

October 5, 2026 Regular Session of the Beaverhead County Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners, in and for Beaverhead County, Montana, met in session on October 5, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Beaverhead County Courthouse. Present Commissioner C. Thomas Rice, Commissioner Michael J. 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 present and reported the following. They have been out blading and finishing projects before winter. Lima area got a lot done with the excavators and will be working in Big Hole next. Byway was opened by forest service on Tuesday last week. Bridges in the county were discussed.

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

September 27th to October 3rd 2026
Dillon, Lima and Wisdom Areas

DILLON AREA

- Blade Cherry Cr, Brownes Bridge, Rock Cr, Stoddard, Anderson Ln, Albers, Dutchman, Lemhi, Hwy 324
 - Repairs and Maintenance
 - Road Check

WISDOM AREA

- Load, Haul, and Spread Gravel Gibbonsville, Upper North Fork, Wisdom
 - Blade Little Lake
 - Check Local Roads

LIMA AREA

- Cleared and Hauled Willows on Ruby Divide Rd and South Valley Rd
 - Installed Culverts on Ruby Divide Rd
 - Cleared a Beaver Dam on Ruby Divide Rd
 - Moved Equipment and Equipment Repair
 - Checked Local Roads

School Superintendent Mike Miller, Deputy Clerk and Recorder Shannon Burkenpas, GIS Coordinator Adam Braddock, Facilities Supervisor Shonna Graham, Deputy County Attorney Margot Newman, Public Health Director Lilia Guillen-Sanchez, MSU Extension Agent Jack Bazemore, Justice of the Peace Randi Braddock, Weeds Supervisor Amber Burch, Clerk of District Court Carly Anderson and Land Use Sanitarian/DES Tom Wagenknecht joined the meeting.

McGinley updated that at MACo the Secure Rural Schools Fund was reintroduced. He elaborated briefly about SRS, Search and Rescue, and public lands.

Jack mentioned that the 4H year started on Thursday. Tom commented that he has been working on complaints and permit/enforcement issues. They have been opening and closing burning with the weather.

Lilia added that last week they did a lot of flu clinics around the county. They will have full day immunization clinics throughout October. They are working with the Food Bank to get a clinic there.

Shonna added it is quiet currently. She is out on Friday.

Carly mentioned that there is no court this week.

Shannon commented that Stacey is out today. Absentee ballots go out on Friday.

Margot reported that it is a quiet week. Sky and Tara welcomed a new baby so he is out this week.

Amber mentioned it was a busy summer. They are winding down and this is the last week with crews. She is headed to Libby for board meeting and training. The helicopter is spraying herbicide around in the south part of the county.

Mike added that the Health Fair was at Wisdom last week. Last week was the SAM conference in Bozeman. He is heading to Polaris for an observation and out Thursday and Friday for Kiwanis meeting.

Adam commented that he was working last week on dispatch system with addresses. He is working with the state comparing addressing for accurate data in the county.

Randi reported that last week there were 3 felonies moved to district court. Today is a busy day with hearings.

Discussion and Action- Appointing Trustee to Beaverhead Fire District #4 Grasshopper Valley

Shelly Boyd resigned from the Grasshopper Valley Fire District. The Commissioners advertised the vacancy and received one letter of interest from Angela Himmelberg. With no further questions or discussions, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner McGinley moved and Commissioner Rice seconded to appoint Angela Himmelberg as trustee to Beaverhead Fire District #4 Trustee. A verbal vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Recess

At 12:00 noon, Commissioner Rice recessed the meeting. At 1:30 p.m., Commissioner Rice and Commissioner McGinley reconvened the meeting with Assistant Dana Basile present.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 21, 2026 meeting were read and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Commissioner Rice 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

Jail Commander Ian Ternes reported that there are 17 inmates downstairs today.

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#221382 \$22.66 Beaverhead County Treasurer (License Road Trailer)
CK#221383 \$20,882.17 Reprint Osburn Fencing

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$34,567.09 beginning with claim warrant #221384 and ending with claim warrant #221417. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

Ck#221418 Void Printer Jam
CK#221419 \$140.45 Bvhd Co Treasurer (Sheriff License 2 vehicles)

The Commissioners reviewed and approved invoices for a total of \$195,974.55 beginning with claim warrant #221420 and ending with claim warrant #221477. The Invoice Payment Schedule is located in the Financial Administrator's Office.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll warrants for the pay period August 15, 2026 through September 19, 2026 in the amount of \$155,068.82, beginning with check #37764 and ending with check #37774. 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 5:00 p.m.

Attest: [Signature]
Clerk of the Board

Approved: C. THOMAS RICE
Chairman of the Board