

MONTANA SUPREME COURT PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 1:15 p.m.

Joseph P. Mazurek Justice Building

215 N. Sanders, Helena

4th Floor Conference Room

Chief Justice McGrath called the meeting to order at 1:19 p.m. In attendance were the Chief Justice and Justices Baker, McKinnon, Rice, Sandefur, and Shea.

Also in attendance were Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator; Jeanine Blaner, Supreme Court Staff Attorney; Kevin Cook, Electronic Services Coordinator; and Elizabeth Webster, Law Clerk.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2023, Public Meeting

- The Justices unanimously approved the minutes from the last public meeting.

Item 2: Appointments to the Pretrial Supervision Advisory Committee

- The Chief Justice described the function of the Committee and noted its success. All Committee members—Justice Ingrid Gustafson, Judge Alex Beal, Senator Barry Usher, County Attorney Scott Twito, Sherriff Leo Dutton, retired Judge Mike Salvagni, Judge Colette Davies, Representative Laura Smith, and Office of the State Public Defender Division Administrator Brian Smith—seek reappointment to terms expiring February 1, 2026, with Judge Salvagni to serve as chair.

Item 3: Appointments to the Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

- Justice Rice described the function of the Commission and noted that the Court appreciates retiring Judge Perry Miller's long service. The Commission recommends Stevensville City Court Judge Maureen O'Connor for appointment as small community city judge Commission member.

There was no public question or comment.

The Justices unanimously approved all appointments.