

These abbreviated summary minutes and the audio recording will become the official adopted minutes at the next Land Board meeting when the board votes to officially approve them. Until then they are considered a draft.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
May 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Mazurek Justice Building, Supreme Court Chambers
Helena, MT

Please note: *The Land Board has adopted the audio recording of its meetings as the official record, as allowed by [2-3-212, MCA](#). These minutes provide an abbreviated summary of the Land Board discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The time designations listed are approximate and may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio recording of this meeting. Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio recording is provided from the Land Board webpage at <http://dnrc.mt.gov/LandBoard>. The written minutes summary, along with the audio recordings, are listed by meeting date on the Land Board Archive webpage.*

Members Present

Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras
Attorney General Austin Knudsen
Commissioner of Securities and Insurance Troy Downing
Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen
Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen

Members Absent

Governor Greg Gianforte

Testifying Staff

Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
Shawn Thomas, DNRC Forestry and Trust Land Administrator
Ryan Weiss, DNRC Deputy Administrator

Attachments

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – sign-in sheet

Call to Order

00:00:33 Lieutenant Governor Juras called the meeting to order.
00:00:48 Commissioner Downing moved to approve the April 2023, minutes. The motion was seconded by Attorney General Knudsen and carried unanimously.

Business Considered

0523-1 Timber Sales:
A. McKay Creek
B. Short Star
C. West and Pieces
D. Goldielogs

00:01:09 Mrs. Kaster
00:01:20 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:01:22 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.
00:03:17 Lieutenant Governor Juras

Public Comment

None

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00:03:34 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0523-1A-D. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Downing.

Board Discussion/Comments

00:03:43 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:03:46 Superintendent Arntzen
00:04:19 Mr. Thomas
00:05:21 Superintendent Arntzen
00:05:23 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:05:24 Superintendent Arntzen
00:05:50 Mr. Thomas
00:06:45 Superintendent Arntzen

00:06:47 The motion to approve item 0523-1A-D carried unanimously.

0523-2 Agriculture and Grazing Lease: Competitive Bid Hearing

A. Lease No. 3372-Pronghorn Farms (Lessee)/Jeff Lindbolm (Bidder)

B. Lease No. 3901-Ransan Farmin Inc. (Lessee)/Jeff Lindbolm (Bidder)

C. Lease No. 3802-Vintage Acres (Lessee)/Red Flames Ranch LLC (Bidder)

D. Lease No. 9310-Danreuther Ag Inc. (Lessee)/Red Flames Ranch LLC (Bidder)

00:07:05 Mrs. Kaster
00:07:16 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:07:18 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.
00:09:10 Lieutenant Governor Juras

Public Comment

00:09:46 Superintendent Arntzen
00:10:01 Mrs. Kaster
00:10:10 Superintendent Arntzen
00:10:14 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:11:13 Mr. Sean Sayer
00:18:05 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:18:17 Mr. Josh Wenger
00:21:52 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:22:03 Mr. Calvin Danreuther
00:23:28 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:24:12 Mr. Sean Sayer
00:25:17 Lieutenant Governor Juras

00:25:41 Commissioner Downing moved to approve item 0523-2A-D. The motion was seconded by Attorney General Knudsen.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

00:26:15 The motion to approve item 0523-2 was carried unanimously.

0523-3 Cabin and Home Site Sales: Final Approval for Sale

00:26:23 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.
00:27:05 Lieutenant Governor Juras

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Public Comment

None

00:27:20 Secretary of State Jacobsen moved to approve item 0523-3. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Arntzen.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

00:27:41 The motion to approve item 0523-3 was carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Downing opposes.

0523-4 Easements: Standard Grants

00:27:51 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.

00:28:21 Lieutenant Governor Juras

Public Comment

None

00:28:37 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0523-4. The motion was seconded by Secretary of State Jacobsen.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

00:28:56 The motion to approve item 0523-4 carried unanimously.

0523-5 Land Use License: Flathead County

00:29:00 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.

00:29:32 Lieutenant Governor Juras

Public Comment

None

00:29:47 Commissioner Downing moved to approve item 0523-5. The motion was seconded by Attorney General Knudsen.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

00:30:00 The motion to approve item 0523-5 carried unanimously.

0523-6 Authority to Begin Rulemaking for Amending Land Board Approval of Issuance of Licenses for Navigable Waterways:

00:30:10 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.

00:31:09 Lieutenant Governor Juras

Public Comment

None

00:31:25 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0523-6. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Downing.

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Board Discussion/Comments

00:31:30 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:31:54 Mrs. Kaster
00:32:02 Mr. Thomas
00:32:13 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:32:16 Attorney General Knudsen
00:32:43 Mr. Thomas
00:33:24 Attorney General Knudsen
00:33:39 Mr. Thomas
00:34:04 Attorney General Knudsen
00:34:05 Lieutenant Governor Juras
00:34:06 Superintendent Arntzen
00:34:10 Mr. Thomas
00:34:20 Superintendent Arntzen
00:34:24 Mr. Weiss
00:34:40 Superintendent Arntzen
00:34:41 Lieutenant Governor Juras

00:34:52 The motion to approve item 0523-6 carried unanimously.

General Public Comment

None

Adjournment

00:35:24 Adjournment

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ Kristen Juras
Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

/s/ Amanda Kaster
Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

