

Commission Proceedings

02/11/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, February 11, 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. and there was no public comment.

Guests: Dahl Memorial CEO Darrell Messersmith and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright. The Commission placed a phone call to Chad Mezinger from Black Hill Roofing to discuss inspection, and temporary repair until the final repairs to the hospital roof can be made. Chad will contact Darrell to set up the inspection for next week. Darrell left the meeting.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright and head election judge Kim Tooke will be attending election training the end of February.

Carter County Sheriff Neil Kittlemann and Sheriff's office Administrative Assistant and DES Coordinator Georgia Bruski joined the meeting. Sheriff Kittlemann requested information on monies to be used to cover the cost of burial for indigent travelers as well as funds to pay for wrecker services to remove disabled vehicles from the roadway. Sheriff Kittlemann requested that Carter County cover these costs as needed going forward.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to allow Sheriff Kittlemann to pay \$1,500 to Stevenson's Funeral Home for cremation services and \$200 to Baker Boyz Towing and \$200 to Plains Towing. and set up accounting funds to cover these costs in the future. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried. Sheriff Kittlemann left the meeting.

Georgia spoke to the commission about state and federal funding that has not been released for the Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) programs. The commissioners will be attending the Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Midwinter Conference next week, where county DES will be on the agenda. The commissioners may be able to gain insight for future funding and organization. Georgia left the meeting.

Consent Agenda: Commissioners tabled the letter of support for the museum grant. They also tabled the quote for the maintenance room heat pump replacement until the final bid is received.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to accept and publish the commissioner's proceedings for January 30, 2026 and that Administrative Assistant Melissa Schwede will respond to the request for information from T.C. Energy. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The Senior Coordinator Grant approval will be tabled until February 19, 2026.

The commissioner left a voicemail for Cheyenne Nation Board member Jason Standing Elk requesting an update on the trip to Washington D.C. to voice safety concerns on Highway 212.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Commissioners Castleberry and Commissioner Dinstel attend the Carter County Museum expansion project stakeholders meeting at the Carter County Highschool. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

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Commissioners received the final quote for the maintenance room heat pump replacement from Powder River Heating and Air. Commissioner Dinstel moved to accept the quote for the maintenance room heat pump from Precision Mechanical in the amount of \$12,836. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioner Castleberry moved to approve the mid-month claims in the amount of \$173,299.54. Commissioner Dinstel seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Commissioners received a call from Celia Herbel of Senator Sheehy's office to ask about the progress with Snowy River co2 Project and request for cooperative agency. Celia sent an application for congressional directed spending request. There was also discussion regarding safety on highway 212 and the Ekalaka airport expansion request for justification of 500 operations per year to qualify for funding.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

Tommy Castleberry 2-27-26
Vice-Chair of the Board

Attest: *Dana Schelman - DEPUTY*
Clerk of the Board