

STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
April 8 & 9, 2026

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, April 8, 2026, at its office at 2535 St. Johns Avenue in Billings, Montana. Board members present were Chairman Steven Durrett, Roy Brown, Mac McDermott, Barbara Skelton, John Tietz, Corey Welter, and Jeff Wivholm. Staff present was Ben Jones, Ben Davis, John Gizicki, Rob Stutz, Jennifer Breton, Scot Bloomfield, and Allison Young Swallow.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Scotti Gray, attorney, and Leo Lasecki, resource development supervisor, appeared on behalf of Continental Resources Inc. and presented “Williston Extended Reach Lateral History & Industry Benchmarking”, attached as Exhibit 1.

DISCUSSION OF TEMPORARY SPACING AND PERMITTING PROCEDURES

Mr. Jones provided a copy of the letter that was sent to active operators within the state requesting input on temporary spacing units (TSU) timing language, standards for vacating spacing orders, and the Board’s permitting procedures, attached as Exhibit 2.

Seven operators submitted written comments, attached as Exhibit 2A. Mr. Jones provided an overview of the comments.

Kelley Lewis, attorney, and Justin Arn, chief land and title officer, with Phoenix Operating LLC wanted to clarify reactive filings. Reactive filing allows the Board to see alternative development plans that were not presented when the TSU was created.

The Board discussed Mr. Jones’ overview.

Currently an approved permit to drill is good for a six-month period. Rulemaking would be required to extend the duration of a drilling permit. The Board might be able to create a policy to direct staff on how to implement certain actions when permits are processed.

The Board stated that operators require regulatory certainty.

When operators request to renew a drilling permit, additional justification might be needed as to why drilling operations couldn’t be completed in the original approved timeframe.

Within Board Orders, the language requiring operations commence within one year has been skewed from its original intent. If operations have not commenced within the established timeframe in the order, the lands in the TSU should revert to applicable statewide spacing rules. The wording of this requirement in orders needs to be made clearer, but it is not intended to be in line with the permit duration as the two would rarely overlap.

Staff noted that there is a history of TSUs expiring in areas of non-development, and not necessarily specific to Bakken formation wells.

At this time, approval of a TSU does not confer any priority rights with respect to subsequent drilling permit applications within the TSU. However, comments were received that the TSU applicant invests a significant amount of time and money preparing for and coming to the hearing, they should be given the initial opportunity to permit the spacing unit. The testimony given and order issued is also based on a specific development plan presented to the Board at a hearing. The Board discussed providing the TSU applicant preference for one hearing cycle to submit any permit applications before another operator may do so.

Staff noted that due to the upcoming session, no rules can be adopted after October 1, 2026.

The drilling permit fees were set in the 1970's. The Board could consider raising the fee to discourage unnecessary filing, however, the fees are set in statute and would require legislative action. As a side note, a federal permit fee is \$12,600.

Other states permit durations range from 18 months to 2 years. The permits and TSUs are not approved on the same day, so staff did not deem it necessary to have the same duration period.

The Board determined that working to extend permit duration to one year would make sense.

Motion: Mr. Welter made the motion to direct staff to develop a permit review policy / rule to be reviewed at the June business meeting. Mr. Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The purpose of this policy is to help determine whether rulemaking is needed. Under the proposed approach, the operator who created the TSU would receive preference for one hearing cycle when filing permits.

Staff noted that the current practice gives preference to the first operator who submits an approvable permit. Because permits are subject to a 10-day protest period, this could conflict with the proposed preference change.

Mr. Jones recommended that any "operations must commence" requirement continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis during hearings. He proposed language stating that if drilling operations do not begin within a certain timeframe of the order date, the order expires automatically and the lands revert to the applicable statewide or special statewide spacing rules. He suggested that one or two years be considered the default timeframe but that the Board should consider applicants' preferences.

DELINQUENT ANNUAL UIC FEES

Mr. Gizicki brought to the Board's attention the remaining two UIC operators who have not paid the 2026 annual injection fee of \$200 per injection well that was due on January 31, 2026. The operators are Bad Water Disposal, LLC and R3 Operating Corporation.

Mr. Gizicki recommended the Board assess these operators a \$100 late fee for each injection well for failure to pay its annual injection well fee prior to the deadline. Mr. Gizicki also recommended the operators be required to appear and show cause at the June hearing, why additional penalties should not be imposed for failure to pay the annual injection fee for its permitted injection wells and the late fee assessed for nonpayment, with Board staff having the authority to dismiss the docket if the operators achieve compliance prior to the June 11, 2026, public hearing.

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

The Board issued two Administrative Orders regarding these operators, attached as Exhibit 3.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2026, business meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Breton discussed the financial statement, attached as Exhibit 4.

BOND SUMMARY & INCIDENT REPORT

Mr. Jones presented the bond report and the incident reported, attached as Exhibit 5 and 6.

DOCKET SUMMARY

Mr. Jones presented the docket summary, attached as Exhibit 7.

GAS FLARING EXCEPTIONS

There were no flaring exceptions to review.

INACTIVE WELL REVIEW

Mr. Davis reviewed a list of operators with inactive wells and their current statuses, attached as Exhibit 8.

Mr. Davis brought to the Board's attention Noah Energy, Inc (Noah). An overview is attached as Exhibit 9.

Mr. Davis recommended that Noah be required to appear at the June 11, 2026, public hearing and show-cause, if any it has, why it should not immediately plug and abandon or transfer its inactive wells Teton County, Montana.

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

The Board issued Administrative Order 5-A-2026 for Noah, attached as Exhibit 10.

ORPHAN WELL AND FEDERAL GRANT UPDATE

Final reclamation for the remaining four well locations has not yet been completed. Contractors have until September 2026.

There has been no update on the formula and matching grants.

The Request for Proposal to plug and clean up the BN 12-11 SWD and BN 11-11 wells that were orphaned by D&A Water Disposal LLC has been awarded to a plugging contractor in the amount of \$335,000.

Staff will review the orphan well list and bring to the Board at the June business meeting a plugging project to review. Due to procurement timing, a contract will not be completed prior to fiscal year end for the project.

STAFF REPORTS

Ben Jones

Mr. Jones brought to the Board's attention TSAVOIL, LLC (TSAVOIL).

Mr. Jones recommended TSAVOIL be required to appear at the June 11, 2026, public hearing and show-cause, if any it has, why it should not immediately reclaim the O'Connor 20-34 well location in Roosevelt County, Montana.

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

The Board issued Administrative Order 6-A-2026 for TSAVOIL, attached as Exhibit 11.

The Energy and Technology Interim Committee issued a memo requesting information from state agencies on the current statutory framework for geothermal development to help develop a game plan for geothermal

energy going into the next legislative session. The committee anticipates this to be a big topic during the upcoming session.

Mr. Jones responded to the committee that the Board staff can provide their technical assistance regarding deep geothermal wells since they are similar to oil and gas wells, but expansion of regulatory authority would require express statutory direction, clear jurisdictional boundaries, and a funding structure appropriate to geothermal development..

The ADA 508 accessibility compliance has been a federal law for decades, but recently a federal ruling has required all state and federal agencies to be compliant by the end of April 2026, for any document on the website. There may be an exemption for well files, but all other documents on the website need to be compliant. The Board suggested putting a disclaimer on the website so that if someone needs a document accessible, they can reach out to Board staff to request it.

Mr. Stutz noted that the penalty for noncompliance is up to a \$75,000 fine and damages that includes legal fees and remediation.

Mr. Jones is working to obtain another quote to upgrade the hearing room audio system.

Ben Davis

Since the last meeting, staff approved 35 permits and two re-permits.

John Gizicki

Mr. Gizicki brought to the Board's attention Colossus Operating LLC (Colossus). An overview is attached as Exhibit 12.

Mr. Gizicki recommended that Colossus' failure to come into compliance by May 7, 2026, will result in Colossus being ordered to show cause at the June 11, 2026, public hearing, as to why additional penalties should not be imposed for failure to remedy the violation. Board staff has authority to dismiss the docket if Colossus achieves compliance prior to the June 11, 2026, public hearing.

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

The Board issued Administrative Order 7-A-2026 for Colossus, attached as Exhibit 13.

Mr. Gizicki brought to the Board's attention U Bee Tea Production LLC (UBT). An overview is attached as Exhibit 14.

Mr. Gizicki recommended that UBT's failure to come into compliance by May 7, 2026, will result in UBT being ordered to show cause at the June 11, 2026, public hearing, as to why additional penalties should not

be imposed for failure to remedy the violations. Board staff has authority to dismiss the docket if UBT achieves compliance prior to the June 11, 2026, public hearing.

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

The Board issued Administrative Order 8-A-2026 for UBT, attached as Exhibit 15.

Mr. Gizicki discussed Siege Environmental Services LLC (Siege). Siege filed an application to request a transfer of plugging, reclamation, and reporting responsibility for the Indian Mound 1 commercial disposal well, API # 083-21377, from Black Gold Energy Resource Development LLC (Black Gold) to Siege. At the December 12, 2025, public hearing, Black Gold protested the transfer, but Siege provided sufficient evidence that it has the legal authority to operate the well and inject into the wellbore and that Black Gold is not legally allowed on location.

The Board issued an order that staff was authorized to proceed with administrative review and approval of the change of operator request for the Indian Mound 1 commercial disposal well, API # 25-083-21377, as submitted by Siege.

To date, Siege has not submitted the proper paperwork including the bond to process the transfer to Siege.

Staff will inform both Siege and Black Gold via certified mail of the identified issue and if the matter remains unresolved, it will be brought before the Board for discussion at the June business meeting.

In August 2023, a hearing regarding Cypress Energy Partners - Sheridan SWD, LLC's (Cypress) Sheridan Facility SWD well, API # 091-21892, to Black Gold Energy Sheridan Facility, Inc. (Black Gold) was heard. The Board issued an order that staff was authorized to proceed with administrative review and approval of the change of operator request of the Sheridan Facility SWD well, Black must submit a UIC plugging and reclamation bond in the amount of \$20,000, and that the well must pass a mechanical integrity test prior to resuming injection in the well. To date, Black Gold has not posted a bond for the well.

Staff was just informed that Black Gold purchased the Cypress company. Staff is concerned that the acquisition may circumvent the requirement in the Board's August 2023 Order that Black Gold provide a \$20,000 UIC plugging and reclamation bond prior to resuming operations. The current bonding in place for the well is only \$10,000.

Staff will send a certified letter to Black Gold addressing the identified issue and if the matter remains unresolved, it will be brought before the Board for discussion at the June business meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business discussed.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board reconvened on Thursday, April 9, 2026, 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 214-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 215-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 216-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 217-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was dismissed.

Docket 218-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 219-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 220-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was dismissed.

Docket 221-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 222-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 223-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 224-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was dismissed.

Docket 225-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was dismissed.

Docket 226-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was dismissed.

Docket 227-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 228-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 229-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 230-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 231-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was dismissed.

Docket 232-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 233-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 234-2026 – The application of Black Dog Operating, LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 235-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to deny the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 162-2026.

Docket 236-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed, to deny the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 163-2026.

Docket 237-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 238-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 239-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 106-2026.

Docket 240-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Avanti Helium US, Inc. as set forth in Board Order 95-2026. Mr. McDermott recused himself and took no part in this matter.

Docket 241-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 96-2026.

Docket 242-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 97-2026.

Docket 243-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 98-2026.

Docket 244-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 99-2026.

Docket 245-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 100-2026.

Docket 246-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC as set forth in Board Order 101-2026.

Docket 247-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 102-2026.

Docket 248-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 103-2026.

Docket 249-2026 – The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 250-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 113-2026.

Docket 251-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 114-2026.

Docket 252-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 115-2026.

Docket 253-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 116-2026.

Docket 254-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 117-2026.

Docket 255-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 118-2026.

Docket 256-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 119-2026.

Docket 257-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 120-2026.

Docket 258-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 121-2026.

Docket 259-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 122-2026.

Docket 260-2026 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 123-2026.

Docket 261-2026 – A motion was made by Mrs. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation as set forth in Board Order 124-2026.

Docket 262-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Tietz and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Oasis Petroleum North America LLC as set forth in Board Order 125-2026.

Docket 263-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Tietz and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Oasis Petroleum North America LLC as set forth in Board Order 126-2026.

Docket 264-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Tietz and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Oasis Petroleum North America LLC as set forth in Board Order 127-2026.

Docket 265-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 266-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 267-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 268-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

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Docket 271-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 272-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 273-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 274-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 275-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 276-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 277-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 278-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 279-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 280-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 281-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 128-2026.

Docket 282-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 129-2026.

Docket 283-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 284-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 285-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 286-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 287-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 288-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 289-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 148-2026.

Docket 290-2026 / 45 -2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 149-2026.

Docket 291-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 150-2026.

Docket 292-2026 / 46-2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 151-2026.

Docket 293-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 152-2026.

Docket 294-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 153-2026.

Docket 295-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC as set forth in Board Order 154-2026.

Docket 296-2026 / 47-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 297-2026 / 48-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 298-2026 / 49 -2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 299-2026 / 50 -2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 300-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 301-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 302-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 303-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 304-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 305-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 306-2026 / 51-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 307-2026 / 52-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 308-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 130-2026.

Docket 309-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 131-2026.

Docket 310-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 138-2026.

Docket 311-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 139-2026.

Docket 312-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 140-2026.

Docket 313-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 141-2026.

Docket 314-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 315-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 316-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 317-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 318-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 142-2026.

Docket 319-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 143-2026.

Docket 320-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of Hydra Services LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 107-2026.

Docket 321-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 108-2026.

Docket 322-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 109-2026.

Docket 323-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 110-2026.

Docket 324-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 111-2026.

Docket 325-2026 – Board staff placed this application on the Default Docket for approval without hearing if no protests or requests for hearing were received by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. None were received. The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was approved as set forth in Board Order 112-2026.

Docket 310-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 311-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 316-2025 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 51-2026 – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 53-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 104-2026.

Docket 54-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed, to approve the application of MorningStar Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 105-2026.

Docket 56-2026 – The application of Devon Energy Williston, L.L.C. was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 57-2026 – The application of Devon Energy Williston, L.L.C. was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 70-2026 – The application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 71-2026 – The application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 72-2026 – The application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 73-2026 – The application of White Rock Oil & Gas, LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 88-2026 / 16-2026 FED – 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 155-2026.

Docket 90-2026 / 17-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 91-2026 / 18-2026 FED – The application of Kraken Oil & Gas LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 112-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 132-2026.

Docket 113-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 133-2026.

Docket 114-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 134-2026.

Docket 115-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 135-2026.

Docket 116-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 136-2026.

Docket 117-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 137-2026.

Docket 134-2026 / 23-2026 FED – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 135-2026 / 24-2026 FED – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 146-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 147-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 150-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 151-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 152-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 153-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 164-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 165-2026 – The application of Phoenix Operating LLC was withdrawn.

Docket 170-2026 / 31-2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 144-2026.

Docket 171-2026 / 32-2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Wivholm, seconded by Mr. McDermott and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 145-2026.

Docket 176-2026 / 37-2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 146-2026.

Docket 177-2026 / 38-2026 FED – A motion was made by Mr. Tietz, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed, to approve the application of Phoenix Operating LLC as set forth in Board Order 147-2026.

Docket 188-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 189-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 190-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 191-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 192-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 193-2026 – The application of Continental Resources Inc was withdrawn.

Docket 194-2026 / 39-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 195-2026 / 40-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 196-2026 / 41-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 197-2026 / 42-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 198-2026 / 43-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 199-2026 / 44-2026 FED – The application of Continental Resources Inc was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 205-2026 – The application of MorningStar Operating LLC was continued to the June 2026 hearing.

Docket 326-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed that Grassy Butte, LLC is fined \$1,000 for failure to appear at the April 9, 2026, public hearing. Grassy Butte, LLC is to appear at the June 11, 2026, public hearing and show-cause, if any it has, why additional penalties should not be assessed for failure to pay the penalty assessed for delinquent reporting and failure to appear at the April 9, 2026, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 156-2026.

Docket 327-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously passed that the \$250 daily fine remains in effect for Montana Energy Company, LLC until compliance is achieved and confirmed by inspection. The daily fine accruing from April 9, 2026, through June 11, 2026, will be waived if the Sumatra field is in production by the June 11, 2026, public hearing. Docket 327-2026 is continued until the June 11, 2026, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 157-2026.

Docket 328-2026 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Tietz and unanimously passed that Poplar Resources LLC is fined \$1,000 for failure to appear at the April 9, 2026, public hearing. Docket 328-2026 is continued until the June 11, 2026, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 158-2026.

Docket 329-2026 – The show-cause hearing of R.C.S Oil, Inc. was dismissed.

Docket 330-2026 – The show-cause hearing of Solomon Exploration, Inc was dismissed.

Docket 88-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Welter and unanimously passed that Coalridge Disposal and Petroleum, Inc. must begin to plug and abandon its wells in Sheridan County, Montana, prior to June 11, 2026, public hearing. Failure to begin to plug and abandon the wells may result in additional penalties or the forfeiture of the plugging and reclamation bond in its entirety, as permitted by § 82-11-123(5), MCA. This is set forth in Board Order 159-2026.

Docket 470-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mr. Wivholm and unanimously passed that Brainstorm Energy, Inc must plug and abandon its Goeddertz 18 and Goeddertz 21 wells in Toole County, Montana by May 7, 2026, hearing application deadline or the \$100 daily fine will increase to a \$250 daily fine. The fine will remain in effect until compliance is confirmed by inspection. Docket 470-2025 is continued until the June 11, 2026, public hearing. This is set forth in Board Order 160-2026.

Docket 472-2025 – A motion was made by Mr. Welter, seconded by Mrs. Skelton and unanimously passed that Lustre Salt Water Disp, Vernon R. Justice Db a must remedy the field violations by the May 7, 2026, hearing application deadline. Following the May 7, 2026, deadline a penalty of \$100 per day be assessed until compliance is achieved and confirmed by inspection. Docket 472-2025 is continued until the June 11, 2026, public hearing. Board staff has the authority to dismiss the docket if the violation is resolved and any fine assessed has been paid. This is set forth in Board Order 161-2026.

NEXT MEETING

The next business meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 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, June 11, 2026, 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 June 11th public hearing is May 7, 2026.

BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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

ATTEST:

Jennifer Breton, Program Specialist