline the permitting process of getting transmission lines in the state.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve sending a letter of support for Federal Permitting Reform. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

911 Meeting

The minutes from the 911 Communications Board will be recorded and kept in the DES office.

