

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, September 09, 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 9:10 am. There was no public comment.

The Carter County Museum CBDG grant and expansion and renovation meeting / public hearing was postponed. No new date has been scheduled.

Commissioner Tauck left the meeting.

The commission placed a call to Dahl Memorial CEO Darrell Messersmith to see if Black Hills Roofing made repairs on the hospital roof membrane last week. There was no answer and the commission left a message.

The commissioners called Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp regarding the completion of the punch list items for the Boyes Road shop. Carl hasn't heard from Stahly Engineering or the contractor R & R Taylor regarding the punch list. Carl updated the commission on Road and Bridge operations including gravel crushing at the Brownfield Pit. The commission asked Carl for an estimate of costs for the culverts and car gates for the Durm Road.

The commission called Hunter Spring of Stahly Engineering for an update on the punch list for the Boyes Road shop. Hunter will contact R & R Taylor to see if they are making progress on the punch list. The call ended with Hunter.

The commission received a call from Michelle of Westaff Inc. Human Resources contract with the county, to set up a meeting to discuss using Family Medical (FMLA), the county personnel policy and remote or telework. The call ended with Michelle.

Consent Agenda: The commission reviewed documentation provided by Deputy Clerk and Recorder Dana Eshelman regarding the Boyes Road shop propane tank. The tank was purchased, installed and filled by R&R Taylor as part of the contract for the shop building.

There was discussion regarding Montana Department of Livestock 2026-2027 allocation of predator aerial hunting program and the Carter County Predator Board petition to increase the levy.

The commissioners reviewed the Senior Coordinators Fiscal Year 2027 contract with Montana Older Americans Act / Action for Eastern Montana in the amount of \$19,820 and the Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) FEMA Grant for Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:00 pm. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm with Chairman Tauck, Commissioners Castleberry, Dinstel and guest Carter County Attorney Corbit Harrington.

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The commissioners called DES Coordinator Georgia Bruski regarding the FEMA grant documents. The grant was used to purchase 4 digital message boards to be used for communication with public along the roads and the school. Commissioner Castleberry moved to sign the FEMA grant documents in the amount of \$63,000. for 4 digital message boards. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the commission proceedings from August 26th and 31st and the Montana Department of Livestock predator arial hunting program in the amount of \$10,188.00 and the Montana Older American's Grant / Action for Eastern Montana Grant in the amount of \$19,820.00. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The commissioners received a call from Steve Odell with public comment on the Chimney Rock Road.

There were no bids received for the courthouse sidewalk and the hospital interior repair.

Durm Road call with Attorney Wally Congdon. In person guests to the meeting included Justice of the Peace Kathy Rosencranz, Clerk of District Court / Superintendent of Schools Tracey walker, Alvin and Marlee Cordell and Clerk and Recorder Judy wright.

Attorney Wally Congdon reviewed the Montana Code and previous court cases related to road laws.

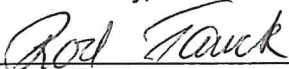
The commission received a letter from Steve and Annette Ryerson demanding action on the rehabilitation of the Durm Road in a timely manner, answers to their questions on why the road rehabilitation as taken years to commence and all documentation and communication regarding the Durm Road. Corbit and Wally recommend the commission respond to the demand letter from Ryerson's, set a Resolution to re-establish the Durm Road as a minimally maintained road and hold a public stakeholder meeting to provide updated information on the Durm Road. The meeting was opened for public comment. Comment was received from Tracey Walker and Alvin Cordell. The guests left the meeting.

The commission reviewed the agenda for the upcoming September 17, 2026 commissioner's meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

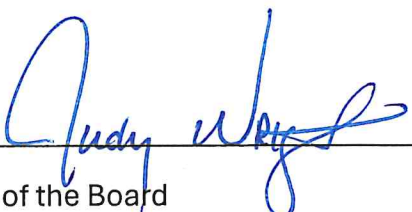
Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

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Rod Tauck, Chairman

Attest:

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Clerk of the Board