The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 21, 2026, in the Carter County Commission Board Meeting Room of the Carter County Courthouse at 214 Park Street in Ekalaka, Montana. Rod Tauck, Chairman, and Dan Dinstel, member were present. Pam Castleberry, Vice Chairman, was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am.

Attorney Corbit Harrington joined the meeting.

There was no public comment.

There were no bids received for the hospital interior repair project, Courthouse sidewalk replacement and the landscape project.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve, sign and publish the October 15, 2026 commissioner's proceedings. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve Resolution 10212026-01 Amending Authorized Signatures on County Warrants for the Alzada School. The resolution removes Bobbi Price and adds Richard M Watkins as a legal signer. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Celia Herbel the Eastern Regional Director and Agriculture Liasson for Senator Sheehy joined the meeting. Celia and her team have been tracking the Forest Service funding for the low water crossing over Boxelder Creek on Snow Creek Road with little change or new information available. The commissioners placed a call to Dan Mckeague of USFS to inquire about upcoming funding for the low water crossing. The commission left a message.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting.

Celia stated that Senator Sheehy's office is currently focused on the farm bill, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Celia also made the commissioners aware that recommendations to U.S. Military Academies are due to the state director in November 1, 2026

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

The Public Health Board met with the commission with Health Board members Steve DeFord, Jessica Walker, Rona Meyer, Sharon Carroll, Deb Yost and Public Health Officer and Nurse Kirstie Nelson, County Attorney. Joining the meeting by phone was Public Health Manager Stefanie Harrington and County Sanitarian Renee Gnerer. The health Board approved minutes with a motion from Ronda Meyer and a second from Jessica Walker.

There were reports from board members, public health administrator, officers and sanitarians report. Unfinished Business: CPR/AED training update, community health

improvement plan, and quality assurance. New Business: By-laws review, policy and procedures review. The next Public Health Board meeting will be scheduled for January 19, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

United States Forest Service District Ranger Kurt Hansen joined the meeting to discuss the low water crossing over Boxelder Creek on Snow Creek Road. The commissioners are waiting for a return call from Deputy Regional Forester Dan Mckeague regarding the funding for the project. Kurt stated that the condition of the crossing has deteriorated in the last year or so. The concrete is missing from the North wing, with exposed rebar in several areas and there is a hole in the driving area.

The Chalk Buttes timber project objections period is complete. The Sioux Ranger District will provide a response letter in the near future.

Kurt let the commission know that the first contract for storm wind storm damage clean-up is complete and the second contract will include clean up in the Long Pines and the Ekalaka Hills. Kurt left the meeting.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve and sign the letter to U.S. Wildland Fire Service / BLM providing proof that the county has removed Stage I Fire restrictions. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The commissioners placed a call to Hunter Spring of Stahly Engineering to review the final punch list. Commissioner Dinstel stated that the shop thresholds and door sweeps are in place but there are still several other items that have not been completed. The walk through and review of the punch list took place on August 24, 2026. Hunter will speak to Brittany of R and R Taylor to follow up on the items to be completed and the deadline for completion. The call ended with Hunter.

County Attorney Corbit Harrington joined the meeting.

The commissioners called Airport Board President Troy Fruit requesting that he set a meeting with the airport maintenance applicant. Troy agreed to call the applicant and set up an interview to be held with the commissioners during the October 30th commissioners meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

Rod Tauck 10-30-2026

Rod Tauck, Chairman

Attest: Judy Wright

Clerk of the Board