

Commission Proceedings
02/04/2026

The Board of Carter County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, February 04, 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 in attendance. Rod Tauck, Chairman, was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the meeting with a request for an update on any new buildings near the TC Energy pipeline in Carter County in the last year. Commissioner Dinstel would like the request be placed on the agenda for the February 11, 2026, commission meeting.

Consent Agenda: Commissioner Dinstel moved to accept the commissioners' proceedings for January 21, 2026, and Federal Aviation Administration form 271, 3-30-002517-2025 and 3-300025-18-2025.

Commissioner Dinstel moved to table the quote for the replacement heat pump for the courthouse maintenance room. The county is expecting one more quote for the heat pump. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright present a quote for a computer systems server refresh. Commissioner Dinstel move to approve the quote for the server refresh from DIS Technologies in the amount of \$18,498. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Carter County attorney Corbit Harrington joined the meeting.

The Commissioners placed a call to Jade Boggs of the Insurance Store, where Jade provided information on how to proceed with the request for bids for the repair of the hail damage from the June 2025 storm. Jade suggested reaching out to Fallon County to see how they bid the repair projects from a similar storm in Fallon County. Depending on the trades involved in the repair work, bids can be split into several separate submissions. There will be a meeting with Jade on March 4, 2026, to review the workers compensation insurance quote. The call ended with Jade.

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:50 a.m. and was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

The Carter County Museum expansion project General Contractor as Construction Manager (GCCM) selection. Guests included Executive Director Sabre Moore, PhD and Curator of Paleontology Nathan Carroll, PhD. Sabre presented the short list of Langless Construction, Sletten Construction and Jackson Contractor Group Inc. The Geological Society panel competed interviews with all three companies and ranked them based on the interviews. The panel recommended Langless Construction for the position of GCCM based on the rankings with the possibility that the contract for GCCM could be option to amend for the contractor position. Commissioner Dinstel moved that the Geological Society go with Langless Construction for the museum projects. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

Nate and Sabre provided updates on meetings that will be held to provide input and updates to the public including a meeting at the Carter County High School from 1:00 – 2:30 on February 11, 2026 and Alzada Hall on February 12, 2026 from 11:00-12:30 Sabre and Nate left the meeting.

Carter County Public Health (CCPH) Department Public Health Officer/Nurse Kristie Nelson, office manager Stefanie Harrington, County Attorney Corbit Harrington and Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright joined the

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meeting. Commissioner Dinstel, who is a member of the Eastern Montana Community Mental Health (EMCMH), invited Kristie and Stefanie to attend the meeting. He wanted them to share information about their current programs and discuss how he could help by providing connections and resources. Carter County Public Health is currently collaborating with the Charlie Health virtual outpatient program, Youth Aware of Mental Health (Y.A.M.), and provide Question Persuade Refer (QPR) training events.

There was conversation around providing one on one in-person mental health counselling in Carter County. Commissioner Dinstel will reach out to EMCMH with contacts for Carter County Public Health.

Kristie requested a credit card increase to purchase items for the tobacco prevention program. Commissioner Dinstel moved to increase the CCPH credit limit to \$3,000 for one billing cycle to purchase the tobacco prevention program materials. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

CCPH is working with Ekalaka Public Schools for an MOU to allow the public health department to review immunizations. Kristie and Stefanie left the meeting.

Dahl Memorial CEO Darrell Messersmith and Facilities Director Travis Dogget joined the meeting to discuss plans to prepare bids to repair the damage from the June 2025 hailstorm. Darrell agreed to provide specific language as part of the Federal and State regulations pertaining to infection control, dust, and noise mitigation. Darrell left the meeting. The commissioners and Travis left a voice message for John Niesner of Scull Construction to request recommendations for companies to bid for storm repair.

Travis spoke to the upcoming community outreach program, "Rural Readiness". It will be a first aid program presented in Alzada and Boyes in mid-February. Travis left the meeting.

Clerk and Recorder Judy Wright, Deputy Clerk and Recorder Dana Eshelman and Administrative Assistant to the Commissioners Melissa Schwede presented an update on the new Carter County website. Judy requested approval for a dedicated email address for the website through DIS Technologies that will cost \$4/Month Commissioner Dinstel moved to approve the info@cartercountymt.gov address. Commissioner Castleberry seconded the motion. There was no public comment and the motion carried.

The being no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners

Carter County, Montana

 2/18/2026

Pamela J. Castleberry, Vice-Chairman

Attest:


Clerk of the Board