REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA Held in January 2025

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on January 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2025.

JANUARY 8, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Dalayne VanDyke, Public – Paul Anderberg

COMMISSION REORGANIZATION

Commissioner Kuka moved to appoint Commissioner Morren as Chair of the Board. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

PROPOSAL FOR LITIGATION GUARANTEES TO THE COUNTY ACCEPTED

The Clerk and Recorder had requested proposals for litigation guarantee services for delinquent tax parcels being pursued by the County. One proposal was received. Commissioner Drishinski moved to accept the bid proposal received from Flying S Title & Escrow (Conrad office) in the amount \$200 per parcel, providing the tax delinquency is less than \$16,000 per parcel. A parcel with tax delinquency over \$16,000 will be charged out at the filed rate for title insurance. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ON SETTING COSTS IN TAX LIEN SALES, ASSIGNMENTS, REDEMPTIONS AND TAX DEED SALES, AND OWNERSHIP AND INTEREST SEARCH BIDS

PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA RESOLUTION #14 – 2024/25

RESOLUTION SETTING COSTS IN TAX LIEN SALES, ASSIGNMENTS, REDEMPTIONS AND TAX DEED SALES, AND OWNERSHIP AND INTEREST SEARCH BIDS

WHEREAS, Section 15-17-121(2)(a), MCA, defines "Costs" incurred by the county as a result of a taxpayer's failure to pay taxes when due, including but not limited to any actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the county plus the administrative costs; and the county costs collected may be deposited in the county General Fund, pursuant to Section 15-17-322, MCA; and

WHEREAS, Section 15-17-212, MCA, directs the county treasurer, upon receipt of all delinquent taxes, penalties, interest and costs, to prepare a TAX SALE CERTIFICATE and the costs to a purchaser other than the County, shall be set as follows:

preparation of list of delinquent taxes preparation of notice of pending tax sale conducting the tax sale preparation of the tax sale certificate

Total, per parcel

\$25.00

REDEMPTION of the County's or assignee's interest in the property redeemed and the refund to the assignee, shall be set as follows:

processing redemption
distribution of payment
processing refund to assignee
certified mail and/or publication costs

Total, per parcel

\$25.00

WHEREAS, Section 15-18-211, MCA, directs the county treasurer, upon receipt of all delinquent taxes, penalties, interest and costs, to grant the purchaser a TAX DEED for the property, and the costs shall be set as follows:

preparation and postage for courtesy letters certified mail preparation of deed

Total, per parcel

\$300.00

WHEREAS, Section 15-18-212, MCA, directs notification to all persons considered interested parties in the property and the current occupant of the property, if any, that a tax deed may be issued to the county unless the property tax lien is redeemed prior to the expiration date of the redemption period, the County intends to contract for the services of a licensed title company to perform ownership and interest searches on all properties selected by the Board of County Commissioners. Inasmuch as there is only one licensed title company with its office in Pondera County, the Commissioners will contract with said Flying S Title Company for its services in determining interested parties and issuance of a Litigation Guarantee on each parcel. A request for cost for these services will be obtained from Flying S Title Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pondera County Board of Commissioners that the fees for the actual and administrative costs, assessed to a purchaser other than the County, are set as follows:

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE, PER PARCEL	\$ 25.00
ASSIGNMENT, PER PARCEL	\$ 50.00
REDEMPTION, PER PARCEL	\$ 25.00
TAX DEED SALE, PER PARCEL	\$300.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Pondera County Board of Commissioners that the Board of County Commissioners will contract Flying S Title Company for its services in determining interested parties and issuance of a Litigation Guarantee on each parcel. A request for cost for these services will be obtained from Flying S Title Company.

Adopted this 8th day of January, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Drishinski, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Thomas A Kuka

Jim Morren, Chairman

/s/ Jim Morren

Thomas A Kuka, Member

Attest: /s/ Kody L Farkell

/s/ Zane Drishinski

Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

Zane Drishinski, Member

WHEREAS Section 2-3-103(1), Montana Code Annotated, requires that the Board of County Commissioners develop procedures for permitting and encouraging the public to participate in decisions of the Board of County Commissioners that are of significant interest to the public, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that

- 1. Prior to making a final decision that is of significant interest to the public, the Board of County Commissioners will afford reasonable opportunity for public participation;
- 2. To assure adequate notice and assist public participation before a final decision is made or final action is taken on any matter that is of significant interest to the public, the Board of County Commissioners will post its weekly agenda on the main hallway bulletin board in the Pondera County Courthouse as well as on the county website at www.ponderacountymontana.org;
- 3. The weekly agenda will be posted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday of the previous week. Matters that require statutory notice by publication or posting will be complied with as the particular statute may require.
- 4. The Board of County Commissioners will hold a regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday of each week for the purpose of taking final action on any matter of significant interest to the public involving the adoption of any rule or resolution, determining a contested case, entering into or awarding a contract or any other matter of significant interest to the public.

Prior to taking final action on any matter of significant interest to the public, the chairman or presiding commissioner of the Board will provide reasonable time for any person present to submit data or comments either orally or in writing regarding final action that may be taken by the Board;

5. The office of the Board of County Commissioners is open for business from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The office will be open for business on Friday by appointment. No notice will be given of routine matters or impromptu discussions with county employees, vendors or other citizens. All meetings of the County Commissioners are open to the public unless closed as provided by statute.

Adopted this 8th day of January, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Drishinski, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER	S
Pondera County, Montana	

/s/ Jim Morren	/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Jim Morren, Chairman	Thomas A Kuka, Member
Attest: /s/ Kody L Farkell	/s/ Zane Drishinski
Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder	Zane Drishinski, Member

RESOLUTION SETTING MILEAGE ALLOWANCE, LODGING AND PER DIEM

costs for lodging and per diem, in the performance of official duties are entitled to collect mileage for the distance actually traveled by automobile at a rate equal to the mileage allotment allowed by the Internal Revenue Service for the preceding calendar year; and

WHEREAS the mileage rate for state and local government employees has been established for calendar year 2025 by the Internal Revenue Service as 70 cents per mile for the first 1,000 miles of travel within each month and the rate for mileage over 1,000 miles per month at 67 cents per mile (3 cents less per mile, per 2-18-503(b), Montana Code Annotated)

WHEREAS the State of Montana has established the lodging and per diem rates for state and local government employees as follows:

In-state lodging reimbursement rate is \$110.00 plus tax for all communities except for Big Sky/ West Yellowstone/Gardiner (Gallatin and Park Counties), Helena (Lewis & Clark County), Missoula (Missoula County), and Kalispell/Whitefish (Flathead County), which communities are considered high cost areas.

Per Diem Rates	<u>In-State</u>	Out-of-State
Morning Meal	\$ 8.25	\$ 13.00
Mid-Day Meal	\$ 9.25	\$ 15.00
Evening Meal	\$ 16.00	\$ 26.00
Totals	\$ 33.50	\$ 54.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the mileage allotment allowed to Pondera County employees during calendar year 2024 shall be 70 cents per mile (up to and including 1,000 miles) and 67 cents per miles (over 1,000 miles) during each calendar month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the in-state lodging reimbursement and per diem rates shall be

In-state lodging reimbursement rate is \$110.00 plus tax for all communities except for Big Sky/ West Yellowstone/Gardiner (Gallatin and Park Counties), Helena (Lewis & Clark County), Missoula (Missoula County), and Kalispell/Whitefish (Flathead County), which communities are considered high cost areas.

Per Diem Rates	<u>In-State</u>	Out-of-State
Morning Meal	\$ 8.25	\$ 13.00
Mid-Day Meal	\$ 9.25	\$ 15.00
Evening Meal	<u>\$16.00</u>	\$ 26.00
Totals	\$ 33.50	\$ 54.00

Adopted this 8th day of January, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Drishinski, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Pondera County, Montana

RESOLUTION ON DAILY RATE FOR INCARCERATION CREDIT PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA RESOLUTION #17 – 2024/25

DAILY RATE FOR INCARCERATION CREDIT

WHEREAS, Section 46-18-403, MCA, states that "the daily rate for incarceration must be established annually by the Board of County commissioners by resolution" and that the daily rate must be equal to the actual cost incurred by the detention facility and it has been determined that the actual costs incurred by the Pondera County detention facility, on an average daily basis, is equal to One-hundred dollars (\$100.00);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the daily rate for confinement costs, other than for actual medical costs, as ordered by the court and paid in advance for confinement and prior to payment of any fine, is hereby established at \$100.00 per day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if a judgment is for a fine and imprisonment until the fine is paid, the detainee shall be allowed a credit of \$100.00 for each day of incarceration; and that an inmate is responsible for the actual costs of medication, medical services, or hospitalization while detained in a detention center, based upon the individual's ability to pay and/or private provider health care coverage, or a bonafide and responsible third-party payer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Attorney shall initiate proceedings to collect from the inmate any charges arising from the medical services or hospitalization in accordance with 7-32-2245, MCA.

Adopted this 8th day of January, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Drishinski, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren/s/ Thomas A KukaJim Morren, ChairmanThomas A Kuka, MemberAttest: _/s/ Kody L Farkell/s/ Zane DrishinskiKody L. Farkell, Clerk & RecorderZane Drishinski, Member

CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to appoint/reappoint the following to the County Advisory Boards:

Airport – Robert Skorupa (2027)

Rick Tomsheck (2027)

Conrad Cemetery-Wendy Paulsen (2027)

David Egan (2025)

Valier Cemetery-Jeff VandenBos (2027)

Community Service- Robert Skorupa (2027)

Health-Tim Salois (2027)

Park-Robert Skorupa (2027)

Cheryl Becker (2025) Charlene Henke (2027)

A complete list of County Advisory Boards and all members is on the County webpage: www.ponderacountymontana.org under Government, Board Appointments. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVES TO BOARDS

The Commissioner representative assignments to County and Regional boards were made as follows:

County Boards

Kuka

Airport

Weed

Pondera County Community Service

Park

Drishinski

Pondera County Council On Aging

Pondera Regional Port Authority

Park

Morren

Logan Health

Health Park

Brady Water

Regional and State Boards

Kuka

Northcentral Regional Detention Center

Center For Mental Health Sweetgrass Development

Drishinski

Northern Montana Joint Refuse Disposal District

Northern Montana Transit Authority North Central Area Agency on Aging

Morren

Opportunities Inc

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the commissioner representative to boards as named above through December 2025. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S SECURITIES REPORT

The following are the investments as of December 31, 2024

STIP

\$6,002,000.00 @ 4.6160101%

STOCKMAN BANK BALANCES \$11,730821.80

STOCKMAN BANK —Collateral Report

3133GDCV0	\$1,043,027.48	FHLMC Pool	1.50%	05/01/2036
38384JWF7	\$1,570,727.22	GNM24030 TD	4.50%	05/20/2051
3132D56U1	\$1,729,854.39	FHLMC Pool #S	1.50%	01/01/2036
2120 A E / 137 /	Φ 065 000 00	EET HONAE INI	4 100/	10/24/2022

RAYMOND JAMES

07371AYT4	\$250,000.00	2.05%	Due 02/24/2027(CD)
795451AN3	\$250,000.00	1.05%	Due 08/18/2026 (CD)
3130B2FY6	\$250,000.00	4.50%	Due 08/21/2025

INDEPENDENCE BANK

CDARS 1029476353	02/06/25	4.41152%	\$ 500,000.00
CDARS 1029517343	02/13/25	4.03762%	\$ 250,000.00
CDARS 1029621582	09/03/26	3.39197%	\$ 250,000.00
CDARS 1029835442	10/14/27	2.59612%	\$ 500,000.00
CDARS 1027711673	08/28/25	4.36367%	\$1,000,000.00
CDARS 1027778727	09/10/26	4.08565%	\$ 500,000.00

BUCHANAN CAPITAL

DUCIMIAN CALLAD			
UBS BANK USA	90348JZ37	01/13/250.84%	\$250,000.00
FHLB	3130AQHF3	01/27/251.125%	
FHLB	3130AQJM6	01/28/251.25%	\$250,000.00
JBMORGAN CHASE &	48128WFM2	04/17/25 0.95%	\$250,000.00
FHLB	3130AQKB8	12/26/251.375%	
NICOLET NTNL BANK	654062LB2	03/28/254.09%	\$250,000.00
DISCOVER BANK	254673U46	10/05/264.29%	\$250,000.00
WELLS FARGO	949764DA9	07/07/255.00%	\$250,000.00
FIRST FOUNDATION	32026UT22	07/14/264.64%	\$250,000.00
SCHWAB-MORGAN ST	61690DCU0	0010100000	\$250,000.00
SCHWAB-AMERICAN CO	02519ABT3	04/02/265.19%	\$250,000.00
SCHWAB-SYNCHRONY	87165E3T2	11/03/265.09%	\$250,000.00
SCHWAB-FIRST PREM	33610RUZ4	11/10/265.09%	\$250,000.00
INTERNTNL BANK OF	45906AEC7	01/26/274.09%	\$250,000.00
SAUK VALLEY BANK	804375EA7	01/29/274.14%	\$250,000.00
FHLB	3130B2EC5	08/07/295.15%	\$250,000.00
BARCLAYS BANK DEL	06740KSV0	02/27/264.10%	\$250,000.00

JANUARY 15, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Dalayne VanDyke, Public – Paul Anderberg, McKenzie Graye

MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION OUTSIDE REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Kuka reported on a meeting with the Blackfeet Tribal Council, January 13,2025. Discussing the potential impact of the approval on class 5 wells of Jody Field 1 & 2.

COMMISSION REORGANIZATION

Commissioner Drishinski moved to appoint Commissioner Kuka as Vice Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to appoint the following to the County Advisory Boards:

Airport – John Shevlin (2028)

Health-David Cates (2027)

Park-John Shevlin (2027)

A complete list of County Advisory Boards and all members is on the County webpage: www.ponderacountymontana.org under Government, Board Appointments.

Bartsch, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Dalayne VanDyke, Public – Paul Anderberg, McKenzie Graye

<u>TASK ORDER – FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES LEARNING</u> <u>COLLABORATIVE AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the amended Foundational Public Health Services Learning Collaborative through the Montana Department of Health & Human Services. The grant provides funding of an additional \$15,000.00, for a total of \$25,000.00 from April 1, 2024 through November 30, 2025. Motion carried.

<u>CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS</u>

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to appoint the following to the County Advisory Boards:

Health- Jamey Byrnes (2027)

Park- McKenzie Greye (2027)

A complete list of County Advisory Boards and all members is on the County webpage: www.ponderacountymontana.org under Government, Board Appointments.

Motion carried

JANUARY 29, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Thomas Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Dalayne VanDyke

MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION OUTSIDE REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Kuka reported on a trip to Calumet, on January 22, 2025. Commissioner Kuka, Commissioner Drishinski and County Sanitarian Corrine Rose attended a tour of Calumet in Great Falls, MT.

APPROVAL OF AIRPORT RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL

Chris Sullivan of Sullivan Brothers Construction submitted a bid to clear the runway of snow and ice at the Conrad Airport for 2025. It is an "as needed per FAA requirements" agreement as it has been in the past. For the amount of \$600 per time. Commissioner Kuka moved to continue the agreement with Sullivan Brothers Construction. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500-APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the request from the Sheriff Department to purchase 9 (nine) body cameras from Axon Enterprise Inc. for the amount of \$26,561.08. Commissioner Morren seconded. Motion carried.

CONTRACT WITH SQUARE 9

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Morren seconded to approve the renewal contract of GlobalSearch C2 Cloud Storage for Square 9, up to 100GB in the amount of \$3,812.09. Motion carried.

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500-APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the request from the Road/Bridge Department to purchase a suspension rebuild for the Dakota Gravel Trailer from Truck Pro in Great

CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

FUND		
Fund	Fund Description	
1000	GENERAL	24,222.90
2110	ROAD	20,683.77
2130	BRIDGE	250.39
2131	BRIDGE RAPID REPAIR	3,022.50
2140	WEED	1,914.03
2170	AIRPORT	362.315.27
2230	AMBULANCE	393.06
2290	EXTENSION SERVICE	3,441.14
2300	PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	11,031.15
2393	RECORDS PRESERVATION	14.90
2401	BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	299.84
2811	DUI PREVENTION	185.00
2830	JUNK VEHICLE	242.55
2850	911 EMERGENCY	1,047.53
2860	LAND USE PLANNING	31,379.00
2917	VICTIM & WITNESS ADV PROG	98.00
2958	EP (DES) GRANTS	483.19
2964	ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH	106.25
2971	WIC GRANT	74.89
2973	MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	118.80
2976	IMMUNIZATION ACTION GRANT	196.49
2978	CHRONIC DISEASE GRANT	224.82
7920	REFUND FUND	30.24
TOTAL	TI AIMS	\$461,775.71
	PAYROLL	
		\$378,817.77
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS \$840,593.48		

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2025

Pondera County, Montana.

Jim Morren, Chairman

ATŢEST:

Kody L Farkell Clerk & Records

