

May 4, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on May 4, 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 blading roads all over is going good. They finished Browne's Bridge decking. Discussion on Anderson Bridge.

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

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK
April 26th to May 2nd 2026
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Blade Bond, Dutchman, Albers, Hogsback, Trapper Cr, Bighorn, Bannack Bench, Corinne Trail, Moose Trail, Old Armstead, Old Stage, Elliason Ln
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Blade Town of Wisdom
 - Shop Clean
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Blade South Valley Rd and Medicine Lodge Rd
 - Equipment Repair
 - Checked Local Roads

County Attorney Sky Jones, Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Human Resources Director Theresa Eathorne, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, Landfill Manager Nick Hoem, Superintendent of Schools Mike Miller, Land Use Sanitarian/DES Tom Wagenknecht, Fairgrounds Manager Justin Kellabrew, Sheriff David Wendt, and County Planner Tina Caron, joined the meeting.

Sheriff commented that there are currently 19 downstairs.

Nick added last week he and Tracy worked on the scale software. He is working on the siren and c-gen.

Mike mentioned rural track meet is Friday at the high school. Last day of classes for Jackson is May 8th. He will be in Polaris for an OPI visit next Monday. Reichle graduation is next week.

Stacey commented on her staff doing amazing in her absence last week. Special election is almost over.

Theresa added that she is going through files and getting ready for Safety Fair.

Justin mentioned spring hours started and summer staff started. Barrel races start Wednesday.

Shonna commented that the carpet was finished in CA office. They are turning on sprinklers this week to test.

Tom added working on finishing up this week working on permits and enforcements.

Tina mentioned she is working on surveys and enforcements. Site visit this week.

Sky commented that there was an applicant for deputy county attorney that's coming in to visit. Staying busy with trials and court.

Discussion and Action- Resolution 2026-15 Setting Fees for Justice Court

Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock was present to discuss updating the fees for Justice Court. The last resolution to update fees was in 2007 and they are out of date. These now match the fees they are given by the state. She mirrored district court and other justice courts in the area. The biggest changes are insufficient check fee, cost of copies go up, and she increased the packet for small claims.

No further questions or discussions.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve Resolution 2026-15 Setting Fees for Justice Court. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2026-15

It is hereby resolved that Beaverhead County Commissioners adopt the following fee schedule for the Beaverhead County Justice Court #1.

Insufficient fund check/closed account.....	\$30.00 per check
Record Searches (in writing up to 7 years)	\$10.00 per person
Old Record Searched (over 7 years old).....	\$25.00 per person
Copy of Documents (hard copy per page)	\$1.00 for first 10 pages
	\$0.50 each additional page per file.
Copy of Documents (electronic image).....	\$0.25 per page
Certified Copies (with seal).....	\$2.00 per document
Fax Fee.....	\$1.00
Small Claims Packet.....	\$5.00 per case
Filing Fee for Small Claims.....	\$30.00
Appearance Fee for Small Claims.....	\$20.00 per defendant
Filing Fee for Small Claims Counterclaim.....	\$10.00
Filing Fee for Civil Action.....	\$50.00
Filing Fee for Civil Answer or Counterclaim.....	\$30.00 per defendant
Judgment Fee (not in default).....	\$20.00 by prevailing party
Summary Judgment Fee.....	\$20.00
Notice of Appeal & Transmission to Another Court.....	\$20.00

This Resolution shall be effective upon passage and approval.

Passed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners of Beaverhead County, State of Montana the 4th day of May, 2026.

ATTEST:

[Signature]

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER



BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSION

C. THOMAS RICE
[Signature]
[Signature]



116353 Fee:\$ 0.00 File: 2026-15 Page:1
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY Filed 5/4/2026 At 9:51 AM
Stacey Reynolds, Clerk and Recorder
By: *Shannon Burkenpas*

Discussion and Action- Wood Family Transfer

County Planner Tina Caron, Travis Wilson, Tom Wagenknecht, and Zane Wood were present.

Zane explained the property is down 91. They sold a few acres to BeeHive Homes and are using the family transfer to get the lines drawn better. He is transferring the part to his wife. His intentions are to build on both lots- one is the homestead and one is a townhouse for his children eventually. There are no buildings currently on any of the land. He met with fire department to get on with Remington acres to set up a hydrant/irrigation.

McGinley questioned if this was what a Family Transfer is for.

Rice asked the questions from the questionnaire. Zane answered he purchased the lot with two land lines and he is trying to restore them. They do not have intentions of selling or splitting. They will develop for the family each parcel will have a septic and a well.

Tina clarified that when he bought the property, he was told that 3 acres were meant to go to the BeeHive so they boundary adjusted it. In the adjustment and selling of the 3 acres the rest of the land was combined to one lot. This transfer is splitting the lot.

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and Commissioner McGinley seconded to approve the Wood Family Transfer. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action- Great West Engineering on Anderson Lane Bridge

Lori Caplis and Karl Yakawich joined via Teams to discuss Anderson Lane Bridge with the Commissioners. Lori is a grant administrator for Great West and is talking about Anderson Lane and the HUD funding. She emailed the draw packet last week to the Commissioners. She will be taking over for Kassia.

Discussion regarding the draws and MCEP. McGinley added comment on the packet sent and in agreeance with how it was presented.

McGinley questioned the HUD packet and needing that paperwork. Lori will send it over.

Karl gave an overall update on Anderson Lane. FWP permit in place, DEQ and floodplain in place. Waiting on Army Corp permit to be issued. This is held up by the historic mitigation requirements.

McGinley asked when they will go to bid. Karl answered they are waiting on the Army Corp permit before they send it out to get bids. He commented on the fair pricing he's seen from other projects/bids around the area.

Karl added on Browne's bridge that he has everything to complete that submitting for reimbursement to get that moving.

McGinley signed the packet and so will Becky.

McGinley commented on the banks and possible changing banks.

HB924 was discussed and a potential request for funding this fall. This is for low posted bridges and Stone Creek Bridge is the priority for this.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April 27, 2026, meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Jackson moved and *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

Sandy Lapham from Jackson stopped in for the Commissioners. She wanted to discuss the lodge and referenced a written statement regarding building a cantina and hookups into the water and septic. She wanted to ask for one of the Commissioners to come to the next Jackson Water District meeting to help clarify what they are requesting. She is going to share the agreement with John so he can look into it prior to the meeting.

Jamie Cottom and Tina Caron joined the Commissioners to discuss the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant opportunity. The deadline to apply is May 26, 2026. The purpose of this grant is to improve roadway safety by focusing on the development of a comprehensive action plan. There is a 20% match required. Roads they are suggesting is Blacktail, Laknar, Carrigan, Hwy 91 North and South, Ten Mile Road and Sweetwater. (the 2 lane roads coming into Dillon) This could include plans for wider shoulders, a bike lane, sidewalks, turn lanes, bus stops, etc. This is part one of this grant program. This part is planning and the second part would help the implementation of the projects. BTC involvement is with writing the grant, public involvement, etc. The county still needs to back and buy in. It will likely be a \$200,000 project so the county would come up with \$40,000 match. This plan would identify the "problem areas" and have a plan in place for when funding comes available to implement the plans.

Rice mentioned the MDT plan to add signage to Blacktail at White. Jamie added this is looking at more vehicular safety and bike/pedestrians by looking at the road.

Jamie and Matt will be putting it all together with Tina, and the county (Tina) has to be the one to submit. The county is applying and receiving the grant. There would be a RFP put out and firms/consultants would bid on the project. Jamie will be finding out more information if the Commissioners are interested in pursuing this.

Bob Ferris joined at this time and answered questions of the road department. McGinley added he would be in support of this grant if we can put up in match worked hours in kind not finances. This can include community outreach, research hours, mapping hours, or working with the consultant company, etc. Discussion ensued regarding the different roads in the county and development.

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# 220250 Richard Peterson (Inmate Funds) \$232.00
Ck# 220251 Anthony Fury (Inmate Funds) \$38.00

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$53,694.76 beginning with check #220252 and ending with check #220279. 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 4:00 p.m.

Attest: Shannon Burkempas Clerk of the Board
Approved: C. THOMAS RICE Chairman of the Board
by Shannon Burkempas, deputy