

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

The Board of Pondera County Commissioners met daily in informal session and in scheduled meetings on December 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2025.

DECEMBER 3, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Public – Paul Anderberg

MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION OUTSIDE REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Kuka attended the Many Rivers Board meeting, December 2nd, 2025.

NOVEMBER COMMISSION MINUTES APPROVED

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

DECEMBER 10, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

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

MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION OUTSIDE REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Drishinski attended the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Tree Auction. An amount of \$10,500 was raised for the Conrad Senior Surrey.

DECEMBER 17, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jim Morren, Commissioner Tom Kuka, Commissioner Zane Drishinski, Deputy Clerk & Recorder Tammy Bartsch, Public – Paul Anderberg

TASK ORDER - PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP) GRANT APPROVED

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the PHEP grant through the Montana Department of Health & Human Services. The grant provides funding of \$10,000 for influenza A virus, effective September 15, 2025 to January 15, 2026. Motion carried.

TASK ORDER CONTRACT FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN (WIC) GRANT-APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the fiscal year 2026 Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) task order contract with the Montana Department of Health & Human Services in the amount of \$36,954.00 for October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. Motion carried.

FOOD INSPECTION AGREEMENT

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded to approve the new Food Inspection Agreement with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services for the Sanitarian to conduct food inspections, effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. Motion carried.

MINI GRANT AGREEMENT WITH DPHHS

Commissioner Drishinski moved and Commissioner Kuka seconded to approve the Core State Injury Prevention Program Mini Grant Agreement with Department of Public Health and Human Services in the amount of \$4,798.40 for November 10, 2025 through July 31, 2026. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ON AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO PONDERA COUNTY BUDGET

PONDERA COUNTY MONTANA
RESOLUTION #11 – 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
2955-331140	Grant Revenue	\$0	\$4,798
2971-331141	Grant Revenue	\$55,027	\$53,097
Expenditure	Description	Prior Amount	New Amount
2955-403-440195-201	Bicycle Helmets	\$0	\$4,798
2971-401-440171-210	Supplies	\$4,395	\$2,935
2971-401-440174-110	Salaries	\$4,605	\$4,270
2971-401-440174-140	Benefits	\$1,972	\$1,829

Adopted this 17th day of December, 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
Jim Morren, Chair

/s/ Thomas A Kuka
Thomas A Kuka, Member

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

/s/ Zane Drishinski
Zane Drishinski, Member

EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,500-APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve the purchase of 3 4-foot section plow blades for the Valier plow for Pondera County Road/Bridge Department in the amount of \$3,000.00, from Northwest Parts. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 24, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

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

LAND PURCHASE FOR CONRAD AIRPORT

Commissioner Kuka moved and Commissioner Drishinski seconded the land purchase for the Conrad Airport from Ray E & Kimberly Bouma. The real property is vacant land with a total of 6.3 acres and 7.4 acres avigation easement. Purchase amount of \$56,600.00, 95% FAA Grant and 5% Pondera County. Motion carried.

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 2026. It is an “as needed per FAA requirements” agreement as it has been in the past. For the amount of \$600 per time. Commissioner Drishinski moved to continue the agreement with Sullivan Brothers Construction. Commissioner Kuka seconded. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 31, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION:

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

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TASK ORDER
FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (MCH)-
APPROVED

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve Task Order 19-07-5-01-037-0 to the Master Contract for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program Grant (MCH). The County will receive \$6,050 for federal fiscal year 2025-26. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

SECOND DRAWDOWN FOR LAND ACQUISITION PURCHASE PROJECT
PAYMENT

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve drawdown #2 for Land Acquisition Purchase Project for the Pondera County Airport in the amount of \$56,600.00 for land purchase. Pondera County required match of 5% cost of \$2,830.00. Commissioner Drishinski seconded. Motion carried.

ELEVENTH DRAWDOWN FOR FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
PROJECT PAYMENT

Commissioner Kuka moved to approve drawdown #11 for the Federal Aviation Administration Project for the Pondera County Airport in the amount of \$116,170.00. Pondera County required match of 10% cost of \$11,617.80. 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.

CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

FUND

Fund	Fund Description	
1000	GENERAL	24,488.06
2110	ROAD	272,141.31
2130	BRIDGE	90.04
2140	WEED	532.36
2150	PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL	4,667.00
2170	AIRPORT	2,097.19
2220	LIBRARY	214,408.50
2230	AMBULANCE	177.51
2280	SENIOR CITIZENS	15,000.00
2290	EXTENSION SERVICE	7,053.99
2300	PUBLIC SAFETY (LAW ENFORCEMENT)	11,290.63
2401	BRADY LIGHTS MAINTENANCE	9.45
2800	ALCOHOL REHABILITATION	5,335.00
2820	GAS APORTIONMENT TAX	1,434.75
2830	JUNK VEHICLE	12.53
2850	911 EMERGENCY	485.45
2866	NORTHERN TRANSIT INTERLOCAL	134.41

2870	NEHA GRANT	1,395.00
2958	EP (DES) GRANTS	385.40
2962	LOR FOUNDATION GRANT	305.26
2963	ORAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT	106.25
2965	INNOVATION BEH HEALTH	1,679.20
2971	WIC GRANT	74.86
2973	MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	118.78
2976	IMMUNIZATION ACTION GRANT	106.01
2978	CHRONIC DISEASE GRANT	118.55
2980	HEALTH CARE FOUND. GRANT	2,083.00
7920	REFUND FUND	8,027.88

TOTAL CLAIMS	\$573,758.37
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$351,938.76
TOTAL CLAIMS AND PAYROLL FUNDS	\$925,697.13

ADJOURNMENT

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

Pondera County, Montana.


Jim Morren, Chairman

ATTEST:


Kody L. Farkell, Clerk & Recorder

