

Colstrip Local Government Review Commission

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2026

1. Call the meeting to order.

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by Chairman Todd Olmstead

2. Roll Call

- a. Present-Study Commissioners Todd Olmstead and Dan Batie
- b. Present-Ex-officio Member Michelle Richards
- c. Present via Telephone – Study Commissioner Garrick Goodheart

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- a. Dan Batie moved and Todd Olmstead seconded to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 Public Hearing, the October 13, 2025 meeting and the December 17, 2025 meeting. Motion carried with all in favor.

5. Correspondence or Study Commission Update - None

6. Unfinished Business

- a. Distribution of Public Survey – Will have a spot where people can provide their phone number and/or email if they have questions and someone from the commission will contact them – City staff will be copying and mailing the surveys to all postal box holders in Colstrip
- b. Distribution of Cards-Todd hasn't found anyone to distribute the cards
- c. Interviews of City Employees - Need to set up a schedule – Todd will be gone the next two weeks – February 3, 4 & 5 dates selected from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Garrick moved and Dan seconded to proceed with interviews of employees and the Mayor/City Council. Motion carried
- d. Interviews of City Residents-Will add section on the survey giving city residents opportunity to be interviewed by leaving their email and phone number

7. New Business

- a. Create short list of Forms of City Government the commission approves-Discussion of the different forms of government – Commissioners don't see any reason to rewrite the Charter already adopted by the city – Commissioners agreed Town meeting and Commission forms of government would not work for Colstrip – Town Meeting form of government is only for communities with less than 2,000 people

- b. Review Schedule for Commission-May need to schedule a work session the end of February to start drafting final report – Will also request meeting with MSU Local Government Center

8. Other scheduled matters

9. Public Comment

10. Announcements

- a. City employee/elected officials interviews on February 3, 4 and 5. The next regular meeting of the commission will be February 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

11. Adjournment

- a. Todd moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded the motion. Chairman Olmstead adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.