

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

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on November 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2025.

NOVEMBER 5, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Road/Bridge Superintendent Frosty DeBoo

MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION OUTSIDE REGULAR MEETING

Commissioners Morren and Drishinski attended the Chili Cook-off Fund Raiser for the Community Center, on Sunday November 2nd. Commissioners won 3rd place.

TASK ORDER AGREEMENT #5 FOR CONRAD AIRPORT

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded Task Order #5 Agreement with Robert Peccia & Associates Inc. to furnish engineering services for improvements to the Conrad Airport. The amount of \$28,290.00 will be paid by a FAA Grant. Motion carried.

TASK ORDER AGREEMENT #6 FOR CONRAD AIRPORT

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded Task Order #6 Agreement with Robert Peccia & Associates Inc. to furnish engineering services for improvements to the Conrad Airport. The amount of \$39,410.00 will be paid by a FAA Grant. Motion carried.

NOVEMBER 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch (joined after Canvass), Public – Paul Anderberg (joined after Canvass)

CANVASS OF CITY OF CONRAD GENERAL ELECTION

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the November 12, 2025 Canvass of the November 4, 2025 City of Conrad General Election conducted by Commissioner Drishinski, Commissioner Kuka, and Commissioner Morren and to direct the Clerk and Recorder to enter the official results in the records of the County. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

AGREEMENT WITH MaPS INC FOR MAPPING SERVICES

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the Letter of Agreement between the County and Mapping and Planning Specialists, Inc. (MaPS, Inc.) for E911 and GPS/GIS mapping services. Change order #15 between MaPS Inc. and Pondera County has been issued as a change to the original Project Agreement dated July 20, 2000. MaPS Inc. requests the approval of up to \$9,000.00 to work under providing this Technical Support for the upcoming changes for E911 and GPS/GIS mapping services. MaPS Inc. will only invoice the actual hours accrued. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ON AMENDING CONRAD TV DISTRICT ASSESSMENT FEE BEGINNING TAX YEAR 2026

PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA

RESOLUTION #8 – 2025/26

AMENDING CONRAD TV DISTRICT ASSESSMENT FEE BEGINNING
TAX YEAR 2026

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County created the Conrad TV District under MCA 7-11-1004, and

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners received a formal request from

November 2025

the Board of Directors of the Conrad TV District to amend the fee schedule for the District as their expenditures have been surpassing the assessment revenue. The current assessment of \$4 per parcel has not changed in over 25 years, and

WHEREAS a public hearing was held on October 29, 2025 at 10:00 am in the Commissioner's office for the purpose of public comment for or against the fee assessment increase. No written or verbal comment was received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that an increase in the Conrad TV Assessment is necessary for the continuation of the District's ability to operate and provide services to the public, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that beginning tax year 2026 the assessment to the Conrad TV District shall be raised from \$4 to \$10, in accordance with MCA 7-11-1024

Adopted this 15th day of November, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Drishinski, seconded by Commissioner Kuka, and passed on a 3-0 vote of the board. Effective upon passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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

OCTOBER COMMISSION MINUTES APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the October 2025 Minutes of the Commission. Motion carried.

NOVEMBER 19, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Public – Tiffany Christensen

RESOLUTION ON AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA
RESOLUTION #9 – 2025/26
AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO
PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS the Montana Code Annotated, Section 7-6-4006(4), grants the Board of County Commissioners the power and authority to amend the budget during the fiscal year by conducting public hearings at regularly scheduled meetings; and

WHEREAS Pondera County Commissioners approved the appropriations budget for the Pondera County during its regular budget approval process and correction in revenues and expenditures budget have been identified; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pondera County that the budget be corrected as follows:

Revenue	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
1000-361001	Rent – Courthouse	\$0	\$2,115
2130-362021	Misc Revenue	\$150	\$1,500
2190-362025	Unanticipated Revenue	\$0	\$13,030

2801-360001	Opioid Settlement	\$5,000	\$7,000
Expenditure	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
1000-111-411101-110	Salaries	\$287,735	\$262,735
1000-111-411101-352	Appointed Council	\$5,000	\$30,000
2300-201-420102-210	Supplies	\$0	\$2,000
2300-201-420102-219	Equipment	\$15,316	\$13,316
2390-201-420144-210	Supplies	\$0	\$1,000
2390-201-420144-219	Equipment	\$21,663	\$20,663

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Morren, and passed on a 2-0 vote of the board. Effective on passage and approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Chair

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

ATTEST: /s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L Farkell, Clerk and Recorder

Absent
Zane Drishinski, Member

RESOLUTION ON AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MCEP INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

PONDERA COUNTY, MONTANA
RESOLUTION #10 – 2025/26

AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MCEP INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Pondera County is applying to the Montana Department of Commerce for financial assistance from the Montana Coal Endowment Program (MCEP) to complete a Preliminary Engineer Report (PER) for a bridge replacement project; and

WHEREAS, Pondera County agrees to comply with all State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the “MCEP Administrative Guidelines and Application for Infrastructure Planning Grants” specifically, and those that will be described in the “MCEP Project Administration Manual”; and

WHEREAS, Pondera County commits to provide the amount of matching funds as proposed in MCEP application; and

WHEREAS, Pondera County commits to provide any funding from other grant sources listed in the application budget if not awarded by those grant sources; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners, that Jim Morren, Pondera County Chairman, is authorized to submit this application to the Montana Department of Commerce on behalf of Pondera County and to act on its behalf and to provide such additional information as may be required.

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2025 as moved by Commissioner Kuka, seconded by Commissioner Morren, and passed on a 2-0 vote of the board. Effective upon passage.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Pondera County, Montana

/s/ Jim Morren
Jim Morren, Chairman

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

ATTEST:

/s/ Kody L Farkell
Kody L Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

Absent
Zane Drishinski, Member

NOVEMBER 26, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Clerk & Recorder Kody Farkell, Public – McKenzie Graye, Paul Anderberg

AIRPORT HANGAR LEASES

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded the approved airport hangar leases.

1. FAA Hangar Lease with Heath Elings. A 10 (ten) year period, from January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2036. At a monthly rental fee of \$205.00.
2. Valier Airport Hangar Lease with Vance Raines and Dave Huyghe. A 10 (ten) year period, from January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2036. At a yearly rate of \$1,000.00.
3. Conrad Airport Land Lease with Pondera County Search and Rescue. A 10 (ten) year period, from January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2035. At a yearly rate of \$1.00.
4. Conrad Airport Hangar Lease with Daniel L Rouns. A 5 (five) year period, from January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2031. At a monthly rental fee of \$110.00.

Motion carried.

CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

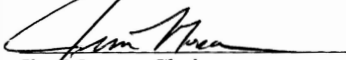
<u>FUND</u>		
Fund	Fund Description	
1000	GENERAL	139,651.31
2110	ROAD	17,112.97
2130	BRIDGE	93.84
2140	WEED	1,741.23
2170	AIRPORT	14,083.31
2230	AMBULANCE	163.01
2290	EXTENSION SERVICE	6,839.82
2300	PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	20,396.10
2390	DRUG FORFEITURE	272.25
2401	BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	353.04
2820	GAS APORIONMENT TAX	1,992.45
2830	JUNK VEHICLE	12.53
2850	911 EMERGENCY	34,320.79
2860	LAND USE PLANNING	2,328.75
2866	NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL	17,730.60
2917	VICTIM & WITNESS ADV PROG	4.00
2958	EP (DES) GRANTS	380.10
2962	LOR FOUNDATION GRANT	14.99
2963	ORAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT	926.15
2965	INNOVATION BEH HEALTH	8,449.89
2971	WIC GRANT	124.68
2973	MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	118.78
2976	IMMUNIZATION ACTION GRANT	106.01
2978	CHRONIC DISEASE GRANT	265.50
2980	HEALTH CARE FOUND. GRANT	2,083.00
7920	REFUND FUND	208.81

TOTAL CLAIMS	\$269,773.91
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$360,942.46
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS	\$630,716.37

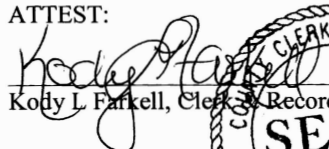
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on November 28, 2025

Pondera County, Montana.


Jim Morren, Chairman

ATTEST:


Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

