

MAY 2026

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

May 7, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday May 7, 2026. Present were Commissioner Roman Zylawy, Commissioner Duane Simons, and Commissioner Shawn Smalley

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: Commissioners signed Montana Tobacco Use Prevention Program Sub-Contract agreement with Flathead City-County Health and Mineral County Health Department FY 2026. Signed the Montana Department of Justice 911 Grant Program 2026-008.

Administrative: Commissioner Zylawy discussed the situation with Natural Pier bridge. Commissioners discussed the recent panic caused by a person who posted on Facebook that the County was \$900,000.00 dollars in the red. Commissioner Zylawy doublechecked current budget numbers with the Clerk and Recorder and Simons spoke with Finance Officer. There is nothing out of order and the budget has no such issue with the numbers. This is just another example of someone with limited understanding and limited information starting a false storyline without any factual basis.

9:46 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

9:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve0Claims for week of May 8, 2026.

Present: R.J. Kroupa-citizen.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims in the amount of \$218,527.23 dollars for check numbers 773570 thru 773628 and claim numbers 47276 thru 47334. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:00 AM- 11:00 AM Statement of qualifications -Mineral County Architect services packet opening, selection criteria scoring and principal consultant Award -ACTION ITEM

Present: R.J. Kroupa-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, April Quinlan- Health Department.

Three companies picked up a bid packet, but only one returned a bid. The lone bid was from Slate Architect to be the Consultant on future projects for Mineral County.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to select Slate Architecture as Primary principal consultant for Mineral County for Five years. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:00 AM- 11:30 AM Request to apply for Community Response Program Grant- April Quinlan-ACTION ITEM

Present: R.J. Kroupa-citizen, Ginny Tubbs-citizen, April Quinlan- Health Department.

April is requesting approval to apply for a \$50,000.00 dollar grant with the Health department. She said it has a 10% cash match that she already has available. The grant will support families and assist them with forms for Medicaid and other assistance documents.

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve the request to apply for the grant, and to use their private cash donations for the required match. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:30 AM- 12 Noon PUBLIC COMMENT- * No Comment was Provided *

1:00 PM- 1:30 PM Collective Bargaining agreement with Sheriffs Office Union- Work Session-
***** CANCELLED *****

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, May 14, 2026 in the Commissioners Meeting Room

Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA**

May 14, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday May 14, 2026. Present were Commissioner Roman Zylawy, Commissioner Duane Simons, and Commissioner Shawn Smalley

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: Commissioner Zylawy signed Master Contract Task Order # 27-07-1-01-130-0 with State of Montana DPHHS strengthen Public Health work force. Commissioner signed contract with Superior Plumbing for Library repairs.

Administrative: Commissioner Zylawy discussed the situation with Natural Pier bridge and obtaining temporary road easements to get access through Panther Pass east of natural pier to Petty Creek Road. Talked about putting the St Regis Park question for more funding on the agenda.

9:46 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

9:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve Payroll and minutes.

Present: Kelly Morrison-citizen, Norm Naef-Maintenance director.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve the minutes of April 2, and April 9, 2026. All in favor. Motion carried.

*Payroll approved later at 11:55 AM. *

10:00 AM- 10:30 AM Library Sewer Replacement Plan -Norm Naef, Maintenance -ACTION ITEM

Present Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen, Norm Naef-Maintenance director, Curtis Cochran-HD 90 State representative.

Norm presented the Board with an estimate from Superior Plumbing to repair the line from building out to the city sewer line. The maintenance budget has only \$4,852.00 dollars remaining until July 1 new budget. So, Commissioners talked of paying the balance from their fund.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to accept the \$11,363.00 dollars bid from Superior Plumbing and have the work performed. The Commissioners would pay for \$6,511.00 dollars from the Discretionary fund, and the remaining \$4,852.00 dollars would be from the Maintenance Fund. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:30 AM- 11:00 AM Jail Food contract- Request to advertise for bids- ACTION ITEM

Present Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen, Norm Naef-Maintenance director, Curtis Cochran-HD 90 State representative, Ryan Funke- Sheriff, Wayne Cashman- Undersheriff.

The Sheriff said that the fiscal year is near and the jail contract for food will be needing renewed. He is requesting permission to advertise for bids for FY 2026-2027. Commissioners granted approval to advertise and request sealed bids and to have them turned in to Clerk and Recorder's office by June 9, 2026. The Board administratively granted permission.

11:30 AM- 12 Noon Public Comment

Present Ginny Tubbs-citizen, Kelly Morrison-citizen, Norm Naef-Maintenance director, Curtis Cochran-HD 90 State representative, Ryan Funke- Sheriff, Wayne Cashman-Undersheriff, Steve Reid-citizen, Kim Mitchell-citizen, Anna Marie White-citizen, Diane Magone-citizen.

Kelly Morrison read aloud a letter about audits and financial reconciliation.

Steve Reid talked about defending his claim on Facebook about the County being \$900,000.00 dollars in debt, and that he concluded that from a previous budget meeting in August of 2025 when Jessica needed to shore up the deficit in the public safety fund and to transfer PILT money in to balance it out. (This is normal and has happened almost every year since the 1980's) It is not uncommon. Then Reid went on to say that the 40 trillion-dollar debt in Congress might be alleviated if Mineral County would refuse the federal revenues such as PILT and SRS. He suggested sending back the millions of dollars received from federal government, and instead start getting that money from increasing tourism in the area. He also said he supports law enforcement and paying them appropriately. He wants new increase for Detention officers and knows that there is money for it. He said to Commissioners, "Go get it! Go Take it! "

****11:55 AM- Commissioners Approve Payroll for week of May 15, 2026 ****

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve payroll in the amount of \$187,150.79 dollars for check numbers 660559 thru 660563 and electronic payroll check numbers 59052 thru 59121 and liability check numbers 660564 thru 660567 as well as electronic liability checks 59051 and 59050. And to approve Quarterly liabilities in the amount of \$84,231.47 dollars for check numbers 660568 thru 660573. All in favor. Motion carried.

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, May 21, 2026 in the Commissioners Meeting Room

Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA
May 21, 2026**

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday May 21, 2026. Present were Commissioner Roman Zylawy, Commissioner Duane Simons, and Commissioner Shawn Smalley

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: None

Administrative: Commissioner Zylawy discussed the letter he authored about Natural Pier bridge, and wanted to send it to the Montana State MDT Bridge Bureau. Questions about whether the LATCF money that was used initially for the new patrol cars had been reimbursed yet by the Zinke federal grant. Jaime saying that the court security system could be re-imbursed by the Drug Forfeiture fund, Commissioners agreed.

9:46 AM Call Meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting was called to order Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Zylawy

9:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve Claims for week of May 22, 2026.

Present: Judy Stang-St. Regis Park board, Brogan Keenan-citizen, Courtney Ridney-citizen, Denny Jones-Youth Baseball coach, Tami Marquart-youth baseball coach.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve Claims in the amount of \$55,088.90 dollars for check numbers 773629 thru 773683 and claim numbers 47335 thru 47389. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:00 AM- 10:30 AM St. Regis Park Dugouts and Pond repair overrun funding request Judy Stang - ACTION ITEM

Present: Judy Stang-St. Regis Park board, Brogan Keenan-citizen, Courtney Ridney-citizen, Denny Jones-Youth Baseball coach, Tami Marquart-youth baseball coach.

Judy said that there were a lot of volunteers working to get the park fixed up, but the trees need removed from pond and the aerator needs replaced too. The cost of this is an additional \$4,500.00 dollars. She said that the park runs on just 5 mills and has to pay for a plumber to fix the underground sprinkler system and the bathrooms. The St regis resort board gave them \$12,000.00 dollars for other things, but the Memorial Day swap meet is coming up and the leaning cottonwoods are dangerous and need attention quickly.

Commissioner Simons moved, and Commissioner Smalley seconded to approve the additional money request for trees and Aerator, and make the total amount given to the St Regis Park be \$15,000.20 dollars. The money would be transferred from out of the County Parks fund # 2210. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:30 AM- 11:00 AM- Nemote creek road topic – Mary Jo Lommen and Jane Eby- POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

Present: Mary Jo Lommen-citizen, Andy Short- Land Planner.

Nemote creek loop road has no easements, yet has been perceived to be a county road since the beginning. Mary Jo said that all the area landowners are willing and agree to grant the County easements to remedy the situation. Andy said there is a need to acquire the easements, and MCA 7-14-2108 allows for it. According to Mary Jo, the three landowners there are Wheeler, Alta Boyes, and the Hollenback trust.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to approve and move ahead with obtaining voluntarily given road easements to Mineral County. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:00 AM- 11:30 AM Post Election Audit Committee- Appointments- Kelann McLees Election administrator- ACTION ITEM

Present: Kelann McLees- Clerk and Recorder/Election administrator.

Kelann presented her list of seven electors of Mineral County that she is requesting to be on the election audit committee for the 2026 Federal Primary election. Commissioners reviewed the names she has put forth and found no issues with any of them performing the duties of the committee.

Commissioner Zylawy moved, and Commissioner Simons seconded to appoint to the 2026 federal Primary election audit committee: Jennifer Dague, Crystal Darlow, Lisa Denn, Gloria Dominguez, Eva Heintz, Brandy Taylor, and Keanan Taylor. All in favor. Motion carried.

11:30- 12 Noon Public Comment- ** No comment provided

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, May 28, 2026 in the Commissioners Meeting Room

Minutes were taken by Roman Zylawy

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MINERAL COUNTY, MONTANA

May 28, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners of Mineral County, Montana, met in a regular session on Thursday May 28, 2026. Present were Commissioner Shawn Smalley, Commissioner Roman Zylawy by phone

9:00 AM- 9:45 AM Administrative Business- in individual offices of Commissioners

Documents Signed: None

Administrative: none

9:46 AM- 10:00 AM Approve payroll for May 28, 2026.

Present:

Commissioner Smalley moved, and Commissioner Zylawy seconded to approve payroll in the amount of \$158,87.28 dollars for check numbers 660574 thru 660578, and electronic payroll check numbers 59049 thru 58978, as well as Liability check numbers 660579 thru 660585 and electronic liability check numbers 58978 and 58977. All in favor. Motion carried.

10:30 AM- 11:00 AM Forest Service Update

Present: Abby Lane-Superior Ranger District, Chris Gauger-Ninemile District Ranger, Gary

Abby provided general updates for the district, such as all of the seasonals and volunteers have onboarded for the year. Abby stated all of the low elevation sites and campgrounds are open. Abby stated the first fire of the year occurred Monday, May 25th, 2026, and was caused by a lightning strike at the county line with Sanders County. Abby stated they were able to contain the fire. Abby stated one big update is that she will be stepping down as the Superior District Ranger for the summer, as her last day will be June 12th, 2026. Abby stated Kyle Schumacher will be her replacement beginning June 15th, 2026, and currently leads the district lands and minerals program for the Douglas Ranger District on the Medicine Bow in Wyoming. Abby stated Kyle had spent about 17 years with the federal government. Abby stated trees being blown down are an issue, and the district has been working to clear them from trails. Abby stated they are sharing a trail crew with the Plains Thompson Falls District. Abby stated they were successful in getting Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) funding, which will be used for the Ward Creek, Big Creek, and Newman Ridge areas. Abby stated there will be challenges to the projects, as they will require some designs first. Commissioner Smalley provided an update that Mineral County was able to secure funding for the Natural Pier Bridge. Abby discussed deck sales, salvage efforts, and other smaller projects they were planning to complete. Abby stated the Cabin City campground is closed due to tree blowdown, causing damage to roofs and toilets; and it is a high priority to fix the issues and reopen the campground. Abby discussed sales of timber.

Chris discussed the blowdown situation in Mineral County in the Ninemile Ranger District. Chris stated the number of trees blown down was similar; however, there was less infrastructure damaged. Chris discussed the Mountain Man Rendezvous and sales of timber. Chris discussed the Natural Pier Bridge and that there was a special use permit for emergency vehicles over 5 tons to have an alternate route into the community. Chris stated the permit is limited to life and safety, such as propane and fuel trucks needed to heat homes; however, trash trucks and school buses would not be authorized. Chris stated the permit would be issued for two years.

Gary (unknown last name) discussed the Mineral County Resource Advisory Councils (RAC). Gary stated the Mineral County and Missoula County RACs would be combined as part of the approved charter. Gary stated the money from Mineral County will only be spent in Mineral County. Gary stated 15 seats for the RAC would need to be filled to provide for a fully functional committee. Gary stated the approval process takes up to a year to a year and a half. Gary stated he would be the designated official for the RAC.

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT - * No Comment was Provided *

12:00 PM Adjourn

The regular County Business Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:45 PM.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, June 4th, 2026 in the Commissioners Meeting Room.

Minutes were taken by Jamie Landis.

MINERAL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:_____

Kelann McLees, Clerk & Recorder

Roman Zylawy, Chairman of the Board

Duane Simons, Member

Shawn Smalley, Member