

**THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA**

**Tuesday**

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

8:44 a.m.- 1:50 p.m.

Commissioner Chambers

**Meeting Called to Order:**

Chairman Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

**Commissioners Present:**

Chairman Ben Hurwitz, Commissioner Rod Brewer and Vice-Chairman Errol Galt were present for the meeting.

**ACTION #1**

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to approve the minutes from December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

**Public Comment:**

Extension Agent Madisen Lindsey entered the chambers at 8:44 a.m.

Lindsey provided an update to the Commissioners regarding her role as Extension Agent. She has been organizing office files and expressed appreciation for Rachel Wahlstrom's assistance with 4-H activities. Lindsey has met with all club leaders to introduce herself and establish communication. As of today, she has completed the requirements for Pesticide Applicator Training and is working toward obtaining her government license. Additionally, she has been collaborating with Justin Delano to explore the implementation of a shooting sports as a project option in Meagher County.

**Library Report-Rachel Wahlstrom**

Wahlstrom was not able to attend the monthly meeting report.

**CFO Position**

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz entered the chambers at 9:18 a.m.

County Attorney Hurwitz updated the Commissioners that he was double booked at 9:30 a.m. with arraignment and justice court. He stated after a competitive process, he has received one application for the CFO position and asked the Commissioners how they would like to proceed.

Finance Assistant Briana Frasier and the Commissioners discussed the Chief Finance Officer position.

**ACTION #2**

**Resolution FY 25.26 #37**

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to hire Finance Assistant Briana Frasier as Chief Finance Officer. Chairman Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

**Assistant Finance Position**

The Commissioners agreed to advertise the Assistant Finance Position.

### **Weed Report-Lee Zehntner**

Lee Zehntner entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Zehntner informed the Commissioners that he is currently working on next year's grant and addressed issues with uncashed checks. He noted that he has two Rangers to sell, as one was not sold last year. The Commissioners discussed pricing for advertising and agreed to list the older Ranger (2021) now and wait until spring to advertise the 2022 model.

### **ACTION #3**

#### **Resolution FY 25.26 #38**

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to place the County Weed Ranger up for sealed bid at a minimum bid of \$10,000. Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

### **Clerk and Recorder Fee Resolution-Liv West**

Clerk and Recorder Liv West entered the chambers at 9:45 a.m.

Clerk of District Court Candi Richardson entered the chambers at 9:55 a.m.

West discussed with the Commissioners the Planner review fees and the non-compliant septic installers applications and renewal fees. She stated County Attorney Hurwitz requested to wait until after the New Year to do a Fee Resolution. She informed the Commissioners about an issue with the Mastercard, explaining that Nancy Hereim had incidentally used it to purchase personal items on Amazon after the purchase of County items. Nancy has resolved the matter and reimbursed the cost of her purchases.

Richardson and the Commissioners discussed an interagency agreement for a county safety committee that Judge Larsen would like to formally organize. The committee would include one representative from each of the following: Sheriff's Office, County Commissioner's (or a designee), Disaster and Emergency Planning Staff, Clerk of District Court and Court of limited jurisdiction which utilizes the courthouse.

Richardson stated she would inform Judge Larsen that the Commissioners have decided to delegated Liv West to serve on the Safety Committee.

### **Fairgrounds/Rodeo Club Discussion**

Mayor Rick Nelson entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Jerry Paugh entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Extension Agent Madisen Lindsey entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Clerk and Recorder Liv West entered the chambers at 9:45 a.m.

Clearwater Montana Properties, Inc Realtor Cale Updegrave entered the chambers at 10:38 a.m.

Stewardship Council Cassie Coburn entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Great West Engineering Kevin Angland entered the chambers VIA ZOOM at 10:30 a.m.

Great West Engineering Josh Sommer entered the chambers VIA ZOOM at 10:30 a.m.

Rodeo Club President Shane Sereday entered the chambers VIA ZOOM at 10:30 a.m.

Jerry Paugh provided the Commissioners with the Buy-Sell Agreement for the property currently under contract for the county's new rodeo grounds.

Key topics included the Buy-Sell Agreement, the current closing timeline, easement considerations, and the proposed new road to the hospital. The group also reviewed the master plan, potential capital gains implications, and whether the county should assume ownership of the grounds and buildings in exchange for the existing rodeo grounds lots, which would need to be sold. Maintaining the original rodeo grounds as affordable housing remains a high priority for the Commissioners, along with evaluating the potential number of homes that could be developed and sold. Additionally, Angland provided a preliminary cost estimate for the master plan related to the new rodeo grounds.

Coburn will research if there are any grants or programs that can be used with a county match.

Meeting scheduled on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

**ACTION #4**

Galt made a motion to table discussions until January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Chairman Hurwitz seconded. A vote was taken and passed.

Interviews for the County Custodian were a closed session.

**Dispatch Telecommunicator Position**

Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 12:15 p.m.

Lopp and the Commissioners discussed advertising the 911 Dispatcher/Telecommunicator supervisor position.

**ACTION #5**

Commissioner Brewer moved to open advertising internally for the 911 Dispatcher/Telecommunicator supervisor position. Vice-Chairman Galt seconded. A vote was taken and approved.

**ACTION #6**

**Resolution FY 25.26 #39**

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to hire Candice Chandler for the County Custodian position. Commissioner Brewer seconded. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

**Claims Approved:**

Commissioners were presented with Checks #63189 through Checks #63200 for the amount of \$26,568.52. All Checks were signed as presented.

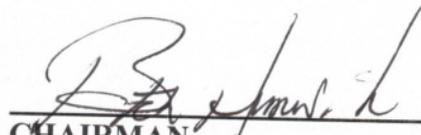
**Meeting Adjourned:**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

  
CLERK & RECORDER

  
CHAIRMAN



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VICE CHAIRMAN

  
COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Clerk to the Commission Briana Frasier.  
Distributed January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to Chairman Hurwitz, Vice-Chairman Galt, Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Liv A. West.