

Commission Proceedings  
05/20/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, May 20, 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 were present. Dan Dinstel, member was absent.

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

Senior Coordinator Tricia Lovec joined the meeting to present the Bids for the Congregate meals, meals on wheels, and respite care. There was one Congregate meal bid from Eric Lovelace for \$17.00 per plate. Dahl Memorial Healthcare Association placed a bid to provide Meals on wheels for \$8.40 per plate. Dahl Memorial also bid \$287.30 a day for Respite care. Commissioner Castleberry moved to accept the bid of \$17.00 a plate from Eric Lovelace for congregate meals and the Dahl Memorial Healthcare Association bid for meals on wheels for \$8.40 per plate, respite care for \$287.30 a day. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Tricia left the meeting.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Carl Knapp joined the meeting for the Road and Bridge Department 2026-2027 Fiscal Year budget. There was discussion regarding repairing the mower tractors instead of replacing them since they are for seasonal use. Carl requested an increase in purchase services to cover the cost of magnesium chloride purchases to be used for dust control, funds for reclaiming gravel pits and gravel crushing. The Road Department will look at replacing three road graders, one belly dump trailer and two packers. The Road Department has plans to replace culvert and cattle guards as needed. Carl left the meeting.

Camp Needmore Board member Taylor Kuntz and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting where Taylor presented a draft job description for the part-time seasonal custodial position at Camp Needmore. The commissioners reviewed and amended the job description. Commissioner Castleberry moved to establish a permanent part-time seasonal custodial position for Camp Needmore. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Taylor presented Resolution 05202026-01 to transfer funds to Carter County from the Camp Needmore Preservation Board. Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve Resolution 05202026-01 to authorize the Carter County Treasurer to create the fund in proportion to the county's investment pool. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Taylor left the meeting.

Carter County Treasurer Jesi Pearson stepped into the meeting with Resolution 05202026-02 for cancellation of real property tax. Commissioner Castleberry moved to adopt Resolution 05202026-02 cancel real property tax that have been delinquent for more than 5 years, in the amount of \$2.50. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Jesi left the meeting.

The commissioners scheduled a special meeting to approve the bid documents for the demolition of the old hospital building. The meeting will be held May 27<sup>th</sup> in the commissioners' chambers and virtually by Teams Meet with Granite Peak Environmental.

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The meeting broke for lunch at 11:23 am and was called to order at 1:05 pm.

Jade Boggs of the Insurance Store joined the meeting to present a quote for State Fund Workers Compensation insurance. The quote estimate was \$47,629.65 and would include safety training resources including on site or online workshops. Jade also discussed possible discounts after three years with State Fund Workers compensation Insurance. Jade left the meeting.

Keith Brownfield with Victory Insurance joined the meeting with other guests including Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright and Carter County Attorney Corbit Harrington. Keith presented the Victory Insurance quote for 20226-2027 in the amount of \$51506.00. Keith left the meeting.

Carter County Noxious Weed Department 2026-2027 Fiscal Year budget review with Weed Department Supervisor Stefan Livingston and Administrative Assistant Taylor Kuntz, Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright and County Attorney Corbit Harrington. The commission asked if the Weed Department still plans to use funds to build a new shop as listed in the Capital Improvement Policy. They do have intentions of continuing with the new shop, but not this year. The Weed department made the request to advertise obsolete equipment for sale with bids due June 24, 2026 to be opening at the commissioners meeting. Stefan requested permission to purchase ten (10) cases of drinking water for the upcoming spray season. The commissioners approved the purchase of the water. Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve the sale of obsolete equipment by sealed bids. Commissioner Tauck seconded the motion and there was no public comment and the motion carried. Stefan and Taylor left the meeting.

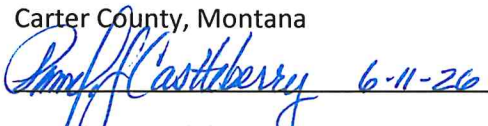
Ekalaka Volunteer Fire Department Chief Mike Ashbrook stepped into the meeting to discuss having EVFD included in the Bridger Pipeline Road use agreement for fire suppression. The commissioners suggested an agreement to store the county owned ambulances in the new fire hall while the ambulance storage is built. Mike and Corbit left the meeting.

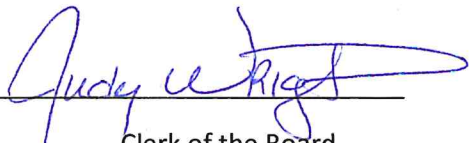
Consent Agenda: Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve the May 13, 2026 commissioner's proceedings, sign the contract with Al's Handyman Service for the hospital parking lot sidewalk and the Federal Aviation Administration forms 03-30-0025-018-2025 outlay 8, 03-30-0025-017-2025 and 03-30-0025-2025 outlay 6. Commissioner Tuck seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

  
Pamela J. Castleberry Vice-Chairman

Attest:   
Clerk of the Board