

Minutes of Fergus Co. Commissioners Business Meeting

August 19, 2026 – 5:15 p.m.

Fergus County Commissioners

712 W. Main St., Suite 210

Lewistown, MT 59457

Present: Commissioner Butcher, Commissioner Saunders, Commissioner Willson and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Jamie Hess. In person public: see attached sheet. Deb Hill via phone.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Butcher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Agenda approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Butcher asked if there were any alterations or corrections to August 10 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: none

BID OPENINGS: none

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Sheriff's Office/Detention Officer-perm/full-time
- Nurse's Office/Public Health Director-perm/full-time
- District Court/Office Clerk-perm/full-time
- Sheriff's Office/Deputy-perm/full-time
- Attorney's Office/Legal Assistant-perm/full-time

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REPORTS: Commissioner Saunders stated the Mental Health Task Force will be meeting in September. Commissioner Butcher mentioned the ribbon cutting ceremony for solar panels at the Livestock Pavillion. Commissioner Butcher attended the award ceremony for Greg Atherton, presented by the Governor, for his military service and was presented with a Veteran Commendation Award. Commissioner Willson advised that the county surplus property auction started bids today. Commissioner Saunders advised that the Harvest Train tickets will be going on sale.

DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Saunders moved to table the Henderson Conservation Easement involving portions of Sec's 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34 in T16N R19E to allow time for commissioners to properly review the materials. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion to Table passed.**
2. Commissioner Saunders moved to table the City-County Planning Commission by-laws update to allow time for commissioners to properly review the materials. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion to Table passed.**

3. Commissioner Saunders motioned to approve the changes to the Sessions SD covenants as presented by County Planner Pam Vosen. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
4. Commissioner Willson motioned to approve Resolution 22 – 2026 to enter Stage 1 Fire Restrictions August 29th at midnight, as presented by Fire Warden Peterson and Deputy Fire Warden Steve Fanning. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
5. Discussion ensued with multiple parties regarding the FY26 Mill levy language for the Town of Denton.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Commissioner Saunders motioned to appoint Heidi Weber – Fair Board 1st term ending 8/31/2030. Commissioner Willson 2nd; **Motion Passed.**
- Commissioner Willson motioned to appoint Crystal Matteson – Fergus Co Council on Aging – to finish out Hayne’s vacated position with term ending 6/30/2028. Commissioner Saunders 2nd; **Motion Passed.**

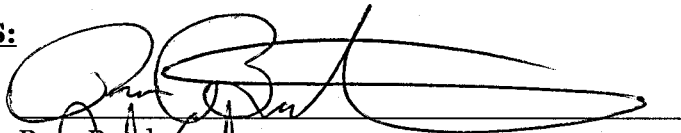
PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING DATES:

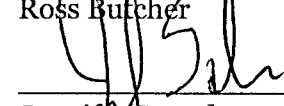
August 25, 2026 Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
September 10, 2026 Thursday – 2:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210
September 16, 2026 Wednesday – 5:15 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting	Fergus County Commissioners 712 W Main St., Suite 210

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

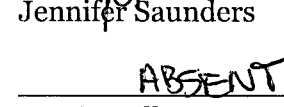
FERGUS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:



Ross Butcher



Jennifer Saunders



Travis Willson

Attest:



Janel J. Tucek, Clerk & Recorder

