

July 27, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on July 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present: 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 Big Sheep Creek has been repaired from flood damage. They are starting on Sweetwater today to resurface. The following Road Department Report was submitted and scanned into the minutes:

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY ROAD WORK

July 19th to July 25th 2026

Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Blade: Stone Cr, Stoddard, Ten Mile, Stonehouse, Hwy 324, Mansfield, Bachelor Mtn, Birch Cr, Apex East, Argenta
 - Repair Flood Damage on Taylor Cr
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Spray Wisdom Dump and Gibbonsville Gravel Pit
 - Load/Haul/Spread Gravel Lower North Fork
 - Blade Upper North Fork
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Flood Control and Flood Repair on Big Sheep Creek Rd
 - Bladed Big Sheep Creek Rd
- Cleaned and Repaired Cattle Guards on Big Sheep Creek Rd
 - Checked Local Roads

Clerk and Recorder Stacey Reynolds, Undersheriff Ceth Haggard, Jail Commander Ian Ternes, Landfill Manager Nick Hoem, MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Human Resources Director Theresa Eathorne, Facilities Manager Shonna Graham, Food Use Sanitarian Joyce Pollastro, GIS Coordinator Adam Braddock, County Planner Tina Caron, and Clerk of District Court Carly Anderson joined the meeting.

Nick added that they did maintenance on the canister sites last week and the Solid waste board meeting is later today.

Jack commented that he has been doing a lot of nitrate tests. The 4H showmanship practice was Saturday, and all are getting ready for the county fair. They also added a rain barrel to the front of the treasurers building.

Shonna mentioned that the doors were ordered for extension office and the courthouse front doors. The new thermostats are going in the jury room and upstairs hallway by the courtroom. Doug will start boiler school in Bozeman next week.

Theresa added that payroll last week had some hiccups but nothing major. She also received a letter from Montana State Fund for accident report and we did well.

Stacey commented that she is gone all next week at the clerk & recorders conference in Anaconda. Some of her staff will be going with her on a rotating schedule.

Joyce mentioned she got her 2nd quarter audit submitted last week. Helena has started an online entry database for inspection. Tom is out today and tomorrow. Next week they are both at the FDA conference in Kansas.

Stephanie, County Attorney office intern, was present to report that the CAs are very busy this week and there are no other updates.

Tina mentioned that planning is dealing with a lot of compliance issues right now.

Adam commented that he had a meeting with DIS regarding new phone system. It will be sometime next month (August). It will be an internet based phone system- there will be an app that can be connected to phone to use when out of office and if the internet goes down.

Ian added that last week he was busy traveling for juvenile transfer. Last week there were 6-7 arrests between the county and the city. There are 17 downstairs that are long-term through their trials.

Carly mentioned Judge Berger has a new assistant that will be in Dillon full-time and not travel with him.

Ceth commented that last week deputies were busy. He is getting quotes for the new vehicle. The Sheriff is doing good on medical leave.

Discussion and Action-Detton Minor Subdivision Extension Request

Tina Caron, Travis Wilson, Mark Boka, and Bryce Hildreth were present. Tina added that back in June they requested an extension but that was the late one. He is needing another year so this request is through August 2027.

McGinley asked how many extensions can be granted because this is the second. Bryce and Tina replied that it should not need a third.

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Rice seconded to approve the second extension request for the Detton Minor Subdivision. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners signed the extension request for Mr. Hildreth.

Discussion and Action- CISA Cyber Security for County

Stacey Reynolds and Adam Braddock were present and began the discussion with stating we already have CISA for protection. They are offering an extra layer of protection for no charge; this is a new service offered. She is wanting it for better elections security. This is managed through DIS and recommended by them.

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Rice seconded to approve the CISA Cyber Security expansion for the county. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

911 Communications Meeting

The minutes from the 911 meeting will be filed with the Clerk and Recorder and kept in the DES Assistants Office.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the July 13, 2026, meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Rice seconded to approve the minutes as read. 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

Ceth was present to discuss a possible bill from an inmate that received treatment at a hospital in Butte.

Treasurer Cathy Hucke delivered the cash reports for May and June to the Commissioners.

Routine matters occupied the attention of the Board for the remainder of the day.

Payment of Invoices

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$169,118.91 beginning with check #220784 and ending with check #220860. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office. 7/20/26

CK#220861 Safeway \$3525.00 (Detention Meals)

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$107,008.85 beginning with check #220862 and ending with check #220906. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll invoices warrants for the pay period June 20, 2026 through July 18, 2026 in the amount of \$32,244.00, beginning with check # 37738 and ending with check # 37750. The payroll reports are located in the Human resources office.

Public Comments on Subjects Under County Jurisdiction**Solid Waste Meeting**

The minutes of the Solid Waste Meeting will be filed with the Clerk and Recorder and kept in the Solid Waste Assistants Office.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board; the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attest: _____

Clerk of the Board

by Shannon Burkenpas, deputy

Approved: _____

Chairman of the Board