

# MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

February 13, 2026

The Blaine County Election Board met in a Regular meeting at 1:00 p.m., in Basement Room 6 of the Blaine County Courthouse. Advance notice of the meeting was performed by filing a written notice with the County Clerk on November 17, 2025 at 9:34 a.m. and by posting an agenda at the County Election Board office on January 21, 2026 at 8:22 a.m. One copy each of the notice and agenda is attached.

Present: Mike Russell, Chair  
Lana Melchor, Vice Chair  
Brenda Rice, Secretary

## BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE MEETING

- 1. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Call to Order and announcement of a quorum. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-present, Mrs. Melchor-present, Ms. Rice-present. Quorum of 3. **ACTION TAKEN:** Mr. Russell Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with a quorum present.
- 2. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Discuss and approve the minutes for the meeting held February 10, 2026. **ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held February 10, 2026 be approved. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.
- 3. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass and count verified provisional ballots for the February 10, 2026 Special Elections. **ACTION TAKEN:** Secretary Rice stated that 2 provisional ballot were cast in 1 precinct on election day. The information provided on the 1 provisional ballot was verified by the County Election Board personnel and was approved for counting. The other provisional ballot has been rejected because the voter was not registered to vote in Blaine County on Election Day. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Board members no longer vote to accept provisional ballots. No motions were made and no votes taken in connection to these activities.
- 4. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** The Board members completed and signed the County Election Board Recess Record. Mrs. Melchor made a motion to recess the meeting and reconvene at 5:00 p.m. in the same location. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes. Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. Meeting recessed at 1:07 p.m.

**BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** The Board members verified and signed the County Election Board Recess Record. Mr. Russell moved to reconvene the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Melchor. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed 3-0.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The meeting was called back to order by Chair Mr. Russell and reconvened at 5:00 p.m. in the County Election Board office with a quorum present. Seconded by Mrs. Melchor.  
**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.

The County Election Board Recess Record becomes part of the minutes.

5. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Certify the February 10, 2026 Special Election returns for the following school districts that Blaine County is the parent county election board:  
Canton Public Schools I-105

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to certify the results of the above election. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. (One copy of the Official Certification Report is attached hereto and incorporated herein.)

6. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Certify the February 10, 2026 Special Election for the following municipalities that Blaine County is the affected county election board:  
Town of Hydro

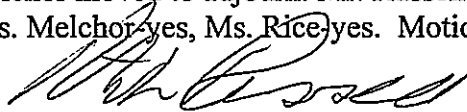
**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to certify the results of the above election. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. (One copy of the Official Certification Report is attached hereto and incorporated herein.)

7. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED** Discuss dates and times for future County Election Board meetings.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Secretary informed the Board Members that the Contest Hearing for February 20, 2026 was cancelled. The Board will receive notification when next board meeting is scheduled.

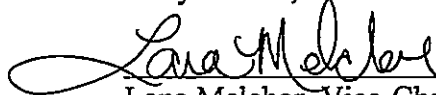
9. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Adjournment.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to adjourn. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. Meeting Adjourned at 5:05 p.m.



Mike Russell, Chairman

Mary Larson, Alternate Chairman



Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman

Karen Gilliland, Alternate Vice-Chairman



Brenda Rice, Secretary

