

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting

August 26, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Fergus County Commissioners

712 W. Main St., Suite 210

Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Butcher, Commissioner Seilstad, Finance Director Neal Tucek, and Clerk and Recorder Janel Tucek. In person public: see attached list.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Agenda approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Butcher asked if there were any alterations or corrections to the August 10th, 2024 minutes. Hearing none, he stated the minutes stand approved as presented and will be on file with the Clerk and Recorder and on the Fergus County Website.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: none

PUBLIC HEARING: Commissioner Butcher opened the hearing on the Fergus Co Preliminary FY25 budget. Finance director Neal Tucek presented an overview of the prior years budget compared to this year's budget. No department budgets had to be cut due to financial diligence from all department heads and commissioners. County will be able to give employees raises and look to cut 11 mills. Commissioner Seilstad commended Neal on working out this preliminary budget. As far as increasing wages, this is something that has to be done to stay competitive and keep employees. Commissioner Butcher commends Commissioner Seilstad and past commissioners on being fiscally responsible and conservative in prior years up to this point. Even with everything being passed down from the State, Fergus County is able to cut 11 mills. Hearing closed at 10:15 a.m.

BID OPENINGS: none

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Planning Office/Planner in Training - perm/full-time
- Sheriff's Office/Detention Officer - perm/full-time
- Road & Bridge/Road, Bridge, & Gravel Crew Member-perm/full-time
- Attorney's Office/Office Clerk – perm/full-time ****FILLED****

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:

- Commissioner Butcher to attend Petroleum Association meeting in Billings this week. Just returned from a conference in AZ.

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Seilstad motioned to approve the August 26, 2024 claims. Commissioner Butcher 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

APPOINTMENTS:

- Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Perry Howell and Patricia Neeman to open seats on the Council on Aging Board, terms ending 6/30/2025. Commissioner Butcher 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
- Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Jeremy England to his 2nd term on the Fair Board, term ending 8/31/2027. Commissioner Butcher 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
- Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Max Hertel to Moore Rural Fire District Board, filling the Creamer opening, term ending 5/31/2025. Commissioner Butcher 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
- Commissioner Seilstad moved to appoint Jessie Hankins to City-County Planning Board, filling the Whitcraft opening, term ending 12/31/2024. Commissioner Butcher 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

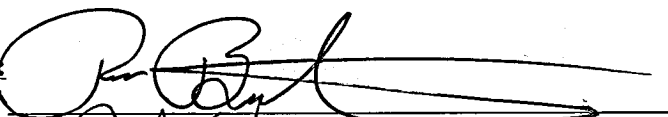
PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: none

NEXT MEETING DATES:

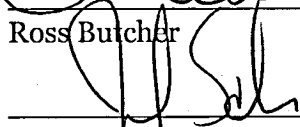
September 3, 2024 Monday – 10:00 a.m.	Special Business Meeting Final Budget	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
September 10, 2024 Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
September 19, 2024 Thursday – 5:15 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
September 25, 2024 Wednesday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

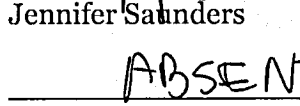
FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:



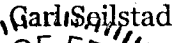
Ross Butcher



Jennifer Saunders

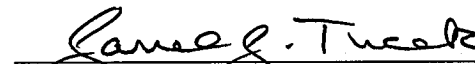


ABSENT



Garl Seilstad

Attest:



Janel J. Tucek, Clerk & Recorder

