

**BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS MEETING: MINUTES**  
**November 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Supreme Court Chambers, Mazurek Justice Building**  
**Helena, MT**

**Members Present**

Greg Gianforte, Governor  
Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
Troy Downing, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance  
Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State  
Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Members Absent**

None

**Testifying Staff**

Brian Bramblett, DNRC Chief Legal Counsel  
Ryan Weiss, DNRC Trust Lands Deputy Administrator

**Attachments**

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – sign-in sheet

**Call to Order**

00:00:01 Governor Gianforte called the meeting to order.  
00:00:23 Commissioner Downing moved to approve the October 2023, minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Business Considered**

**1123-1 DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS WILDCAT BEND PURCHASE**

00:00:40 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

**Public Comment**

00:02:25 Mike Talia, Attorney & Volunteer Director of Montana's Outdoor Legacy Foundation  
00:03:00 Angie Grove, Chairman of Citizens Advisory Council

00:06:48 Troy Downing, State Auditor moved to approve item 1123-1. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobson, Secretary of State.

**Board Discussion/Comments**

00:06:59 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:07:19 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:07:25 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:08:10 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:08:15 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:08:37 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:08:44 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:08:45 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:08:57 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

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00:09:03 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:09:05 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:09:08 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:10:27 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:10:40 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:10:51 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:10:52 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:11:12 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:11:15 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:11:24 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:11:40 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:11:56 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:11:57 Brian Bramblett, DNRC, Chief Legal Counsel  
00:12:26 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:12:39 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:13:15 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
00:13:42 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:14:38 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:14:44 Bill Schenk, FWP  
00:15:11 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:15:31 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:16:12 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:16:14 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:16:48 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:16:55 Brian Bramblett, DNRC, Chief Legal Counsel  
00:17:05 Ryan Weiss, DRNC, Trust Lands Deputy Administrator  
00:17:11 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:17:25 Ryan Weiss, DRNC, Trust Lands Deputy Administrator  
00:17:26 Greg, Gianforte, Governor  
00:17:30 Ryan Weiss, DRNC, Trust Lands Deputy Administrator  
00:17:56 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:18:06 Ryan Weiss, DRNC, Trust Lands Deputy Administrator  
00:18:18 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:18:31 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:18:45 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:19:52 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:20:13 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:20:45 Brian Bramblett, DNRC, Chief Legal Counsel  
00:21:24 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:21:38 Brian Bramblett, DNRC, Chief Legal Counsel  
00:21:39 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:21:44 Brian Bramblett, DNRC, Chief Legal Counsel  
00:21:48 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:21:49 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:22:07 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:22:08 Troy Downing, State Auditor  
00:22:20 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:22:18 Troy Downing, State Auditor  
00:22:28 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:22:40 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
00:23:12 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:23:13 Greg Gianforte, Governor

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00:23:14 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:23:52 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:23:56 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General  
00:24:28 Greg Gianforte, Governor  
00:24:32 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
00:25:15 Angie Grove, legislatively appointed, Citizens Advisory Council, Chair  
00:27:04 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
00:27:15 Angie Grove, legislatively appointed, Citizens Advisory Council, Chair  
00:27:48 Greg Gianforte, Governor

00:28:00 The motion to approve item 1123-1 carried 4 to 1.

**1123-2** **TIMBER SALES**  
**A. NORTH COUP CANYON**  
**B. POTOMAC FLATS**

00:28:08 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment

None

00:29:55 Christi Jacobson, Secretary of State moved to approve item 1123-2. The motion was seconded by Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and carried 5 - 0.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

**1123-3** **CABIN AND HOME SITE SALES: SET MINIMUM BID FOR SALE**

00:30:15 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment

None

00:30:53 Christi Jacobson, Secretary of State, moved to approve item 1123-3. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, and carried 4-1 with opposition from Troy Downing, State Auditor.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

**1123-4** **CABIN AND HOME SITE SALES: FINAL APPROVAL FOR SALE**

**A. JUDITH BASIN COUNTY**  
**B. POWDER RIVER COUNTY**

00:31:10 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

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Public Comment

None

00:32:40 Christi Jacobson, Secretary of State, moved to approve item 1123-4. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, and carried 4-1 with opposition from Troy Downing, State Auditor.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

**1123-5 EASEMENTS**

00:32:54 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment

None

00:33:43 Troy Downing, State Auditor, moved to approve item 1123-5. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, and carried 5-0.

Board Discussion/Comments

None

**1123-6 INFORMATIONAL ITEM: TRUST LANDS MANAGEMENT FY 2023 REVIEW**

00:34:08 Mr. Bramblett gave an overview of the item.

00:34:22 Ryan Weiss, DRNC, Trust Lands Deputy Administrator presents before the Land Board.

General Public Comment

None

Adjournment

00:44:26 Adjournment

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ Greg Gianforte  
Greg Gianforte, Governor

/s/ Amanda Kaster  
Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

**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.