

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Special Meeting
September 29, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
712 W. Main St., Suite 300 - Courtroom
Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Ross Butcher, Commissioner Jennifer Saunders, Commissioner Carl Seilstad, County Attorney Kent Sipe, Treasurer Gwen Gehlen, Deputy Treasurer Jamie Longtine, Finance Director Neal Tucek, and Clerk and Recorder Janel Tucek. Public present: see attached list. Deb Hill via phone & Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Agenda approved as submitted. Commissioner Butcher asked attendees to introduce themselves and who they represented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: none

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

- Commissioner Seilstad made a motion to approve Resolution 27 – 2023 amending the number of school equalization mills Fergus County will levy for fiscal year 2023-24. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; Commissioner Butcher gave a timeline breakdown of how this came up. Discussion ensued:
 - June Krausz with the local Department of Revenue office asked about the University mills
 - Kirk Eastman asked about the County suing the State
 - CJ Bailey wondering what counties are not wanting to mill at this level
 - Rebekah Rhoades spoke about how schools set their levies and guaranteed tax base
 - Thom Peck feels this is a rushed reaction
 - Deb & Terry Hollister appreciated the back and forth discussion explaining it
 - Ashley Obrigewitch spoke of how the 95 mills are calculated

Further back and forth discussion occurred. Once there were no other questions or comments, Commissioner Butcher called for a vote. **Motion Passed** unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY NON-AGENDA ITEM: none

Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

"absent"

Ross Butcher, Commissioner

Jennifer Saunders, Commissioner

Carl Seilstad, Commissioner

Attest:

Janel J. Tucek, Clerk & Recorder

