

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting
November 10, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.
Fergus County Commissioners
712 W. Main St., Suite 210
Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Butcher, Commissioner Saunders, Commissioner Willson and Clerk and Recorder Janel Tucek. In person public: see attached sheet.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Agenda approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Butcher asked if there were any alterations or corrections to October 24, 2025 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:

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Contract Planner Pam Vosen gave a run-down on Floodplain Permit #05-2025-FC to install 14.33KW roof mounted solar array on roof of shop. Located at 2536 Upper Spring Creek Rd within S26, T15N, R18E. This is in an after-the-fact permit. Party has been fined appropriately. Hearing closed at 2:04 p.m.
2. Brad Hansen with Montana Land Reliance gave an over-view of their goals and working with the Walters Conservation Easement I: 474 acres located in S5, T15N, R19E and Walters Conservation Easement II: 506 acres Parcel I, located in S's 7, 17, 18, T15N, R19E, Parcel II, S18, T15N, R19E. Ron Walters advised that they are wanting to do this to keep the land in ag production. Hearing closed at 2:11 p.m.
3. Commissioner Butcher opened the hearing on consolidating the Elected position of FC Treasurer with the FC Clerk and Recorder. He gave a synopsis of how this came about and why. The current treasurer has given notice that she will not be seeking election in the upcoming election. The position has been advertised, along with a MVD clerk position, and no viable candidates have applied, per Commissioner Saunders. This is just an avenue the County is exploring. A resolution of intent was passed at the last meeting and public hearings are the next steps in the process of consolidation. LaVonne Borgreen asked where all the county has advertised. Phyllis Smith asked about checks and balances between the two offices. Laura Bennett asked the current Clerk and Recorder and Finance Director what they feel are going to be their biggest challenges. Shannon Ruckman worried electronics would take over the Treasurer's office and that they would lose customer service. Mary Beth Roy asked that current employee's be considered when making this decision. Rebekah Rhoades thanked Jamie Longtine and Janel Tucek for their dedication to their positions and working with schools. Shirley Barrick concerned that elections and taxes occurring at the same time. Public hearing NOT closed and held over until the November 19th meeting.

BID OPENINGS: none

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Sheriff's Office/Deputy – perm/full-time
- Extension Office/Office Clerk-perm/full-time
- Extension Office/Program Assistant-perm/full-time
- Treasurer's Office/Motor Vehicle Clerk-perm/full-time
- Treasurer

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS: Election Admin Janel Tucek advised that the public canvass of the Municipal General Election will be November 12th at 10:30 a.m. Road Supervisor John Anderson gave a report on the 3rd Avenue Bridge.

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve the November 10, 2025 claims. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
2. Commissioner Willson motioned to approve Floodplain Permit #05-2025-FC to install 14.33KW roof mounted solar array on roof of shop. Located at 2536 Upper Spring Creek Rd within S26, T15N, R18E. Commissioner Saunders 2nd. **Motion Passed.**
3. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve Walters Conservation Easement I: 474 acres located in S5, T15N, R19E; Commissioner Willson 2nd. **Motion Passed.**
4. Commissioner Willson motioned to approve Walters Conservation Easement II: 506 acres Parcel I, located in S's 7, 17, 18, T15N, R19E, Parcel II, S18, T15N, R19E. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
5. Commissioner Saunders motioned to table Resolution 22 – 2025 Consolidating the Elected position of FC Treasurer with the FC Clerk and Recorder until the public hearings are closed. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed to table.**
6. Commissioner Willson motioned to approve Resolution 23 – 2025 appointing a special deputy county attorney Wyatt Glade. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
7. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve Resolution 24 – 2025 terminating contract with designated local insurance agent. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
8. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve Resolution 25 – 2025 Budget amendment Family Planning FY26. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

APPOINTMENTS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Shannon Ruckman presented petitions requesting speed limit signs be placed on Glengarry, Cottonwood Cutoff, Beaver Creek, and McMillan roads. She is concerned about safety of the residents that live out there who have to drive on that road with individuals who may not be as versed in traveling the roads she deems as dangerous for speeds above 45. Commissioners took paperwork and will review materials.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

November 19, 2025
Wednesday – 5:15 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

November 25, 2025
Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

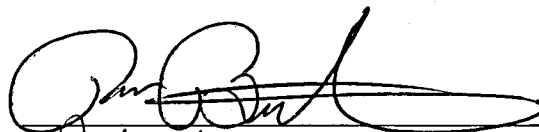
December 10, 2025
Wednesday – 2:00 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

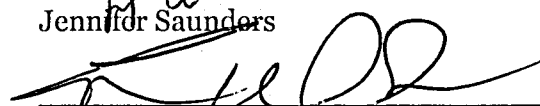
FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:



Ross Butcher

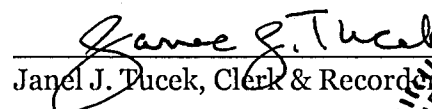


Jennifer Saunders



Travis Willson

Attest:


Janel J. Tucek, Clerk & Recorder

