

Lolo Community Council | Agenda

May 12 | 7:00 p.m.

12345 US Highway 93 S., Lolo, MT 59847



Council Members: Danica Nelson (Chair), Angela Previte (Vice Chair/Secretary), Steven Mazur, Marta Brown, Patrick Moore, Tyler Pike, Paul Rossignol (Alternate)

This meeting will be held in person

I. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Roll Call
- c. Welcome and Overview of Meeting Process and Public Comment

II. Reading/Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Approve minutes as presented.

III. Approval of Expenditures

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items

V. Communications & Reports

- a. Communications Received
 - i. The county commissioners approved the proposed amendments to the Missoula County Subdivision Regulations at their April 2 public hearing meeting. These amendments include updating some mapping errors in Appendix A of the Missoula County Subdivision Regulations. This error was also reflected in the county's Property Information System. This correction, along with a mapping update, will be reflected in the urban area within the Lolo Water and Sewer District (RSID 901). In addition to this mapping correction and update, staff also clarified the definition between urban and rural area. These updates clarify Lolo's current urban area.
 - ii. The Missoula County Elections Office mailed ballots May 8, to the active voters who are registered to vote absentee in the upcoming federal primary election on Tuesday, June 2. Primary federal elections are preliminary elections to select the candidates who will advance to the general federal election in November.

Montana law does not require voters to designate their party affiliation when registering to vote, so all voters will receive three ballots – one for the Democrat, Libertarian and Republican parties. Voters should choose one ballot to vote, place it in the secrecy envelope, then the return envelope.

If a voter returns more than one ballot, those ballots will be rejected, and their votes will not be counted. Voters should destroy their unvoted ballots. They should not return them to the Elections Office. Voters must also write their birth year and signature on their mail ballot return envelope. Failure to include either detail will result in the ballot being rejected.

Ballots must be received by the Elections Office by 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 2. Return postage is prepaid; no stamp is needed. The U.S. Postal Service recommends mailing ballots no later than Tuesday, May 26. Postmarked dates are not sufficient.

- iii. The following Missoula County boards have vacancies and are accepting applications:

- Aquatic Invasive Species District Board
- Planning and Zoning Commission
- Tax Appeal Board
- Weed Control Board

The county commissioners appoint board members following an application and interview process.

- iv. Missoula County Community Justice Department Crime Victim Advocates (CVA) program provides free and confidential support to survivors of relationship violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Through the Crime Victim Advocates Rural Program, Missoula County employs a crime victim advocate who understands the unique challenges of rural life in areas outside Missoula.

While CVAs cannot provide legal advice, they are trained professionals who can:

- Help you apply for an Order of Protection
- Assist you with preparing for an Order of Protection hearing
- Listen and advocate for you when reporting to law enforcement
- Provide confidential crisis counselling, emotional support and guidance
- Explain how the court process works
- Help you stay informed about what's happening in your case
- Connect you with local and regional community resources
- Assist with requesting restitution for losses, damages and medical costs

If you or someone you know may benefit from advocacy services, call 406-258-3830 or email Jessica Koch, Rural Justice Initiatives Coordinator. For immediate 24/7 help, call the YWCA Missoula crisis line at 1-800-483-7858.

Missoula County exploring possibility of establishing a Family Justice Center; residents welcome to submit public comment on project

- v. Missoula County and local partners are exploring the possibility of establishing a Family Justice Center, a one-stop service center for people experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or other forms of abuse. The goal of a Family Justice Center is to bring different services together in one location where survivors can connect with advocates, law enforcement, legal help, healthcare providers and other resources.

This planning process is funded by a \$700,000 federal grant. The goal is to fund a potential facility with grants, fundraising and other outside sources, not local taxes. Learn more and comment at the [Missoula County Voice](#) website.

- vi. The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula is asking residents from unincorporated areas of the county for submissions that celebrate the historic stories from each community. Submissions include everything from souvenirs and photo albums to stories and photographs. The exhibit is scheduled to open in March 2027. Items can be dropped off at the museum in Missoula any time before Sept. 30. If you have questions, please contact [curator Emma Selfors](#).
- vii. Missoula County Public Works is proposing a building permit exemption for detached garages, pole barns and similar storage structure that do not contain habitable spaces from building permit requirements. Enacting this exemption would conform with current exemptions for structures for agricultural use; better align with the State of Montana building codes, as well as other counties; ease regulations on rural property owners; shorten property timelines; lower costs for residents by removing permit fees and reducing associated delays and allow building division staff to focus time and resources on higher-risk, habitable or more complex construction projects. Residents are invited to submit public comment for this proposal and attend the public hearing meeting at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 28. You can submit comment on the [Missoula County Voice](#) website.

- b. Treasurer Report
- c. Mail Received

VI. Committee and Special Reports

- a. RSID Status | Missoula County Public Works
- b. Lolo School | Superintendent Dale Olinger
- c. Missoula Rural Fire Dept. | Deputy Chief Cory Horsens
- d. Woodman School | Principal Jon Martin
- e. General Development/Transportation | Danica Nelson

VII. Adjustments to Order of Agenda (if any)

VIII. Unfinished Business

- a. **Missoula Growth Policy/Lolo Regional Plan Update Standing Agenda Item**
Missoula County will begin countywide comprehensive plan for unincorporated areas – public engagement to begin in fall.
- b. **Summer BBQ (discussion and possible action)**

IX. New Business

- a. **Social Media Updates (discussion)**

X. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

XI. Informational Items

- a. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting June 2, 2026

XII. Adjournment