

**BIG HORN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

121 3rd St W
Room 301
Hardin, MT 59034



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

**BIG HORN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
August 21, 2025
9:30 AM**

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Big Hair, Presiding Officer calls meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Commissioner Big Hair, Presiding Officer, Commissioner Real Bird, member, and Commissioner Vandersloot, member, were all in attendance. AJ Espinoza, Road Superintendent, Mike Opie, Accountant, Victoria Olson, Detention Administrator, Jeanne Torske, County Attorney, and Heather Ready, Deputy County Attorney were also in attendance.

3. Claim Approvals

Commissioner Real Bird entertained a motion to approve claims 1057, 1058, 1056. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vandersloot and passed unanimously.

4. Approve Minutes and Supporting Documents

Commissioner Real Bird entertained a motion to approve August 14, 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vandersloot and passed unanimously.

5. Personnel/Legal

Victoria Olson, Detention Administrator

Victoria Olson, Detention Administrator, is requesting a reduction in force for the detention department, specifically the cook position, as a cost savings to go with a contracted food services to provide meals for the inmates. Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to accept Victoria's recommendation for a reduction in force. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Electric Line Right of Way Easement

Heather Ready, Deputy County Attorney, presents a right of way easement in Ft. Smith. Commissioner Vandersloot entertained a motion to approve the right of way easement for Big Horn County Electric. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Real Bird and passed unanimously.

8. Public Comments

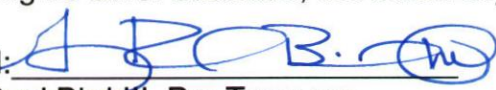
AJ, Road Superintendent, presents Purchase Requisitions for an AC machine. Commissioner Vandersloot requested he look into local vendors before they approve it. He would like to keep it local.

Mike Opie, Accountant, explains that a piece a radio equipment was damaged on Radio Hill due to a rodent and Red Tail is unsure if the manufacturer will honor the warranty. Ken Greybull, Dispatch Administrator, was conference called in. A discussion over radios and tower equipment was held. The board would like a meeting with Red Tail Communication and all departments that utilize the equipment.

9. Discussion

10. Adjourn

There being no other business, the board adjourned.

Approved: 
George Real Bird III, Pro Tempore

Attest: Peri Schenderline
Peri Schenderline, Deputy Clerk & Recorder

Fee Patent Lands

ELECTRIC LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned, BIG HORN COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Montana, of P O BOX 908, HARDIN, MT 59034, for a good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grants unto BIG HORN COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., a corporation (hereinafter called the "Cooperative") whose address is P O BOX 410, HARDIN, MT, and to its successors or assigns, the right to enter upon the lands of the undersigned, situated in the County of BIG HORN, State of MONTANA and more particularly described as follows:

YELLOWTAIL SUBDIVISION, S16, T 6S, R 31E, 14,767 SQUARE FEET, BUNSTON PARK (BETWEEN BLOCKS 1 & 2)

and to construct, operate, and maintain an electric transmission and/or distribution line or system within a 20 foot wide easement located along, contiguous and adjacent to the west lot line on or under the above-described land and/or in, upon or under all roads, streets or highways abutting said lands; to inspect and make such repairs, changes, alterations, improvements, removals from, substitutions and additions to its facilities as Cooperative may from time to time deem advisable, including, by way of example and not by way of limitation, the right to increase or decrease the number of conduits, wires, cables, hand holes, connection boxes, transformers, and transformer enclosures; to cut, trim and control the growth by chemical means, machinery or otherwise of the trees and shrubbery located within ten feet of the centerline of said line or system, or that may interfere with or threaten to endanger the operation and maintenance of said line or system) including any control of the growth of other vegetation in the right-of-way which may incidentally and necessarily result from the control employed); to keep the easement clear of all buildings, structures or other obstructions; and to license, permit or otherwise agree to the joint use of occupancy of the lines, system or, if any of said system is placed underground, of the trench and related underground facilities, by any other person, association or corporation.

The undersigned agree that all poles, wires, and other facilities including the main service entrance equipment, installed in, upon or under the above-described lands at the Cooperative's expense shall remain the property of the Cooperative, removable at the option of the Cooperative.

The undersigned covenant that it is the owner of the above-described lands and that the said lands are free and clear of encumbrances and liens of whatsoever character except those held by the following persons:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County, a political subdivision of the State of Montana has caused these presents to be signed by its Presiding Officer and attested by its Deputy Clerk and Recorder and its seal to the hereto affixed this September day of September, A.D. 2025.

Big Horn County, a political subdivision of
The State of Montana

By its Board of Commissioners

By L. B. Blair
Presiding Officer

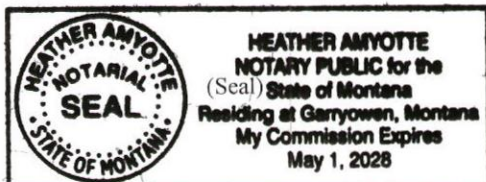
(Seal)

ATTEST:

Darcy Schmedeline, Deputy Clerk and Recorder
State of Montana,)
County of Big Horn,) ss.

On this 2nd day of September, in the year 2025, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the said State, personally appeared Lorraine Rose Big Hair known to me to be the Presiding Officer of the Board of Commissioners of Big Horn County, a political subdivision of the State of Montana that executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that such Board of Commissioners executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and date in this certificate first above written.



Heather Amyotte
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at: Garryowen, Montana
My commission expires: May 1, 2028