

**BIG HORN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

121 3rd St W
Room 301
Hardin, MT 59034



**BIG HORN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
February 20, 2025
9:30 AM**

Members

Lawrence Big Hair, Presiding Officer
George Real Bird III, Member
Larry Vandersloot, Member

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Real Bird, Presiding Officer calls meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Commissioner Real Bird, Pro Tempore, and Commissioner Vandersloot, member, were both in attendance.

3. Claim Approvals

Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve Claims 1228. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

4. Approve Minutes and Supporting Documents

Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve minutes from February 13, 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

5. Personnel/Legal

6. Old Business

CHS Abatement

Heather Ready, presents CHS resolution 2025-6. Discussion ensues. Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2025-6, a resolution that approves the property tax abatement application for machinery, fixtures, and equipment submitted by CHS Hardin Asphalt Plant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

7. New Business

FEMA APA Mitigation

Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2025-7. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

Attending Coal Board

Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2025-8. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

8. Public Comments

9. Discussion

10. Adjourn

There being no other business, the board adjourned.

Approved: Lawrence Big Hair
Lawrence Big Hair, Presiding Officer

Attest: Peri Schenderline
Peri Schenderline, Deputy Clerk & Recorder

COUNTY OF BIG HORN, MONTANA

RESOLUTION 2025- 60

PREAMBLE:

A Resolution approving the Property Tax Abatement Application for Manufacturing Machinery, Fixtures, and Equipment submitted by CHS Hardin Asphalt Plant.

RECITALS:

In accordance with MCA 15-16-138(4)(b), manufacturing machinery, fixtures, and equipment installed and placed in service after December 31, 2022, are exempt or partially exempt from taxation for a period of 5 years starting from the later of the date they were placed in service or October 1, 2023, after which the exemption amount is phased out at a rate of 20% of the amount allowed by the governing body a year, with the property being assessed at 100% of its taxable value after a 10-year period.

Pursuant to MCA 15-6-138(6)(b), the governing body must approve an abatement application for manufacturing machinery, fixtures and equipment. The governing body shall publish notice within 60 days of receiving a completed application and hold a public hearing to determine whether abatement would have an impact on services.

The governing body must issue a decision regarding whether to allow the abatement at 100%, 90%, or 80%. Should the governing body fail to issue a decision within 120 days of receiving the application, the application is considered approved in an amount equal to 100%.

On February 23, 2024, CHS Hardin Asphalt Plant submitted a Property Tax Abatement Application for Manufacturing Machinery, Fixtures and Equipment for a project with construction to commence on August 1, 2023 and to be completed on December 31, 2023, without including a project plan.

Big Horn County did not publish notice, hold a public hearing, and issue a decision within 120 days of receiving the Application submitted by CHS, as required by MCA 15-16-138(6).

THEREFORE:

The Board of Commissioners, Big Horn County, Montana, hereby resolves that because Big Horn County did not issue a decision within 120 days, the Property Tax Abatement Application for Manufacturing Machinery, Fixtures and Equipment submitted by CHS is deemed approved in an amount equal to 100%.

The Board hereby further resolves that the manufacturing machinery, fixtures, and equipment subject to the Application submitted by CHS shall be 100% exempt from taxation for a period of 5 years, starting from December 31, 2023, the date they were placed in service. The exemption shall be phased out at a rate of 20% a year, with the property being assessed at 100% of its taxable value after a 10-year period.

The Board hereby directs that the completed Application shall be returned to the Department of Revenue and the Board or its designee shall execute any documents necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

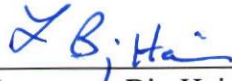
EFFECTIVE:

This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

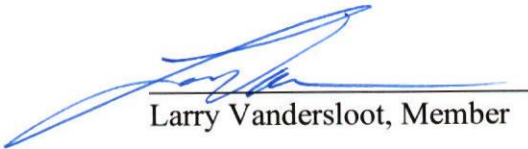
ENACTED:

This 20 day of February, 2025, in Hardin, Montana.

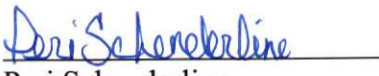
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BIG HORN COUNTY, MONTANA


Lawrence Big Hair, Presiding Officer


George Real Bird III, Member


Larry Vandersloot, Member

ATTEST:


Peri Schenderline
Deputy Clerk and Recorder

COUNTY OF BIG HORN, MONTANA

RESOLUTION 2025- 7

PREAMBLE:

A Resolution adopting the FEMA APA Eastern Montana Region Hazard Mitigation Base Plan and the Big Horn County Addendum.

RECITALS:

In accordance with MCA 7-5-2101(1), the board of county commissioners has jurisdiction and power, under such limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law, to represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the business and concerns of the county.

Big Horn County recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community.

Undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences.

An adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs.

Big Horn County resides within the Planning Area, and fully participated in the mitigation planning process to prepare this Hazard Mitigation Plan.

THEREFORE:

The Board of Commissioners, Big Horn County, Montana, hereby resolves that the FEMA APA Eastern Montana Region Hazard Mitigation Base Plan and the Big Horn County Addendum are hereby adopted as an official plan.

The Board further resolves that it will submit this adoption Resolution to the Montana Division of Disaster and Emergency Services and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VIII officials to enable the Plan's final approval. While some content may require revisions to meet the plan approval requirements, changes occurring after adoption will not require the Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County to re-adopt any further iterations of the Plan.

EFFECTIVE:

This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

ENACTED:

This 20 day of February, 2025, in Hardin, Montana.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BIG HORN COUNTY, MONTANA


Lawrence Big Hair, Presiding Officer


George Real Bird III, Member

ATTEST:


Peri Schenderline
Deputy Clerk and Recorder


Larry Vandersloot, Member

COUNTY OF BIG HORN, MONTANA

RESOLUTION 2025- 8

PREAMBLE:

A Resolution that a quorum of the Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County will attend the Montana Coal Board Quarterly Public Meeting.

RECITALS:

In accordance with MCA 7-5-2101(1), the board of county commissioners has jurisdiction and power, under such limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law, to represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the business and concerns of the county.

Pursuant to MCA 7-5-2122(5), a quorum of commissioners attending an event or meeting during which issues are discussed over which the commissioners have supervision, control or jurisdiction shall provide a report at the commission's next regularly scheduled public meeting.

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners desires to attend the Montana Coal Board Quarterly Public Meeting.

THEREFORE:

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County hereby resolves to attend the Montana Coal Board Quarterly Public Meeting held on March 13, 2025 at 8:30 AM at the Department of Commerce, 301 S. Park Avenue, Helena, Montana.

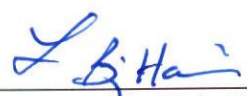
The Board further resolves that the Commissioners who attend the Montana Coal Board Quarterly Public Meeting shall present a report on the meeting at the next regularly scheduled public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County, in accordance with MCA 7-5-2122(5).

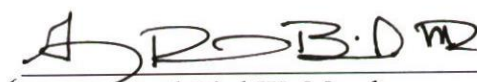
The Board further directs that notice shall be published in conformity with MCA 7-1-2121.

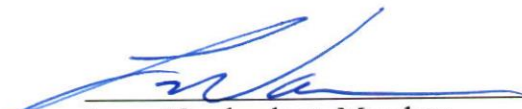
ENACTED:

This 20 day of February, 2025, in Hardin, Montana.

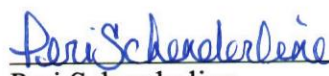
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BIG HORN COUNTY, MONTANA


Lawrence Big Hair, Presiding Officer


George Real Bird III, Member


Larry Vandersloot, Member

Attest:


Peri Schenderline
Deputy Clerk and Recorder