

Commission Proceedings

06/11/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 11, 2026, in the Carter County Commission Board Meeting Room of the Carter County Courthouse at 214 Park Street in Ekalaka, Montana. Pam Castleberry, Vice Chairman and Dan Dinstel, member were present. Rod Tauck, Chairman, was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Public comment Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright stepped into the meeting to let the commission know that she called Al's Handyman Services to request the addition of painted lines on to the hospital parking lot sidewalk. She called Dahl Memorial regarding a notice of best parking practices around the sidewalk for the employees.

Dana stepped into the meeting to answer general questions about the mid-month claims.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the mid-month claims in the amount of \$315,868.96. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The commissioners Castleberry and Dinstel called Commissioner Tauck regarding canceling the commissioners meeting on June 18, 2026 due to the Board of Commissioners attending the Montana Association of oil, gas and coal meeting in Shelby MT June 15th, 16th and 17th.

Carter County Conservation District Administrator Karen Kreitel joined the meeting to present the Conservation District budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. The Conservation Board voted to add a contracted services to the budget for maintenance and mowing around the shop. They have also decided to stay with the county property insurance rather than purchasing their own policy. Karen left the meeting.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting to present the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year general budget. Judy suggested replacing the Equinox with a larger vehicle and using the Equinox for the airport curtesy car. There was discussion regarding what funds the computer replacements and the purchase of the security system should come from.

Carter County Attorney Corbit Harrington and Alan of Al's Handyman Services joined the meeting. The commissioners agreed that they would pay the full amount of the bid that Alan provided and requested that Alan paint the parking lines and the handicap markings on the new sidewalk for the hospital parking lot. Alan left the meeting.

Senior Coordinator Tricia Lovec joined the meeting for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Senior Coordinator, Senior Transportation and the Food Bank budget review. The commissioners and Tricia discussed the respite care budget. Tricia doesn't have the budget to cover the contract for respite care as the contract is written, she requests that the commission revise the contract. The commissioners agreed to strike the budget for respite care. The meals on wheels and congregate meals contracts will be reviewed by Attorney Corbit Harrington.

The Senior Transportation Toyota van was totaled by insurance for \$10,084 and will not be purchased back.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to sign the Action for Eastern Montana Contract modification #1-2026-001-01. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public

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comment and the motion carried. The commissioners signed the contract with Eric Lovelace for the congregate meals for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:01 and was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Weed Department Supervisor Stefan Livingston joined the meeting by phone. Weed Department Administrative Assistant Taylor Kuntz, Attorney Harrington and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting in person. Stefan and Taylor made the request to hire two (2) seasonal part-time employees and one (1) returning full time employee. They also requested a \$1/hour raise for the returning full time employee who will be a crew leader. Commissioner Dinstel moved to hire last year's full-time employee with a \$1/ hour increase in wage and the two (2) seasonal part-time employees. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. The call ended with Stefan and Taylor left the meeting.

Carter County Public Health (CCPH) Officer / Nurse Kirstie Nelson, CCPH Board Vice chair Rona Meyer joined the meeting. Kirstie provided a draft copy of the job description for the hire of a part-time public health nurse to be reviewed. The interview will be set with the applicant according to theirs and the commissioner's schedule. Rona and Kirstie left the meeting.

2026 Federal Primary Election Canvass: The official board of canvass was Commissioner Castleberry and Dinstel and Georgia Bruski in Commissioner Tauck's absence.

Carter County Treasurer Jesi Pearson joined the meeting with Resolution 06112026-01 Authorizing Signers of County Warrants for School District 56. Commissioner Dinstel moved to adopt Resolution 06112026-01 for Authorized Signers for Carter County warrants for school district 56, Alzada. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Commissioner Dinstel moved to sign the letter to cancel two (2) uncashed checks in the amount of \$10.00 and \$38.19. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Jesi presented the County Treasurers office 2026-2027 Fiscal Year budget with no changes. Jesi left the meeting.

The Commissioners placed a call to Barney's Signs to request the repair of the letter C on the hospital building sign. There was no answer and the commissioners left a message.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to table the decision on the workers compensation insurance quotes for the 2026-2026 policy. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the commissioners' proceedings from May 20th, 27th and 29th, 2026. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Carter County DES Coordinator Georgia Bruski joined the meeting to request the commissioners' signature on the 2025-2026 EMPG grant award letter. Georgia applied for \$22,000 and received \$12,000 and she let the commissioners know that the grant may be phased out as soon as next year. Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve and sign the DES EMPG grant documents. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Gregoria left the meeting.

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Deputy Treasure Cecile Kuehn joined the meeting to request that the commissioners make a decision on the workers compensation insurance quotes today so that there is time for her to apply for a new policy and make all the necessary change before the end of the month when the policy expires June 30th, 2026. The Workers Compensation Insurance quotes for 2026-2027 were as follows: State Fund with a Dividend \$47,629.65. Victory Insurance \$51,506.00. Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the State Fund Workers Compensation quote for 2026-2027 in the amount of \$47,629.65. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Cecile left the meeting.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to cancel the June 18th, 2026 commissioners meeting so that the commission will attend the Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties meeting in Shelby MT. June 15th-17th. Commissioner Castleberry stepped from the chair and seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

Rod Tauck

Rod Tauck Chairman

Attest:

Judy White
Clerk of the Board