

These summary minutes and the audio recording are a draft record and will become official upon Land Board approval at the next meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
March 16, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 303
HELENA, MT**

Members Present

Greg Gianforte, Governor
Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State
Dawnell Fuller, Land Board Secretary

Members Absent

None

Testifying Staff

Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
Ryan Weiss, DNRC Trust Lands Deputy Administrator
Zack Winfield, DNRC Petroleum Engineer

Attachments

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – Sign-in-Sheet

Call to Order

00:00:01 Governor Gianforte called the meeting to order.

Adopt Proposed Agenda

00:00:37 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve the March agenda. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Adopt Prior Months Meeting Minutes

00:00:51 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve the February, minutes. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Business Considered

0326-1 Timber Sales A, B & C

00:01:05 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:03:20 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State moved to approve item 0326-1A, B & C. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments: N/A

0326-2 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

00:03:38 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:04:37 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State moved to approve item 0326-2. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

Board Discussion/Comments:

00:04:45 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
00:05:16 Zack Winfield, DNRC Petroleum Engineer
00:05:23 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
00:05:54 Zack Winfield, DNRC Petroleum Engineer
00:06:19 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
00:06:34 Zack Winfield, DNRC Petroleum Engineer

00:07:10 The motion to approve item 0326-2 carried unanimously.

0326-3 Commercial Lease Template Draft

00:07:14 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:08:01 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance made a motion to defer the commercial lease template draft to the June Land Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Board Discussion/Comments:

00:08:31 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
00:09:12 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
00:09:30 Ryan Weiss, DNRC Trust Lands Deputy Administrator

00:09:54 The motion was approved and carried unanimously.

0326-4 Easements

00:10:04 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:10:49 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve item 0326-4. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments: N/A

General Public Comment: N/A

Adjournment

00:00:00 Adjournment

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ _____
Date
Greg Gianforte, Governor

/s/ _____
Date
Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

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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. You may access the minutes and the audio recording on our website: <https://dnrc.mt.gov/TrustLand/About/LandBoardMeetingArchive>.*