

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 317
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
Brian Bramblett, DNRC Chief Legal Counsel

Attachments

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – Sign-in-Sheet
Related Materials, Attachment 2 – Legal Litigation Memo

Call to Order

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

Adopt Proposed Agenda

00:00:53 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve the January agenda. The motion was seconded Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Adopt Prior Months Meeting Minutes

00:01:09 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve the December, minutes. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Business Considered

0126-1 Timber Sales A, B, C & D

00:01:21 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:03:32 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve item 0126-1 A, B, C & D. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments: N/A

0126-2 Commercial Lease: Moraine Parcel

00:03:48 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:04:44 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State moved to approve item 0126-2. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

Board Discussion/Comments:

00:05:00 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:07:59 The motion to approve item 0126-2 carried unanimously.

0126-3 Easements

00:08:11 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:08:48 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General moved to approve item 0126-3. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments: N/A

0126-4 Informational Item: Legal Update

00:09:06 Greg Gianforte, Governor, gave an overview of the item.

00:09:50 Brian Bramblett, DNRC Chief Legal Counsel

Public Comment: N/A

Board Discussion/Comments: N/A

00:11:28 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance made a motion to update the current commercial lease template. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

00:11:59 Greg Gianforte, Governor

00:12:04 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

00:12:35 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:13:10 Greg Gianforte, Governor

00:13:19 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

00:07:59 The motion to update the commercial lease template carried unanimously

General Public Comment

00:13:54 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:14:09 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State

00:14:09 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:14:13 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State

00:14:25 Greg Gianforte, Governor

00:14:27 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

00:14:30 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:14:39 Greg Gianforte, Governor

Adjournment

00:14:47 Adjournment

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

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ Greg Gianforte Date: 02/17/2026
Greg Gianforte, Governor

/s/ Amanda Kaster Date: 02/17/2026
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. You may access the minutes and the audio recording on our website: <https://dnrc.mt.gov/TrustLand/About/LandBoardMeetingArchive>.*