

April 27, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on April 27, 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 have been our blading with the moisture. Browne's bridge was redecked and they finished yesterday with the walkthrough this morning. He received an update on Anderson Lane bridge from the engineer. Moving ahead with gravel pit in Big Hole with help from Tracy.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK
April 19th to April 25th 2026
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Blade Bannack Bench, Bond, Sweetwater, Rebish, Bollick, Old Stage
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check
 - Browne's Bridge Redecking

WISDOM AREA

- Blade Little Lake
 - Culvert Repair Lower North Fork
- Unclog Sewer, Shop Clean, Equipment Repair
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Blade Medicine Lodge Rd and South Valley Rd
 - Rock Raked on Medicine Lodge Rd
- Flood Damage Spot Repairs on North Valley Rd
 - Equipment repair and Welding
 - Checked Local Roads

County Attorney Sky Jones, Human Resources Director Theresa Eathorne, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, Landfill Manager Nick Hoem, Superintendent of Schools Mike Miller, Food Use Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, GIS Coordinator Tracy Sawyer, Land Use Sanitarian/DES Tom Wagenknecht, MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, and County Planner Tina Caron, joined the meeting.

Nick added last week there were repeater issues. This week he is working on radios for the weeds department.

Jack mentioned Darrin took 4H kids to Townsend to learn to grade meat. He is leaving Sunday to New Mexico.

Mike commented he was in Jackson and observed by OPI to proctor a test. In May OPI will be in Polaris to observe a test given again. He was in Miles City attending a superintendent meeting. Track meet is May 8. Teacher at Jackson has resigned, they will need to hire. There was a student that took the ACT test here at the courthouse last week since he was a homeschooler with Mike as proctor.

Theresa added she finished payroll last week and is working on cleaning up paperwork. The new hire for dispatch starts today and the new hire at fairgrounds starts this week also.

Shonna mentioned working in the yard last week, waiting on Spring, and finishing projects.

Joyce commented she is working on her first quarter inspections audit paperwork. She is also working on compliance issues and completing inspections.

Amber added last week there was a drone seminar with 110 in attendance in Twin Bridges. This week she is getting the education trailer and is heading to Billings.

Tom commented this afternoon there is a meeting with Montana DES to talk about what's happening in the state. There have been a lot of new permits and inquiries in sanitation. He has been working on flood plain issues and enforcement issues in the county.

Tracy mentioned working on IT and moving desks, phones, etc.

Randi added she was in Billings last week for conference. Over the weekend there were 3 arrests she is seeing today, also status hearings. Trial on Friday is vacated.

Tina commented there have been a lot of surveys coming through. She is coordinating with DNRC to put on workshops to teach about properties and one about assessing damage for flooding.

Sky mentioned working on trials and projects.

Discussion and Action- Elections Administrator

Shannon Burkenpas was present to discuss the following action items.

Action- Appointment of Election Judges

Shannon presented the names of the requested election judges to be appointed. The Commissioners reviewed the list, with no further questions, the following motion was made. There will be 95 total including substitutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve the list of judges to be appointed. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



BEAVERHEAD COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE

Stacey Reynolds, Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator
2 S. Pacific St, Ste #3, Dillon MT 59725
Phone: 406-683-3720 Email: sreynolds@beaverheadcountymt.gov

DATE: April 21, 2026

TO: Beaverhead County Commissioners

RE: Resolution to appoint election judges for the 2026-2027 elections

Dear County Commissioners,

According to MCA 13-4-101, "at least 30 days before the Primary Election in even-numbered years, the county governing body shall appoint three or more election judges for each precinct, one of whom must be designated chief judge".

The following individuals have successfully completed election judge training and are now eligible to work as election judges for the next two years. Therefore, I am requesting that you please appoint the following individuals to serve as election judges for the 2026-2027 election cycle. (See attached document)

Sincerely,

Stacey Reynolds
Election Administrator

C. Thomas Rice, Chair

John H. Jackson, Commissioner

Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner

Action- Appointment of Post-Election Audit Committee

Shannon presented the names of the requested post-election audit judges to be appointed. The Commissioners reviewed the list, with no further questions, the following motion was made. This is 7 extras selected to audit two random precincts.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve the post-election audit committee. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



**BEAVERHEAD COUNTY
CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE**

**STACEY REYNOLDS, CLERK & RECORDER/ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR
2 SOUTH PACIFIC STREET, SUITE #3
DILLON, MT 59725**

DATE: April 22, 2026

TO: Beaverhead County Commissioners

RE: 2024 Federal Elections
Post-Election Audit Committee Appointment

Dear Commissioners,

Please appoint the following individuals to serve on the Beaverhead County Post-Election Audit Committee for the 2026 Federal Elections to be held on June 2, 2026 and November 3, 2026:

Tracy Sawyer	Tina Caron	Theresa Eathorne
Cindy Decker	Tom Welch	Patsy Hartz
Cheryl Pierce		

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stacey Reynolds
Beaverhead County
Election Administrator

On this 21 day of April, 2026, we do hereby appoint the following individuals to serve on the "Post-Election Audit Committee.

C. Thomas Rice, Chair

John H. Jackson, Commissioner

Michael J. McGinley, Commissioner

Action- Designation of Polling Locations

Shannon presented the list of polling places. There are 16 precincts. The Commissioners reviewed the list, with no further questions, the following motion was made.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve the designated polling places. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

DATE: April 10, 2026
 TO: Beaverhead County Commissioners
 RE: Resolution to designate polling places for the 2026 Federal Elections

Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners,

Pursuant to 13-3-105 MCA, the Beaverhead County Board of Commissioners is hereby requested to designate polling places for each voting precinct for the June 2, 2026 Federal Primary Election and the November 3, 2026 Federal General Election as follows:

<u>PRECINCT NO.</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>POLLING SITE</u>
Precinct 1	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 2	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 3	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 4	Lima	Lima Fire Hall 5 W Sec Corner St, Lima
Precinct 5	Dell	Lima Fire Hall 5 W Sec Corner St, Lima
Precinct 6	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 7	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 8	Grant	Grant Fire Hall 11820 Hwy 324, Grant
Precinct 9	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 12	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 14	Dillon	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 715 E. Bannack St, Dillon
Precinct 17	Reichle	Reichle School 6715 Schoolhouse Rd, Glen
Precinct 19	Polaris	Polaris Fire Hall 9753 Pioneer Mountains Scenic By-way, Polaris
Precinct 20	Jackson	Jackson School 415 Jardine Ave, Jackson
Precinct 21	Wisdom	Wisdom Community Center 411 County Rd, Wisdom
Precinct 23	Wise River	Wise River Fire Hall 64845 Hwy 43, Wise River

Respectfully,



Stacey Reynolds
 Beaverhead County Election Administrator

Discussion and Action- Anderson Bridge Floodplain Permit

County Planner Tina Caron was present and stated this is a county project so she is here to give a synopsis on what is going on. The project has been ongoing for 3-4 years. In March, the permit was sent to Tina by Great West and forwarded to DNRC. They're planning to do the work in September-December when the water is the lowest. There will be a reroute detour for the duration of the work. She discovered it is a historical landmark and can be registered as such. She will look into this process. The

permit is approved but she will not issue it until the others are in place from other government entities.

No further questions or discussions. No comments have been received from the public notice in the paper.

Discussion- Montana DES Meet and Greet with the Commissioners

Tom Wagenknecht and Kyrsten Brinkley joined the Commissioners. She is a district field officer for DES. Her area of response is southwest Montana region covering 11 counties, including Beaverhead. She acts as the liaison between DES and the county, helps with grants, and works with Tom on different things. There was discussion on different grants and the funds that have been released. She is also on the county assist team for the incident management team. There was also discussion regarding the DES position and the importance of local emergency management.

McGinley added that there is a big importance of finding funding for projects and plans for the small rural counties.

There was discussion regarding the Homeland security grant that was awarded to Beaverhead County but has not been funded. Kyrsten will look into this and let the Commissioners know.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April 20, 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

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# 220193 Stockman Bank Kodie Bernard CC \$533.10
- Ck# 220194 Blacktail Pharmacy Detention Prescriptions \$3,197.69
- Ck# 220195 Safeway Detention Meals \$2,350.00


The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$26,051.40 beginning with check #220196 and ending with check #220249. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll warrants for the pay period March 22, 2026- April 18, 2026 in the amount of \$161,831.42, beginning with check # 36037692 and ending with check # 36037704. The payroll reports are located in the Human Resources office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction

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