

## **Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting**

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Prairie County Court House Court Room  
217 West Park St Terry, MT 59349*

*www.prairiecounty.org*

Prairie County Board of Commissioners, Christine Keltner and Dennis Teske met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. Commission Devlin not in attendance. In attendance Administrative Assistant Harry McNall.

9:00 a.m. Call to order, pledge of allegiance. Public Comment.

Norma Reily: ask that there not be a lawsuit in the county and that Jordan Lassle did a fantastic job grading the road.

Road supervisor Todd Henry gave some updates on how the grading is going, the positive comments about Jordan, and the need for moisture to do more grading. He also explained that cost of equipment and mowing blades have more than doubled since last year. There was conversation about wages, equipment, and work on roads that need done, as well as ways to use contractors to help improve roads.

Aaron Martinson had a question about the conversation concerning the road levy proposed for November. Supervisor Henry explained that it's about getting another employee, upgrading equipment, etc. it's still up for discussion. Aaron explained that there are no guarantees about hiring another employee, but the county could guarantee hiring a contractor to help with roads.

Harry McNall suggested going down both paths, using the levy for increasing wages and getting a contractor to help when we are down employees.

9:30 a.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to move the Great West Engineering contract extension discussion till 10:30 a.m. on the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson joined the meeting to discuss road department wages for new hires, pool and part time seasonal. Shari believes that what needs done is that pool employees need added to the personnel policy. She read a description that could be used for the pool position. Current description describes the position 90 days in a 12-month period. So, more work needs to be done on wording going forward. There was discussion on how many hours an employee works before receiving benefits. Changes to wages for current employees need to be adjusted through resolution. Supervisor Henry explained that Gary Ostimiller and Wade Berry experience should put them at the higher end of the wage scale. Also, Jordon should be at a wage that reflects his CDL and experience.

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to make an amendment to the resolution on hire wages for Gary and Jordon, seconded by Commissioner Teske, “all in favor” motion passes.

10:36 a.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to sign the Great West Extension for another year, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

10:37 a.m. Commissioner Keltner read the minutes from the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Teske made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, commissioners meeting as corrected, seconded by Commissioner Keltner “all in favor” motion passed.

Commissioners reviewed correspondences and other business.

Commissioner Teske made a motion to sign the Action for Eastern Montana review of services using Commissioner Devlin’s Stamp, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

Commissioner Teske made a motion to sign Montana Historical Society concerning the State Bank of Terry (101 South Logan), to concur to the nomination, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

11:42 a.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Deputy Clerk & Recorder Aria Walters provided the commissioners with claims to review and sign.

Prairie County Voucher # 1128 \$89,485.62

Prairie County Voucher # 1129 \$15,139.36

Journal Adjustment # 385

1:01 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to amend the motion to sign the action for eastern Montana, to have Commissioner Keltner sign instead of Commissioner Devlin’s stamp, “all in favor” motion passed.

1:35 p.m. County Treasurer Garrett Lapp provided the commissioners with the cash report, investment authorization, and reconciliation report (balance is 0).

Commissioner Teske and Keltner signed the Treasurer authorization report for April.

2:00 p.m. Sheriff Lewis joined the meeting to speak to the commissioners about grants. The grant was postponed for paperwork, and the vehicles the grant covered are already ordered. The money is coming but it will be a while. Discussion on how to pay for the vehicles while waiting for the grant money to arrive.

2:50 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to accept and sign the Great West Engineering extension of services, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, “all in favor” motion passed.

3:00 p.m. Public Comment

Reene Pirtz: read the prairie county central committee resolution concerning Commissioner Devlin to the commission. She then spoke about the lawsuit, she believes the attorneys are making easy money. This lawsuit should be dropped. She believes the attorneys the county is using are bad. She also believes the lawyer is giving bad advice, and the county should end it. The lawsuit will cost the county a lot of money.

There was a discussion with the commissioners about the ballot initiative here in prairie county and the one in Dawson County.

Aaron Martinson ask where the decision on the lawsuit is coming from, from the lawyer's or the commissioners?

3:34 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to dismiss the lawsuit; no second motion dies.

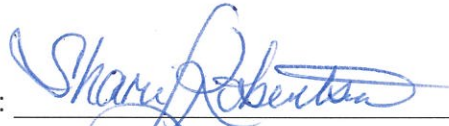
3:40 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026



Todd Devlin, Commissioner Chair

ATTEST:



Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder