

STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
October 8 & 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The regular business meeting of the Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation was called to order by Chairman Steven Durrett at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at its office at 2535 St. Johns Avenue in Billings, Montana. Board members present were Chairman Steven Durrett, Mac McDermott, Barbara Skelton, Corey Welter, and Jeff Wivholm. Board members Roy Brown and John Tietz were absent. Staff present was Ben Jones, Ben Davis, John Gizicki, Rob Stutz, Jennifer Breton, and Scot Bloomfield.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Garth Harmon, a landowner in Roosevelt County, previously appeared at the April 2024 business meeting with concerns about oilfield waste being disposed of on his property without his approval. Mr. Harmon wanted an update on BOGC's investigation of the matter.

Mr. Davis stated that the facility in question on Mr. Harmon's property is not tied to any specific wells that the Board would have regulatory authority over and that this matter concerns a trucking company and its lease with Mr. Harmon. DEQ has jurisdiction over waste disposal and has been investigating this issue.

Mr. Harmon requested the Board stop issuing permits to the operators associated with this waste. He also requested minutes from the April 2024 business meeting where this issue was previously discussed.

Mr. Stutz mentioned that since DEQ is involved, any enforcement actions and concerns should be discussed with DEQ.

Scott Mitchell, attorney who represents Continental Resources Inc in the civil lawsuit with the Harmons, provided a violation letter that was issued to the Harmons by the DEQ, attached as Exhibit 1.

Dwight Vannatta, member of Northeast Montana Land & Minerals Owners Association, Inc., voiced his concerns regarding overlapping temporary spacing units. He was hoping the Board could provide a policy document on how it views overlapping temporary spacing units.

Chairman Durrett replied that overlapping temporary spacing units are a complicated issue that are handled on a case-by-case basis. It would be very difficult to establish a one size fits all policy. The Board has the statutory responsibility to protect correlative rights, promote the full and orderly development of oil and gas resources, and prevent waste.

Chairman Durrett encouraged Mr. Vannatta to appear at the hearing if he has concerns for a specific docket.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2025, business meeting.

WY BASIN OPERATING LLC

Mr. Jones reviewed his exhibit for WY Basin, attached as Exhibit 2.

Joseph Soueidi, attorney, appeared on behalf of WY Basin and presented a letter from Brent Cantalope with WY Basin, attached as Exhibit 3.

Mr. Jones recommended WY Basin to appear at the December 11, 2025, public hearing to provide a full update on its operations, which includes 14 unitized producing wells and 18 enhanced oil recovery unit injection wells.

Motion: Mr. McDermott made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Welter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board issued an Administrative Order for WY Basin, attached as Exhibit 4.

ADOPTION OF A FENCING, SCREENING, AND NETTING OF PITS POLICY

Mr. Jones reviewed the proposed pits enforcement policy, attached as Exhibit 5. Since the last meeting, there was one revision to the policy that is noted in red.

Motion: Mr. Wivholm made the motion to adopt the policy. Mr. Welter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENT OF ARM 36.22.1242 PERTAINING TO REPORTS BY PRODUCERS, TAX REPORT, AND TAX RATE AND THE REDUCTION OF THE PRIVILEGE AND LICENSE TAX

Mr. Jones reviewed the adoption notice for the privilege and license tax (P&L tax) rule amendment, attached as Exhibit 6.

The rule is currently in the comment period until October 10th. For the rule to be effective on April 1, 2026, the rule needs to be published with the Montana Secretary of State by January 1, 2026. This allows the Board to give the Department of Revenue the required 90-day notice prior to the rule's effective date and for the rule to be effective at the start of a new quarter.

Mr. Jones recommended the Board vote to approve the adoption notice to lower the P&L tax rate from 0.22% to 0.18% today, with final approval contingent on receiving no public comments that need addressed or a request for a hearing. This would allow the notice to be submitted to the Secretary of State's Office for

publication prior to the December business meeting, which is needed to meet all the required deadlines for the rule to take effect April 1, 2026.

Motion: Mr. McDermott made the motion to approve the adoption notice to lower the P&L tax rate from 0.22% to 0.18% effective April 1, 2026, contingent of there being no comments or a request for a hearing received. Mr. Welter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

DEFAULT DOCKET POLICY

Mr. Jones discussed the default docket policy. This policy was adopted by the Board as an efficiency measure to assist in processing certain, non-protested hearing requests. Dockets that are considered eligible for the default docket include standard temporary spacing unit requests, underground injection permit applications, decline rate certification, increased well density requests within an existing spacing unit, etc. Applicants must submit the exhibits 10 days prior to hearing. If no protests are received, items on the default docket are entered as one motion. Protested dockets are heard as a normal docket and applicants are expected to be available to provide testimony.

With the growing hearings this year, Mr. Jones has been looking at whether the default docket can once again aid in Board efficiency; however, the majority of the applications currently being submitted would not qualify to be on the default docket as they frequently contain requests for overlapping spacing units, requests to vacate existing orders, or are contested. Mr. Jones did not think the Board should reinstate the policy for applications other than injection permits and decline rate certifications at this time.

Staff will continue to monitor when the policy should be reinstated for additional hearing requests.

PROPOSED HEARING SCHEDULE FOR 2026

The Board discussed and approved the 2026 meeting schedule, attached as Exhibit 7. Below are the 2026 business meeting and hearing dates:

February 11 & 12, 2026
April 8 & 9, 2026
June 10 & 11, 2026
August 12 & 13, 2026
October 14 & 15, 2026
December 9 & 10, 2026

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Breton discussed the financial statement, attached as Exhibit 8.

BOND SUMMARY & INCIDENT REPORT

Mr. Jones presented the bond report and the incident report, attached as Exhibit 9 & 10.

DOCKET SUMMARY

Mr. Jones presented the docket summary, attached as Exhibit 11.

GAS FLARING EXCEPTIONS

Mr. Jones discussed the gas flaring report, attached as Exhibit 12.

There are two Prima Exploration, Inc. (Prima) wells flaring in excess of 100 MCFG/day with an exception request. The wells are connected to a gas pipeline, but due to capacity constraints, Prima is unable to sell the gas.

There are eight Phoenix Operating LLC (Phoenix) wells that were flaring in excess of 100 MCFG/day, but are now currently under the limit. Phoenix is still requesting an initial exception in case its situation changes.

Mr. Jones recommended a six-month exception for both operators.

Motion: Mr. Welter made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. McDermott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

INACTIVE WELL REVIEW

Mr. Davis reviewed a list of inactive well operators and their current statuses, attached as Exhibit 13.

ORPHAN WELL AND FEDERAL GRANT UPDATE

The federal initial orphan well plugging grant period of performance expired on September 30, 2025. Of the 243 wells that were under contract to plug with this grant, 228 wells were plugged and abandoned with 15 wells being bonded by an operator and put back into production or bonded by a surface owner for domestic use. Of the wells plugged, only six still require surface reclamation. Mr. Jones requested an extension of the grant performance period for another year, which the US Department of Interior (DOI) granted. The two contracts that these six locations are on were also extended for another year to allow time for final reclamation.

The DOI conducted a desk audit on the initial grant and followed with an onsite visit. The auditors visited the Billings office and some central Montana locations that had achieved final reclamation. They then traveled to the Shelby area to visit the Shelby office and witness an active orphan well plugging operation. In a follow-up conversation with the auditors, they expressed a positive impression of our orphan well program and were particularly impressed with the plugging knowledge of our Shelby-area field inspectors, Shea Sizemore and Greg Larson.

The DOI is not currently accepting new grant applications, but staff will continue to monitor the formula and matching grants for potential future funding.

The solicitation for a consultant to assist in developing a Class VI UIC Primacy program closed to bidders on August 18th. The contract will use federal funds from the class VI primacy grant received last year. The bids ranged from \$500,000-\$1.2 million and exceeded DNRC delegation authority of \$200,000. The Department of Administration (DOA) wants the solicitation to be redone as a Request for Proposal (RFP) instead of an Invitation for Bid (IFB) or suggested the state can direct negotiate with a state university if there is one qualified and capable of providing the assistance needed.

Mr. Jones noted that the University of North Dakota's Energy & Environmental Research Center, which provided technical support for North Dakota's Class VI Primacy program, would be qualified to assist the Board in the pursuit of Class VI primacy and wants to discuss contracting options with them. He plans to have Mr. Stutz involved in the negotiations.

Mr. Stutz noted that since the direct offer with the university was proposed by the DOA, this would help with the contracting process and hopefully avoid additional unforeseen roadblocks to securing a contract.

Staff is reviewing the solicitation process for the D&A well plugging and surface reclamation. The RFP is more time-consuming, but in this case, it is the better route. The Board has an exception from the DOA to exceed DNRC's delegation authority for orphan well plugging contracts.

STAFF REPORTS

Ben Jones

Mr. Jones provided a staff update. The compliance technician position has been filled internally by Allison Young Swallow, who was previously in an administrative assistant position. Christy Rockne was hired to fill the administrative assistant position.

John Gizicki

Mr. Gizicki brought to the Board's attention Select Water Solutions, LLC (Select) and its illegal injection of fluids into the Romo 1-26 SWD well. The overview is attached as Exhibit 14.

Mr. Gizicki recommended a \$2,000 fine for injection of fluids that do not meet the criteria described in ARM 36.22.1401(4) into the Romo 1-26 SWD well. Additionally, the fine must be paid prior to the November 6, 2025, hearing deadline. Failure to do so will require Select to appear and show cause at the December 11, 2025, public hearing, if any it has, why additional penalties should not be assessed for failure to pay the penalty.

Motion: Mr. Welter made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Skelton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board issued an Administrative Order for Select, attached as Exhibit 15.

Mr. Gizicki brought to the Board's attention Lustre Salt Water Disp, Vernon R. Justice DbA (Lustre)

violations at the Raymond Sonsteng 1-19 well. The overview is attached as Exhibit 16.

Mr. Gizicki recommended Lustre to appear and show cause at the December 11, 2025, public hearing, if any it has, why additional penalties should not be assessed for failure to remedy the pit violations, and to discuss its future plans for its well in Valley County, Montana.

Motion: Mr. Welter made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Wivholm seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board issued an Administrative Order for Lustre, attached as Exhibit 17.

Ben Davis

Mr. Davis brought to the Board's attention Bluebird Energy, LLC (Bluebird) and its issues with the pit associated with the Flying Monkey 1H well. The overview is attached as Exhibit 18.

Mr. Davis recommended Bluebird to appear and show cause at the December 11, 2025, public hearing, if any it has, why additional penalties should not be assessed for failure to remedy the pit violations at the Flying Monkey 1H well.

Motion: Mr. McDermott made the motion to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Skelton seconded, and the motion passed. Mr. Welter recused himself and took no part in this matter.

The Board issued an Administrative Order for Bluebird, attached as Exhibit 19.

Mr. Davis provided the Board an update on well activity, attached as Exhibit 20.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business discussed.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board reconvened on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Board's hearing room at its office at 2535 St. Johns Avenue in Billings, Montana, to hear the matters docketed for public hearing. As a result of the discussion, testimony, technical data, and other evidence placed before the Board, the following action was taken in each matter.

Docket 276-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 277-2025 – The application of Coyote Resources LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 278-2025 – The application of Coyote Resources LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 279-2025 – The application of Coyote Resources LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 280-2025 – The application of Coyote Resources LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 281-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Coyote Resources LLC as set forth in Board Order 206-2025.

Docket 282-2025 – The application of Coyote Resources LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 283-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 213-2025.

Docket 284-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 214-2025.

Docket 285-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 215-2025.

Docket 286-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 216-2025.

Docket 287-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 217-2025.

Docket 288-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 218-2025.

Docket 289-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 219-2025.

Docket 290-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 220-2025.

Docket 291-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 221-2025.

Docket 292-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 207-2025.

Docket 293-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 208-2025.

Docket 294-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 209-2025.

Docket 295-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 210-2025.

Docket 296-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 211-2025.

Docket 297-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 212-2025.

Docket 298-2025 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 224-2025.

Docket 299-2025 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 225-2025.

Docket 300-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 222-2025.

Docket 301-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 223-2025.

Docket 302-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 228-2025.

Docket 303-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 229-2025.

Docket 304-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 230-2025.

Docket 305-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 231-2025.

Docket 306-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 307-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 308-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 309-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 310-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 311-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 312-2025 / 1-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 313-2025 / 2-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 314-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 226-2025.

Docket 315-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 227-2025.

Docket 316-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 317-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 318-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 319-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 320-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 321-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 232-2025.

Docket 322-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 233-2025.

Docket 323-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 324-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 325-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 326-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

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Docket 331-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 332-2025 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 333-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 334-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 335-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 336-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 337-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 338-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 339-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 340-2025 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 341-2025 / 3-2026 FED – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 342-2025 / 4-2026 FED – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 343-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 240-2025.

Docket 344-2025 – The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 345-2025 – The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 346-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 241-2025.

Docket 347-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 242-2025.

Docket 348-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 243-2025.

Docket 349-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 244-2025.

Docket 350-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 245-2025.

Docket 351-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 246-2025.

Docket 352-2025 – The application of West Shore Energy LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 353-2025 – The application of Siege Environmental Services LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 354-2025 – Ridge Oil & Gas, LLC provided the Board an update of its efforts to reduce its plugging liability. No board action took place.

Docket 109-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 110-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the December 2025 hearing.

Docket 190-2025 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. McDermott and passed, to approve the application of Slawson Exploration Company Inc as set forth in Board Order 247-2025. Mr. Welter recused himself and took no part in this matter.

Docket 191-2025 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. McDermott and passed, to approve the application of Slawson Exploration Company Inc as set forth in Board Order 248-2025. Mr. Welter recused himself and took no part in this matter.

Docket 196-2025 / 32-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 234-2025.

Docket 197-2025 / 33-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 235-2025.

Docket 198-2025 / 34-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 236-2025.

Docket 199-2025 / 35-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 237-2025.

Docket 200-2025 / 36-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 238-2025.

Docket 201-2025 / 37-2025 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Continental Resources Inc as set forth in Board Order 239-2025.

Docket 228-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 236-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Devon Energy Williston, L.L.C. as set forth in Board Order 249-2025.

Docket 237-2025 – The application of Devon Energy Williston, L.L.C. was withdrawn.

Docket 248-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 250-2025.

Docket 249-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 251-2025.

Docket 250-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 252-2025.

Docket 251-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 253-2025.

Docket 256-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 254-2025.

Docket 257-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 255-2025.

Docket 260-2025 – The application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation was withdrawn.

Docket 261-2025 – The application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation was withdrawn.

Docket 355-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, that Hesla Oil, LLC (Hesla) is fined \$1,000 for failure to appear at the October 9, 2025, public hearing. Hesla must begin to plug and abandon or transfer its three wells in Toole County, Montana prior to the December 11, 2025, public hearing. Failure to begin to plug and abandon or transfer the wells may result in additional penalties or the forfeiture of the plugging and reclamation bonds in its entirety, as permitted by § 82-11-123(5), MCA. This is set forth in Board Order 256-2025.

Docket 356-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, that McOil Montana One LLC (McOil) is fined \$1,000 for failure to appear at the October 9, 2025, public hearing. McOil is to appear at the December 11, 2025, public hearing and show-cause, if any it has, why it should not be required to immediately plug and abandon its wells and why additional penalties, which could include its production being declared illegal in accordance with ARM 36.22.1245, should not be assessed for failure to pay existing penalties and failure to appear at prior show-cause hearings. This is set forth in Board Order 257-2025.

Docket 357-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, that Docket 357-2025, Montana Energy Company, LLC (MEC), is continued until the December 11, 2025, public hearing. MEC must pay the \$2,000 fine for failure to comply with Administrative Order 15-A-2024 prior to the November 6, 2025, hearing deadline. This is set forth in Board Order 258-2025.

Docket 358-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, that Docket 358-2025, Powder Battalion Holdings, LLC, is continued until the December 11, 2025, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 259-2025.

Docket 88-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, that Docket 88-2025, Coalridge Disposal and Petroleum, Inc., is continued until the February 12, 2026, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 260-2025.

Docket 269-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, that Docket 269-2025, D90 Energy LLC, is continued until the December 11, 2025, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 261-2025.

Docket 275-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, that Docket 275-2025, Yellowstone Petroleums, Inc, is continued until the December 11, 2025, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 262-2025.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at the Board's hearing room at its office at 2535 St. Johns Avenue in Billings, Montana. The next regular public hearing will be Thursday, December 11, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Board's hearing room at its office at 2535 St. Johns Avenue in Billings, Montana. The filing deadline for the December 11th public hearing is November 6, 2025.

BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Steven Durrett, Chairman
Corey Welter, Vice-Chairman
Roy Brown, Board Member (absent)
Mac McDermott, Board Member
Barbara Skelton, Board Member
W. John Tietz, Board Member (absent)
Jeff Wivholm, Board Member

ATTEST:

Jennifer Breton, Program Specialist