Beaverhead County — 2026 General Election

Ballot Reconciliation Report — Executive Summary (13-15-113 MCA)

AT A GLANCE

Registered Voters	Registered on Election Day	Ballots Issued	Voter Turnout (ballots counted ÷ registered voters, active + inactive)	Ballots Counted	Ballots Rejected	Precincts Reconciled
7,330	**32**	**5,592**	**62.5%**	**4,582**	**9**	**16 of 16**
Ballots Accepted	minus: Rejected During Secrecy Opening	equals: Ballots Accepted for Count	Ballots Tabulated / Hand-Counted	Unresolved Rejected	Ballots Voided	Absentee Ballot Return Rate (returned ÷ issued)
4,582	**0**	**4,582**	**4,582**	**9**	**132**	**77.1%**

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Every ballot follows the same path: a registered voter is issued a ballot; returned ballots are either accepted or rejected; accepted ballots are sent to be counted; and the tabulator (or hand count) reports how many were counted. Reconciliation means confirming the numbers at each step agree. The tables below follow that path, compare what the county should have against what it actually has, and flag any difference in orange for explanation.

THE BALLOT JOURNEY (county totals)

Step	Ballots	% of Issued	What this means
Registered voters	7,330	—	Active and inactive voters eligible for this election.
Ballots issued	**5,592**	**100.0%**	All ballots handed out at the polls, mailed as absentee, or issued provisionally — including ballots later voided.
Ballots voided	132	2.4%	Issued ballots cancelled, most often because a replacement absentee ballot was requested.
Unresolved rejected — no voter credit	9	0.2%	Returned ballots rejected before processing (e.g. signature problems); the voter is not credited with voting.
Ballots accepted	4,582	81.9%	Returned ballots that passed signature and eligibility checks and were accepted for counting.
Rejected during secrecy opening — post credit	0	0.0%	Accepted ballots pulled when the secrecy envelope was opened (e.g. empty or more than one ballot); the voter keeps credit but no ballot is counted.
Ballots accepted for count (accepted – rejected during	4,582	81.9%	The number of ballots the county should have to count.
Physically on hand to count	4,582	81.9%	The number of ballots the county actually counted by hand before tabulation. Should equal the line above.
Counted by type — poll + absentee + provisional	4,582	81.9%	Ballots counted, built up from the three ballot types.
Tabulated / hand-counted	4,582	81.9%	Ballots counted as reported by the voting equipment or hand count. Should equal the line above.

BALLOTS BY TYPE — 13-15-113(1)(b)–(e) MCA

Ballot type	Issued	Rejected	Accepted	Counted (votes cast)	Share of counted
Poll	1,196	0	1,196	1,196	26.1%
Absentee	4,371	9	3,361	3,361	73.4%
Provisional	25	0	25	25	0.5%
County total	**5,592**	**9**	**4,582**	**4,582**	**100.0%**
Military / overseas (UOCAVA) — included in Absentee	*19*	*0*	*15*	*15*	*0.3%*

Plain-language measures	Value
Voter turnout (ballots counted ÷ registered voters, active + inactive)	62.5%
Ballots issued as share of registered voters (active + inactive)	76.3%
Absentee ballot return rate (absentee returned ÷ absentee issued)	77.1%
Share of counted ballots that were absentee	73.4%
Rejection rate (rejected ÷ ballots returned)	0.2%
Provisional ballots accepted (of provisional issued)	100.0%
Voided ballots as share of issued	2.4%

RECONCILIATION CHECKS

Check	Expected	Reported	Difference	Difference % of expected	Status	Why it matters
Ballots on hand = ballots accepted for count	4,582	4,582	0	0.0%	**BALANCED**	Confirms the county physically holds exactly the ballots that were accepted and not rejected.
Tabulated / hand-counted = counted by type	4,582	4,582	0	0.0%	**BALANCED**	Confirms the machine (or hand) count agrees with the poll + absentee + provisional breakdown.
Ballots issued do not exceed registered voters	7,330	5,592	-1,738	-23.7%	**OK**	More ballots than voters would signal duplicate issuance. Difference shown as issued minus registered (negative is normal).
Test ballots: used ≤ printed	425	192	-233	-54.8%	**OK**	Logic-and-accuracy test decks must be fully accounted for so no test ballot can be mistaken for a live one.
Precincts marked reconciled	16	16	0	0.0%	**BALANCED**	Each precinct row is signed off by the county once its numbers balance or its differences are explained.

TEST BALLOTS (LOGIC & ACCURACY) — 13-15-113(1)(f)

Metric	Count
Test ballots printed	425
Used for testing	192
Counted in public test	192

Before every election the county runs a public test of its tabulators using a known deck of test ballots. Counties that hand-count do not test a tabulator and report zeros here.

PRECINCT DETAIL — 13-15-113(1)(h)

Precinct	Registered	Issued	Turnout (counted ÷ registered)	Poll counted	Absentee counted	Provisional counted	Total counted by type	Tabulated / hand-counted	Var (tabulated – counted)	Accepted	Rejected during opening	Accepted for count	On hand	Var (on hand – for count)	Reconciled	Explanation (county comment)
PREC 01	536	368	55.0%	64	227	4	295	295	0	295	0	295	295	0	Yes	
PREC 02	1,105	843	62.7%	143	544	6	693	693	0	693	0	693	693	0	Yes	
PREC 03	1,126	891	64.6%	186	541	0	727	727	0	727	0	727	727	0	Yes	
PREC 04	258	215	69.0%	47	129	2	178	178	0	178	0	178	178	0	Yes	
PREC 05	192	163	71.4%	24	111	2	137	137	0	137	0	137	137	0	Yes	
PREC 06	689	467	55.2%	87	292	1	380	380	0	380	0	380	380	0	Yes	
PREC 07	398	305	64.1%	79	176	0	255	255	0	255	0	255	255	0	Yes	
PREC 08	95	74	67.4%	30	34	0	64	64	0	64	0	64	64	0	Yes	
PREC 09	598	488	68.4%	110	299	0	409	409	0	409	0	409	409	0	Yes	
PREC 12	740	578	61.9%	137	316	5	458	458	0	458	0	458	458	0	Yes	
PREC 14	716	484	51.7%	104	264	2	370	370	0	370	0	370	370	0	Yes	
PREC 17	191	151	63.9%	28	94	0	122	122	0	122	0	122	122	0	Yes	
PREC 19	194	167	75.3%	42	102	2	146	146	0	146	0	146	146	0	Yes	
PREC 20	110	87	70.0%	27	50	0	77	77	0	77	0	77	77	0	Yes	
PREC 21	196	158	70.9%	53	85	1	139	139	0	139	0	139	139	0	Yes	
PREC 23	186	153	71.0%	35	97	0	132	132	0	132	0	132	132	0	Yes	
County total	**7,330**	**5,592**	**62.5%**	**1,196**	**3,361**	**25**	**4,582**	**4,582**	**0**	**4,582**	**0**	**4,582**	**4,582**	**0**	**16 of 16**	

CHART — BALLOTS ISSUED AND WHERE THEY ENDED UP

Left to right: the ballots issued, then what became of every one of them. The five right-hand bars add up exactly to Ballots issued.

