

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting

March 10, 2026 – 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 February 26, 2026 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:

BID OPENINGS:

- Commissioner Butcher opened bids for the 3rd Ave bridge. Knife River put in a bid for \$214,515.00 and had all the required paperwork. Rinker Materials put in a bid for \$106,944 and had all the required paperwork. Stahly Engineering had an engineer on-site who will review the packets and give a recommendation to the BOCC at a later date.

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Extension Office/Program Assistant-perm/full-time
- Sheriff's Office/Detention Officer-perm/full-time
- Sheriff's Office Deputy-perm/full-time
- Planning Sanitarian Office Clerk-perm/full-time
- Nurse's Office/Public Health Director-perm/full-time
- Treasurer's office/Motor Vehicle & Tax clerk – perm/full-time

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS:

- Commissioners Saunders reported that the 250 Celebration Committee had a meeting. She will also be attending the annual meeting for Youth Detention

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Willson motioned to approve the March 10, 2026 claims. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
2. Fergus County insurance committee reported on their recommendations for health insurance options. Rates will move from \$1400 to \$1437, making an increase of \$34,000 annually. The committee may research other options that have more family-friendly

plans. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve the MACo Health insurance recommendations from the committee. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

3. Election Administrator Janel Tucek presented a Special District candidate cancellation and trustee election by acclamation notice to the BOCC. There will still be a special district issue election for Heath Fire. Commissioner Saunders moved to accept the election cancellation notice. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

APPOINTMENTS:

- Commissioner Willson motioned to appoint Thad Jenni to Moore Rural Fire, to fill a position vacated by Steve Hertel who took the vacant Fire Chief position. Term will end 5/31/2027. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- Carly Wheatley read a thank you to the Road department and Facility services for their hard work in cleaning out the 4th Ave building.
- Sandy Youngbauer asked the BOCC to consider increasing the Veteran's Burial rate from \$400 to \$500. She would also like to see the County become more involved in the Veteran community and make affordable housing for the aging veteran population.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

March 18, 2026
Wednesday – 5:15 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

March 25, 2026
Wednesday – 2:00 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

April 9, 2026
Thursday – 2:00 p.m.

Regular Business Meeting

Fergus County Commissioners
712 W Main St., Suite 210

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

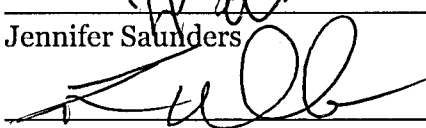
FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:



Ross Butcher



Jennifer Saunders



Travis Willson

Attest:



Janel J. Tucek, Clerk & Recorder

