

*These abbreviated summary minutes and the audio recording will become the official adopted minutes at the next Land Board meeting when the board votes to officially approve them. Until then they are considered a draft.*

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS**  
**March 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Mazurek Justice Building, Supreme Court Chambers**  
**Helena, MT**

**Please note:** *The Land Board has adopted the audio recording of its meetings as the official record, as allowed by [2-3-212, MCA](#). These minutes provide an abbreviated summary of the Land Board discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The time designations listed are approximate and may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio recording of this meeting. Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio recording is provided from the Land Board webpage at <http://dnrc.mt.gov/LandBoard>. The written minutes summary, along with the audio recordings, are listed by meeting date on the Land Board Archive webpage.*

**Members Present**

Governor Greg Gianforte  
Attorney General Austin Knudsen  
Commissioner of Securities and Insurance Troy Downing  
Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen  
Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen

**Members Absent**

None

**Testifying Staff**

Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director  
Dan Rogers, DNRC Bureau Chief, Forest Management Bureau  
Trevor Taylor, DNRC Bureau Chief, Minerals Management Bureau  
Shawn Thomas, DNRC Division Administrator, Trust Lands Management Division

**Attachments**

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – sign-in sheet

**Call to Order**

00:00:01 Governor Gianforte called the meeting to order.  
00:00:09 Commissioner Downing moved to approve the February 16, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Attorney General Knudsen and carried unanimously.

**Business Considered**

**0321-1**    **TIMBER SALES**  
              **A. HART CREEK**  
              **B. STRYKER BULL**

00:00:34 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.  
00:00:47 Governor Gianforte  
00:00:48 Mrs. Kaster  
00:02:35 Governor Gianforte

**Public Comment**

00:02:47 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association  
00:05:07 Governor Gianforte

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00:05:20 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0321-1 A, B. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Downing and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments

00:05:38 Superintendent Arntzen  
00:06:30 Dan Rogers, DNRC Forestry Bureau Chief  
00:09:34 Superintendent Arntzen  
00:09:40 Mr. Rogers  
00:10:35 Governor Gianforte  
00:10:36 Superintendent Arntzen  
00:10:37 Governor Gianforte  
00:10:40 Commissioner Downing  
00:11:03 Mr. Rogers  
00:12:29 Commissioner Downing  
00:12:32 Governor Gianforte

**0321-2 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE (MARCH 2, 2021)**

00:12:51 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.  
00:13:38 Governor Gianforte

00:13:54 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0321-2. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Downing and carried unanimously.

Board Discussion/Comments

00:14:05 Commissioner Downing  
00:14:39 Mrs. Kaster  
00:15:09 Trevor Taylor, DNRC Minerals Management Bureau  
00:16:53 Governor Gianforte  
00:16:59 Mr. Taylor  
00:17:10 Governor Gianforte  
00:17:12 Commissioner Downing  
00:17:14 Governor Gianforte  
00:17:14 Commissioner Downing  
00:17:53 Mr. Taylor  
00:18:43 Commissioner Downing  
00:18:46 Governor Gianforte  
00:18:46 Commissioner Downing  
00:19:01 Mr. Taylor  
00:19:09 Commissioner Downing  
00:19:10 Governor Gianforte  
00:19:33 Mrs. Kaster  
00:19:33 Governor Gianforte  
00:19:35 Attorney General Knudsen  
00:20:23 Governor Gianforte

**0321-3 LAND BANKING PARCELS: PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR SALE**

00:20:42 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.  
00:21:30 Governor Gianforte

00:21:40 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0321-3. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Arntzen and carried unanimously.

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**Board Discussion/Comments**

00:21:52 Commissioner Downing  
00:22:06 Mrs. Kaster  
00:22:15 Shawn Thomas, Division Administrator Trust Lands Management Division  
00:23:05 Commissioner Downing  
00:23:18 Mr. Thomas  
00:23:33 Commissioner Downing  
00:23:33 Mr. Thomas  
00:23:37 Commissioner Downing  
00:23:46 Mr. Thomas  
00:24:03 Commissioner Downing  
00:24:04 Governor Gianforte

**0321-4 CABIN AND HOME SITES: SET MINIMUM BID FOR SALE**

00:24:16 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.  
00:24:50 Governor Gianforte  
  
00:25:02 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0321-4. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Arntzen.

**Board Discussion/Comments**

00:25:15 Commissioner Downing  
00:25:35 Mrs. Kaster  
00:25:46 Mr. Thomas  
00:27:22 Governor Gianforte  
00:27:33 Mr. Thomas  
00:28:02 Governor Gianforte  
00:28:10 Commissioner Downing  
00:29:09 Mr. Thomas  
00:29:29 Governor Gianforte  
00:29:37 Commissioner Downing  
00:30:02 Mr. Thomas  
00:30:47 Commissioner Downing  
00:30:49 Governor Gianforte  
  
00:30:52 The motion to approve item 0321-4 carried with a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Downing Opposed.

**0321-5 EASMENTS**

00:31:08 Mrs. Kaster gave an overview of the item.  
00:32:34 Governor Gianforte  
  
00:32:46 Attorney General Knudsen moved to approve item 0321-5. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Downing and carried unanimously.

**Board Discussion/Comments**

00:32:55 Attorney General Knudsen  
00:32:55 Governor Gianforte  
00:32:56 Attorney General Knudsen  
00:33:17 Mrs. Kaster

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00:33:26 Mr. Thomas  
00:33:56 Governor Gianforte  
00:34:00 Commissioner Downing  
00:34:16 Mr. Thomas  
00:35:09 Commissioner Downing  
00:35:11 Governor Gianforte

**General Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

00:35:55 Adjournment

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ Greg Gianforte  
Greg Gianforte, Governor

/s/ Amanda Kaster  
Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

