

Commission Proceedings
10/15/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 15, 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 9:05 am.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve claims in the amount of \$138,713.77 and payroll in the amount of \$13,248.51 for the workers compensation premium. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Castleberry made a motion to approve and sign a letter of support for the Carter County Museum expansion and the pocket park on Main Street, Ekalaka. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the proceedings for October 07, 2026. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Carter County Attorney Corbit Harrington joined the meeting. There was discussion regarding potential updates to the WIC Task Order.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright presented the quotes provided by Joel Baumgartner for a Fuel Master system at the county road shop. There is 60-day limit on quotes for the FM Live System and the Legacy System. Joel will provide quotes for installation when he receives them.

County Attorney Corbit Harrington reviewed the third-party agreement to house the county ambulances in Ekalaka Volunteer fire hall.

Corbit will provide the commission a draft copy of the ordinance banning camping in the county road right-of-way to be revised at the next commission meeting.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Commissioners placed a call to Troy Heitchecher of USDA Forest Service with questions about the funding for the low water crossing on Boxelder Creek on Snow Creek Road. The commission left a message.

Stage I Fire Restrictions: Guests, Sheriff Neil Kittelmann, Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant Georgia Bruski and Attorney Corbit Harrington and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting. Sheriff Kittelmann recommends coming out of Stage I Fire Restrictions at 12:00 a.m. October 15, 2026. The sheriff department will notice the public in the local newspaper. The Commissioners agreed with Kittelmann to come out of stage I Fire Restriction as of the date stated above.

There was discussion regarding the resolution to increase the bear harvest quota that was brought to the attention of the commission by the Carter County Predator Board.

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The commission and the guests discussed the resolution or ordinance banning camping in the county road right-of-way. Kittelmann would be in favor of regulations against camping on the county road right-of-way. The guests left the meeting.

Telework / work from home meeting with Carter County Public Health Manager Stefanie Harrington and Michelle Edmunds of Westaff Inc. Stefanie requested a closed session to discuss personal re-evaluation of medical work from home approval. The session was closed at 2:00 p.m. and was opened to the public at 2:35 p.m.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to extend Carter County Public Health Manager Stefanie Harrington's full-time work from home status for two weeks, with re-evaluation on October 30, 2026 with the expectation that the proper paperwork is provided from physician. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Work session: BLM Cooperative agreement letter for solar energy programs in the region was received March 06, 2023 by the county. The commissioners placed a call to Phillip Blundell, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, BLM Eastern MT / Dakota's District with questions concerning the letter. Phillip agreed to look into the letter that was an invitation for EIS as part of the Western Solar Plan and provide further information by email. The call ended with Phillip.

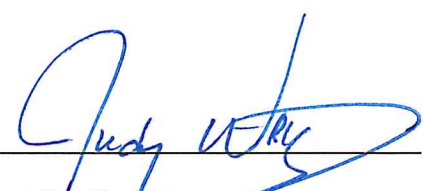
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

Rod Tauck 10-21-2026

Rod Tauck, Chairman

Attest: 

Clerk of the Board