

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Monday

July 6th, 2026

8:52 a.m. – 12:12 p.m.

Commissioner Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Hurwitz called the meeting to order at 8:52 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Ben Hurwitz, Vice-Chairman Errol Galt and Commissioner Brewer were present for the meeting.

Public Comment:

Jess Secrest entered the chambers to update the Commissioners on his term for the Planning Board. Jess would like to continue his service as Chair of the Planning Board for one more year and then retire. Secrest added that the Planning Board would like to update the Growth Policy this fall.

Minute Approval:

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to approve the minutes from June 15th, 2026. Chairman Hurwitz seconded the motion.

Sheriff Report- Jon Lopp

Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the chambers at 9:25 a.m.

Cory Strausbaugh entered the chambers at 9:25 a.m.

Sheriff Lopp introduced Corey Strausbaugh to the Commissioners. Lopp intends to hire Strausbaugh as a Sheriff Deputy.

ACTION #1

Resolution FY25.26 #1

Chairman Hurwitz moved to hire Cory Strausbaugh as the new Meagher County Sheriff Deputy. Vice-Chairman Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

The Commissioners and Sheriff Lopp discussed the Monthly Sheriff Report. The Sheriff's Office received one hundred sixty (160) incoming calls, thirty-five (35) 9-1-1 calls and one hundred fourteen (114) people came into the office.

Lopp conversed with the Commissioners about new body cameras. Lopp applied for the Bair Grant to purchase new body cameras. He did not receive the grant and is hoping to set aside money in the new budget for new body cameras. Lopp mentioned that with the K-9 unit not continuing, there is a chance of that funding going toward the body cameras. Vice-Chairman Galt stated that there is a possibility of using the Secure Rural Schools funds as well.

Salary Compensation Board- Liv West, Nancy Schlepp, Cal Moore

Cal Moore entered the chambers at 9:53 a.m.

Candi Watson entered the chambers at 9:53 a.m.

Nancy Schlepp entered the chambers at 9:55 a.m.

Clerk & Recorder Liv West entered the chambers at 9:57 a.m.

Cal Moore presented the Commissioners with a worksheet he put together that was a compilation of information Liv West supplied. Nancy Schlepp stated that the Salary Compensation board is recommending a 2.8% -3% increase for all employees. Cal Moore proceeded to discuss the information and numbers within the worksheet.

County Superintendent Contract for Service- Liv West

Clerk & Recorder Liv West entered the chambers at 9:57 a.m.

Liv West presented the Commissioners with the annual contract for services for County Superintendent with Matthew Henry. The Commissioners signed the contract for a year of Matthew Henry services.

DUI Task Force Plan- Eva Kerr

Health Nurse Eva Kerr entered the chambers at 10:31 a.m.

Eva presented the Commissioners with the annual DUI Task Force Plan. She stated that it is very similar to last year. The Commissioners signed the plan and Eva will submit to the State for funding.

Health Nurse Report- Eva Kerr

Health Nurse Eva Kerr entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

Eva Kerr presented the Commissioners with her monthly report for the County Health Department for June. The Health Department received full funding for Homemaker and Respite. Kerr stated that the grant process has progressed and it seems that the State as whole is growing grants, applications, etc.

Kerr stated that they had a number of diseases come through, including STI's and giardia. She stated that Kim Frisbie was a major help in the investigations.

Building Update- Scott Frasier

Maintenance Scott Frasier entered the chambers at 10:58 a.m.

Scott Frasier updated the Commissioners that he received an estimate for re-asphalting the Courthouse parking lot. At the steep price of \$80,000, Scott asked Jake Kusek if the Road Department could do the prep work. Frasier stated that Kusek agreed that some work could be done by the Road Department. Frasier stated that he reached out to other asphalt companies to get a larger pool of options.

Frasier continued his update on the various crumbling concrete in and around the Courthouse. Frasier is looking to get estimates to fix the concrete on the retaining wall and wheelchair ramp on the front of the Courthouse as well as the corner in the basement records room.

Scott Frasier stated that there have been several applicants for the custodian position. The Commissioners agreed that Scott conduct interviews and make a recommendation for hire the following week.

Cemetery Update- Kathy Palmer

Kathy Palmer entered the chambers at 11:32 a.m.

Randy Harden entered the chambers at 11:32 a.m.

Kathy Palmer presented the Commissioners with an updated fee sheet for Cemetery plots.

ACTION #2

Resolution FY25.26 #2

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to approve the new rates for cemetery plots to \$500 for a plot and \$2,000 for a lot. Chairman Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Kathy Palmer also presented the Commissioners with an update to the Cemetery Board's by-laws. Palmer explained to the Commissioners the necessary changes made to the by-laws to be in compliance with the updated meeting location and time. The by-laws are also updated to state that the Cemetery gates will be locked in the evenings and re-opened in the mornings.

Randy Harden updated the Commissioners on the fence situation. The board has accepted a bid from Menard Fencing and plan to move forward with a pipe fence. Harden stated that the fence neighbor, Will Townsend, is willing to help out with the building and costs of the new fence. At this time, the cattle have been moved out and the fence is not a fighting issue. Harden stated that he will continue to discuss with Townsend Ranch and Menard Fencing to come up with a solution.

Harden continued that the entrance is being worked on and looks great.

CDBG for Emergency Operations Plan Signature- Cassie Coburn and Burt Hurwitz

Cassie Coburn entered the chambers at 11:49 a.m.

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz entered the chambers at 11:49 a.m.

Cassie Coburn initiates the conversation with the Community Development Block Grant that is currently being applied for. The focus of the application is community emergency preparedness and the exceptional location of the new fairgrounds.

Annual Interest Allocation Resolution

ACTION #3

Resolution FY26.27 #3

Vice-Chairman Galt moved to approve the annual interest allocation. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion.

Meagher County
Resolution FY 26.27 # 3

A RESOLUTION TO DISTRIBUTE INVESTMENT EARNINGS

WHEREAS, Meagher County investment earnings from May 2025 through April 2026 on pooled monies are \$333,288.59 and,

WHEREAS, The Meagher County Treasurer is entitled to 3% of the total interest earned or \$9,998.66 and,

WHEREAS, White Sulphur Springs School District 8 is entitled to 27% of the remaining interest earned or \$86,799.82, on the monies included in the pooled monies and,

WHEREAS, Meagher County is entitled to 73% of the remaining interest earned or \$236,490.12, on the monies included in the pooled monies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Meagher County Commissioners are approving the transfer of investment earnings in the amount of \$9,998.66 (nine thousand nine hundred ninety eight dollars and sixty six cents) from the County General Fund Investment Earnings (1000.371010) into the General Treasurer Fees (1000.341060); \$86,799.82 (eighty six thousand seven hundred ninety nine dollars and eighty two cents) from the County General Fund Investment Earnings (1000.371010) into the County School Funds as follows:

7701.792.201 General	\$19,154.32
7701.792.210 Transportation	\$4,670.36
7701.2792.11 Bus Depreciation	\$20,061.48
7701.792.215 Miscellaneous	\$9,195.96
7701.792.217 Adult Education	\$1,220.35
7701.792.218 Drivers Education	\$219.72
7701.792.228 Technology	\$6,216.65
7701.792.261 Building Reserve	\$26,060.98

The remaining interest in the amount of \$236,490.12 (two hundred thirty-six thousand four hundred ninety dollars and twelve cents) will remain in the County General Fund Investment Earnings.

Dated this 6th day of July 2026.

Attest:

Liv West, Clerk & Recorder



Commissioners:

Ben Hurwitz, Chair

Errol Galt, Vice Chair

Rod Brewer, Commissioner

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Checks #63738 through Checks #63771 for the amount of \$193,909.67. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

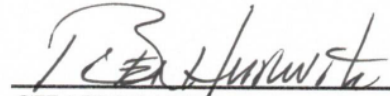
Meeting was adjourned at 12:12 a.m.

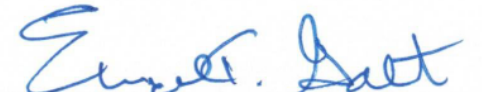
Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Monday, July 20th, 2026.


CLERK & RECORDER
Deputy




CHAIRMAN


VICE CHAIRMAN


COMMISSIONER

Note: Minutes taken by Clerk to the Commission Taylor Johnson.
Distributed July 6th, 2026 to Chairman Hurwitz, Vice-Chairman Galt, Commissioner Brewer, and Clerk & Recorder Liv A. West.