

Commission Proceedings

07/08/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 08, 2026, in the Carter County Commission Board Meeting Room of the Carter County Courthouse at 214 Park Street in Ekalaka, Montana. Rod Tauck, Chairman, Pam Castleberry, Vice Chairman and Dan Dinstel, member were present.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. There was no public comment.

Ekalaka Public Librarian Torey Spring joined the meeting to present the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year budget. The Library Board made no changes to the budget. Carter County provides \$15,000 to the library for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Torey provided information on current programs at the library as well as the number of checkouts, patron visit, story hour participation, and county school students served. Torey left the meeting.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting to discuss emails and information requested for Travelers Insurance policy renew.

Base salaries for Fiscal Year 2026-2027: Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting. Commissioner Castleberry moved to offer the 2% across the board to the hourly employees. Deputy Treasurer Cecile' Smith-Kuehn joined the meeting and explained that hourly wage employees would receive 90% of the base salary of the elected official which would be an increase of 68 cents per hour. Commissioner Dinstel moved to amend Commissioner Castleberry's motion to approve a 68 cents per hour cost of living raise for the hourly non-elected personnel. There was discussion regarding giving a 2% across the board would increase some hourly employees wage more than others. Commissioner Castleberry withdrew her motion. Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve a 68 cent per hour cost of living increase for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Cecile' and Judy left the meeting.

The commission discussed the Proposed rewrite of the Federal Office of Management and Budget - Code of Federal regulations part 200. This governs how federal grant dollars flows to state, local and tribal governments.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright stepped into the meeting with a letter of approval for year end transfers as of June 30, 2026 Cash Transfers to be signed by the commissioners:

From Fund 2140 Weed \$16,581.27 to fund 2840 Weed Grant to zero out negative cash
From Fund 2300 Public Safety \$3,811.64 to Fund 2865 DNRC volunteer Fire Assistance Grant for the 10% county match
From Fund 2970 County Health \$4931.53 to Fund 2973 Immunization to zero out negative cash
From Fund 2388 Sheriff Uniform and Weapons Fund \$110.15 to Fund 2300 Public Safety to zero out the 2388 Fund as it is no longer needed
From Fund 2151 Livestock Predator Levy \$100,000 to Fund 2150 Livestock Predator to transfer cash from levy fund to Predator Fund until Tax payments start coming in
Commissioner Castleberry moved to allow Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright to pass on a signed letter to the Carter County Treasurer to transfer funds. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:58 am and was called to order at 1:05 pm. The commissioners discussed the contract for abatement of the old hospital.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve and sign a letter of support for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation. Commissioner Castleberry

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seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. The commissioners signed the contract with Griffith Steel for the roof repair of the Carter County courthouse copula, event center and the museum warehouses.

The commissioners signed the Cancer Control and Tobacco prevention program sub-agreement for the Carter County Public Health Department.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the invoice in the amount of \$11,674. from the Montana Natural Resource Coalition of Counties. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

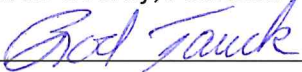
Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve the commissioner's proceedings for June 30, 2026 with minor corrections. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. The commission reviewed documents from Alexandra Amonette from Citizens Climate Lobby that is calling for reform permitting reform with the energy committee.

The commission placed a call to Karlyn Sorento of Granite Peak Environmental requesting an update on the bids received for the abatement and demo of the old hospital building. There was no answer and they left a message.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana



Rod Tauck Chairman

Attest:



Clerk of the Board