

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

All meetings take place in the Commissioners Conference Room (308)
located in the Ostlund Building @ 2825 3rd Ave N (3rd Floor)
and are open to the public unless otherwise noted

THURSDAY - JULY 23, 2026

8:45 Calendar

9:00 COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSION

PLEDGE

DEPARTMENTS

1. **Treasurer** - Software Update
2. **Kevin Gillen** - Public Access and Political Activity Policy
3. **New Day - Jake Penwell** - Mental Health Mill Levy Funding Reques

COMMISSIONERS

1. Ostlund Building Closing at 5:00pm Beginning September 1st
2. Department Vehicle Purchases
3. Commissioner Board Reports

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS

**Public comment is an opportunity for individuals to address the Board, however, the Board cannot engage in discussion or take action on items not properly noticed on the agenda. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per individual.*

CLOSED: HR Personnel

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

1.

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: Software

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

Treasurer - Software Update

BACKGROUND:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

2.

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: Public Access and Political Activity Policy

Submitted By: Teri Reitz, Board Clerk

TOPIC:

Kevin Gillen - Public Access and Political Activity Policy

BACKGROUND:

See the draft policy attached.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss.

Attachments

Political Activity Policy

DRAFT

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

PUBLIC ACCESS and POLITICAL ACTIVITY POLICY

POLICY NO. 26-_____

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all members of the public have safe, unobstructive, and impartial access to County facilities while preserving the orderly conduct of County business. This policy applies equally to all signature gathering, solicitation, advocacy, and campaign activities.

This policy applies to all Yellowstone County facilities including the John V. Ostlund Administrative Building, the Yellowstone County Courthouse, Metra Park, including the Yellowstone County Election Office located at Metra Park, Youth Services, The Yellowstone County Sheriff Office and the Yellowstone County Detention Center.

NOTE: During election cycles, the Yellowstone County Election Office follows state election law concerning political active at polling locations and at the Election Office.

POLICY

County facilities exist primarily to provide government services to the public. Individuals conducting County business shall be able to enter, exit, and use County facilities without interference, harassment, intimidation, or unwanted solicitation.

Individuals, groups or organizations seeking signatures for petitions, initiatives, candidates, or other political or advocacy purposes must check in with the County Commissioner's Office prior to any such activities. The office is in the John V. Ostlund County Administration Building, 2825 3rd. Avenue North, Room 419.

Individuals, groups or organizations may conduct activities in areas designated by the County. Maps of County facilities with designated areas per location, are available at the County Commissioners Office.

Unless specifically authorized by the County, signature gathering, campaigning, solicitation, or distribution of literature is prohibited:

1. Inside any County owned facility
2. Within building entrances, exits, vestibules, hallways, waiting areas, or service counters.
3. In any location that obstructs pedestrian or vehicle traffic or interferes with access to County services.
4. By approaching, following, stopping, or otherwise engaging individuals who are entering or leaving County buildings.

Individuals entering or leaving County facilities must be free to decline contact without further solicitation.

While engaged in political activity at designated areas, the designated areas shall:

1. Remain clear and unobstructed access to all entrances, exits, sidewalks, parking areas and accessible routes.
2. Political activity shall not interfere with emergency access or public safety
3. Be administered in a viewpoint -neutral manner.

Regardless of location on County property. The following conduct is prohibited:

1. Blocking or impeding access to County facilities.
2. Interfering with County operations or the conduct of public business.
3. Harassing, intimidating or threatening members of the public or County employees.
4. Refusing to comply with lawful directions issued by authorized County personnel regarding safety, access, or facility operations.

ENFORCEMENT:

Individuals who refuse to comply with this policy may be directed to leave designated areas. Continued refusal to comply may result in removal from County property or other action authorized by law.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit constitutionally protected speech beyond reasonable, content-neutral time, place and manner restrictions permitted under applicable federal and Montana law.

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: New Day - Jake Penwell - Mental Health Mill Levy Funding Request

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

New Day - Jake Penwell - Mental Health Mill Levy Funding Reques

BACKGROUND:

Dear Yellowstone County Commissioners,

I hope this email finds you well.

Attached please find a funding request from New Day Inc. for **\$150,000** from the Public Safety-Mental Health Mill Levy. Our proposal outlines how we can expand existing services that directly support the levy's goals of assisting law enforcement, reducing detention populations, preventing recidivism, and strengthening crisis diversion, with a particular focus on youth and Native families.

We believe there is a strong alignment between our current programs and the intent of the levy, and we are eager to partner with the County to maximize impact in these areas. We have kept the proposal flexible and would welcome your guidance on priorities.

I would be happy to meet with you or provide any additional information needed.

Please let me know a convenient time to discuss.

Thank you for your continued leadership and support of behavioral health and public safety initiatives in Yellowstone County.

Sincerely,

Jake Penwell

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

1.

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: Ostlund Building Closing at 5:00pm Beginning September 1st

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

Ostlund Building Closing at 5:00pm Beginning September 1st

BACKGROUND:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

2.

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: Department Vehicle Purchases

Submitted By: Erika Guy

TOPIC:

Department Vehicle Purchases

BACKGROUND:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss

B.O.C.C Thursday Discussion

Meeting Date: 07/23/2026

Title: CLOSED: HR Personnel

Submitted By: Teri Reitz, Board Clerk

TOPIC:

CLOSED: HR Personnel

BACKGROUND:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

NA
