

Prairie County Board of Commissioners Meeting

May 28th, 2025

Prairie County Court House Commissioners 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. Commissioner Todd Devlin is out ill. In attendance Administrative Assistant Harry McNall.

9:00 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance, public comment. Jon Arnold, he had a comment about hiring more people within the county, he has seen that more counties are offering higher benefits to get more people to apply, such as including medical for the family instead of just the employee.

Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson spoke to the commissioners about CARE funds, and that they are reimbursement of money already spent (2992).

Dennis Teske had a comment about the Secretary of Agriculture with the USDA to disincentive solar energy. Medicare Plan D went up 130% due to subsidies for green energy. If energy companies can stand alone that is great. We should not have incentives for green energy.

10:00 a.m. Commissioner Teske read the minutes from May 21st, 2025, commissioners meeting.

10:10 a.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to accept the May 21st, 2025, commissioner meeting minutes as corrected, seconded by Commissioner Teske, "all in favor" motion passed.

10:11 a.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to sign "Exhibit "A" Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2- Limited Update of County Growth Policy Prairie County Engineering Services On-Call, Great West Engineering Project no. 1-20144" seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

10:12 a.m. Commissioner Keltner is submitting claims on Great West Engineering Bridge Invoices.

10:30 a.m. John Pisk with Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) to discuss the generator at the senior center. Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson provided additional information about the generator project. John Pisk explained that the labor bill is trimmed down from the actual hours involved in this project. Discussion on funding options and paying the bill in the next FY.

11:07 a.m. Clerk & Recorder Shari Robertson provided the commissioners with payroll and claims to review and sign.

Prairie County Voucher # 1141 \$32,762.28

Prairie County Voucher # 13 \$8,618.43

Prairie County Voucher # 1140 \$18,314.15

Prairie County Voucher # 1139 \$2,465.00

Prairie County Voucher # 1138 \$20,504.54

Prairie County Voucher # 1137 \$68,367.89

Prairie County Voucher # 1143 \$17,859.25

Prairie County Voucher # 1142 \$910.13

Commissioner Keltner made a motion to sign a claim to transfer money in for the Bump N Run, seconded by Commissioner Teske, "all in favor" motion passed.

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Deputy Clerk & Recorder Aria Walters updated commissioners on website options.

1:15 p.m. Commissioner Keltner made a motion to talk with Shortgrass for our website development, seconded by Commissioner Teske, "all in favor" motion passed.

2:00 p.m. Megan Kalfell with Prairie County Hospital to talk with commissioners about County Ambulance Coordinator. Also joining is Andrea Bybee, Mia Amore-Talon, and Karlene Kindsey. Megan wanted to go over compensation split between the hospital and the county. They are asking the commissioners to pay ½ of the payroll for the ambulance coordinator (\$23,000). Commissioner Keltner explained that they will have to wait and see what the budget looks like before making any decision.

2:35 p.m. Deputy Clerk & Recorder Aria Walters gave the commissioners a voided check report for RDO Equipment in the amount of \$139,300.00 check number 48546 and a new check was issued check number 48608, because the check was lost in the mail.

Prairie County Voucher # 1144 \$1,256.43

3:00 p.m. Public Comment

3:30 p.m. Elected Official Compensation discussion and recommendations. The seven-year average is 2.5%. The CPI for this year is 3.4%. In the past the commission has taken the seven-year average + 1%. 3.5% increase in the budget would be about \$50,000. The tax revenue to the county is uncertain due to legislation that passed this last session. Shari Robertsons suggested there is a fund that has \$77,000.00 (2992) that would cover the increase. Sheriff Keiffer said that he will be asking for another deputy in the next fiscal year, because they cannot continue in this manner. The recommendation is 2.5% + 1%, which equals \$45,518.75 signatures were collected to make the recommendation official.

4:30 p.m. Lon Reukauf updated the commissioners on the Growth Policy Process and additional funding request. He updated them on May 15th, public hearing, which included many comments. The land planning board meets on May 29th, 2025, to go over public comments.

5:05 p.m. Commissioner Teske made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Keltner, "all in favor" motion passed.

Signed this 11th day of June 2025



Todd Devlin, Commission Chair

ATTEST: 

Shari Robertson, Clerk & Recorder