Glacier County Commissioners
Tuesday, March 3, 2026
Regular Meeting
Cut Bank, MT

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regularly scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Commissioners Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Mary Jo Bremner & Sam Bird III were present. Mandi Bird Kennerly was taking minutes.

Present at the meeting: Rick Geiger, Cut Bank Regional Airport Authority; Crystal R. Cole, Glacier County Election Administrator

Present via GoToMeeting: (1) Caller (David HagEstad, Attorney); GCRD; kimmet

A. Roll Call
This meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Approval of Agenda
Commissioner Bird moved and Commissioner Bremner seconded to approve the agenda; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

C. Approval: Resolution No. 2026-03 Cut Bank Regional Airport Mill Levy Election – Rick Geiger, Cut Bank Airport Authority/Glacier County Commissioners
Commissioner Billedeaux presents Resolution No. 2026-03 Cut Bank Regional Airport Mill Levy Election for approval. Although, there was one change made to the resolution before approval/signatures: The first paragraph below Statement of Impact was added to the end of the ballot language per request from Crystal R. Cole, Glacier County Election Adminstrator.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Commissioner Bremner moved and Commissioner Bird seconded to approve Resolution No. 2026-03 Cut Bank Regional Airport Mill Levy Election; motion carried.

GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION
CUT BANK REGIONAL AIRPORT MILL LEVY ELECTION
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING VOTER APPROVAL TO LEVY TAXES ON ALL COUNTY PROPERTY OWNERS TO PROVIDE NEEDED OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSET ACQUISITION FUNDING FOR THE CUT BANK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

WHEREAS, the Cut Bank International Airport ("Airport") is a critical community resource providing private, commercial, and medical air service essential to the people and economy of Glacier County;

WHEREAS, Glacier County and the City of Cut Bank, Montana ("Joint Agencies") jointly own and operate the Airport through the Glacier County/Cut Bank Regional Airport Authority ("Authority");

WHEREAS, current revenues from operations and Joint Agencies' tax support are inadequate to cover the Airport's ongoing and future costs of normal operations, maintenance, necessary repairs, and capital asset acquisition;

WHEREAS, the Authority's ability to adequately fund the Airport is restricted by state law, making it necessary to seek voter approval for additional funding;

WHEREAS, Montana law (Title 7, Chapter 14, Part 11 and Section 67-10-402, MCA) authorizes the Board of Commissioners of Glacier County, Montana to provide tax support for maintenance and funding of a city-county airport;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Glacier County has determined that imposing a new county-wide mill levy to raise $90,000.00 (the "Levy Amount") annually, beginning in fiscal year 2027, is a reasonable method for providing additional revenue for Airport operations and capital asset acquisition;

WHEREAS, under Section 15-10-425, MCA, as amended by HB20 (2025), any such levy must be approved by a majority of voters in Glacier County, and must specify the dollar amount to be raised and the approximate number of mills;

WHEREAS, the amount raised by this levy will be subject to the provisions of 15-10-420(1)(a), MCA, allowing the levy amount to increase annually by the calculated inflation factor for each year of the ten-year period;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Glacier County, Montana, that, upon approval by a majority of the voters of Glacier County voting at the regular election to be conducted on Tuesday, June, 2 2026, the Board of Glacier County Commissioners will impose on all Glacier County taxable property an annual tax levy in the amount of $90,000.00 (the "Levy Amount"), which is approximately 2.46 mills based on the County's 2026 certified taxable valuation, to continue for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with fiscal year 2027. The Levy Amount will be subject to annual increase as provided by 15-10-420(1)(a), MCA.

Statement of Impact:

If approved by the voters, this levy will generate a tax of $1.87 on a home valued at $100,000; $5.61 on a home valued at $300,000; and $12.84 on a home valued at $600,000.

A vote FOR the issue will mean the Board of Glacier County Commissioners WILL levy an additional $90,000.00 (approximately 2.46 mills) annually countywide, subject to annual inflation adjustment, for Airport operations and capital asset acquisition.

A vote AGAINST the issue will mean the Board of Glacier County Commissioners WILL NOT levy the additional $90,000.00 (approximately 2.46 mills) annually.

FURTHER, that the ballot shall read as follows:
Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Glacier County be authorized to levy, for ten (10) years beginning in fiscal year 2027, an annual tax on all property within the county boundaries, including property within the limits of the City of Cut Bank, in the amount of $90,000.00 per year (the "Levy Amount"), subject to annual adjustment for inflation as provided in 15-10-420(1)(a), MCA, which is approximately 2.46 mills based on the County's 2026 certified taxable valuation, for the purpose of funding Airport operations and capital asset acquisition costs for the Cut Bank International Airport. If approved by the voters, this levy will generate a tax of $1.87 on a home valued at $100,000; $5.61 on a home valued at $300,000; and $12.84 on a home valued at $600,000.

[ ] FOR the annual levy of an additional $90,000.00 (approximately 2.46 mills) for Airport operations and capital asset acquisition

[ ] AGAINST the annual levy of an additional $90,000.00 (approximately 2.46 mills) for Airport operations and capital asset acquisition

By order of the Board of Commissioners of Glacier County meeting this 3rd day of March, 2026, at Cut Bank, Montana.

BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\s\ Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Chair
\s\ Mary Jo Bremner, Vice-Chair
\s\ Sam Bird III, Member
ATTEST:
\s\Mandi Bird Kennerly, Glacier County Clerk & Recorder

NEW BUSINESS

D. Approval: Authorize the Glacier County Attorney to file a Motion to withdraw appeal for I.H.S. Claim – Glacier County Commissioners

Commissioner Billedeaux explains that he talked with Terryl Matt, Glacier County Attorney and that she has advised us to approve the authorization to file a Motion to Withdraw Appeal for the Indian Health Service Claim (I.H.S.). David HagEstad, Attorney (via GoToMeeting) explains the time limits/obtaining approvals before a governing agency will pay/Medicaid and recommends to approve the withdraw.

Public Comment
Becky Kimmet, Public (via GoToMeeting) commented.

Commissioner Bremner moved and Commissioner Bird seconded to Authorize the Glacier County Attorney to file a Motion to Withdraw Appeal for the Indian Health Service Claim (I.H.S.); motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

E. Public Comment

Commissioner Billedeaux commented.

F. Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2026 – Browning

Commissioner Bird moved and Commissioner Bremner seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m.; motion carried.