July 8, 2025

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Chuck Mehlbrech. Members present: Charles Liesinger, Tom Heumiller, Steve Gordon, and Marc Dick.

Chairman Mehlbrech led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mehlbrech called for approval of the agenda. Motion Gordon to approve the agenda as posted. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

The minutes from the June 24th & July 1st meetings were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Liesinger to approve these minutes for publication. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Public comment: Roger Hofer provided public comments to the Board.

Commissioner Reports: none.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Auditor Sherman presented the Hwy Dept report in the absence of Travis Raap, Hwy Supt. Current projects include blading, chip sealing, and patching. Sherman presented Change Order No 1, for Contractor, Astech Corp, to adjust field quantities to actual quantities for Co Rd 09AB, microsurfacing project. This increases the project cost by $74.76. Motion Heumiller to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the Change Order, which changes the project price to $233,054.01. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Sherman presented Contractor's Application for Payment, Astech Corp, in the amount of $233,054.01. Motion Dick to approve the payment and authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the application. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

The following building permits were issued in the month of June:

25-045	Golden View Hutterian Bretheren	Compost Building	E399' of W1630' of N600' NW4 7-104-55
25-046	Jared Lynch	Indoor Rodeo Arena	Tract 1 Cannon's Add NE4 20-101-54
25-047	Kenneth & Joan M Raap	Residing Existing House	S2NW4 & NW4NW4 28-103-53
25-048	Donald W Carlson	Grain Bin	NW4 30-103-54
25-051	Dustin Lee Barenklau	Addition to shop	W275'of N410'of S1480' IN NW4 19-103-53
25-052	Jesse T & Charity D Blankenship	New Garage	S645' of W599' of N2NW4 24-102-54
25-054	Jordyn Hofer	House	N418' of W418' of NW4SW4 10-102-53
25-055	Vern & Marcia Alexander	New House	E18' Lot 24 Roadside to NE corner of Lot 24 Lakeside; all Lot 25 & N30' Lot 26 roadside, N50' Lot 26 Lakeside of Battle Creek Shore in S2SW4 34-102-53
25-056	James D & Marlene Knox	Addition Room 20'x34'	W627' of N1122' of SW4 10-104-55
25-057	Christie A Wobig Trust	2 Grain Bins 8 ring	S1020' of E720' of NE4 6-104-55

The June Law Enforcement Report and a report showing the breakdown of calls made and hours worked in each community were noted and filed.

Auditor Sherman presented recommendations from a Loss Control Survey to the Board. This included administrative, law enforcement, streets/highways, and emergency management. The Board has 60 days to inform SDPAA of actions they are taking regarding each recommendation.

A group of approximately 20 individuals were present for discussion regarding changing several miles of paved roads back to gravel. Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization/Zoning Administrator, Angie McCormick, Dir of Equalization/Zoning Clerk, and Mark Norris, Sheriff, were present. Chairman Mehlbrech apologized noting that the Hwy Supt had vacation plans and isn't here today. The following individuals provided input to the Board. Kevin Peterson: How did the County come up with the decision to change roads back to gravel? What is the Five (5) Year Plan we hear about? When were traffic counts done? These should be on Sundays when there are hundreds of vehicles on these roads. Auditor Sherman gave traffic count information that Hwy Supt Raap had provided to the Board (at an earlier meeting), to Chair Mehlbrech. Comm Liesinger: Counts cannot be held on weekends per SDDOT because that's not normal daily traffic. For instance, the Lake Vermillion area would be the largest town in McCook County if a traffic count was held during a weekend, again not normal traffic. Kevin Peterson: A blog says that gravel roads are more expensive to keep up; make repairs

to the first 2 miles. Are all 7 miles going to the Valley Rd being turned back to gravel? Jim Osterberg: Will the road from Center to the Valley Rd be chip sealed and what about Center to SD81? The County should be making improvements, not going backwards. Gravel roads were changed to oil roads over 60 years ago, so people had oil roads going to their churches. Comm Dick: The County can take care of gravel roads with less expense than oil roads. The board is planning to set aside capital outlay funds ($2,500,000 over a 5-year period) for asphalt construction work to resurface highways. These costs exceed the funding of a single budget year. Kevin Peterson: We don't want gravel roads, keep oil roads. Ron Ecklein: I can tell you about the kind of traffic using these roads. Sun Prairie Baptist Church is a focal point and it's been around a long time, currently, with 116 families. Lots of events are held there. Gerald Schmeichel: If you can't budget for keeping paved roads, then you know the options. Kevin Erikson: want to clarify, County is letting trucks haul gravel on 245th St, so you get a new road through an agreement with the contractor because he's destroyed this road; disappointed. Gene Sandine: If maintenance had been done right the first time, roads wouldn't be in the shape they are. Why is the county chip sealing a mile N of Salem, when there's another paved road (SD38) 1 mile away? Spend money on the Center Rd instead. The gravel being used isn't any good. You guys are spending money where you shouldn't be and not spending it where you should be. Kevin Peterson thanked the Board for their time.

Motion Liesinger to convene as Planning Commission. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization/Zoning Administrator, presented a plat for approval. Following review of the plat review form, motion Liesinger to approve the plat. Second Dick. Motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Tract 2 of Meadow View Addition, an Addition in the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 102 North, Range 55 West of the 5TH Principal Meridian, McCook County, South Dakota, having been examined, is approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-6, and any amendments thereof.

Adopted this 8th day of July 2025.

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Chair, County Planning Commission
McCook County, South Dakota

The Board reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

Motion Heumiller, second Liesinger, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: 7/5/2025: Commissioners 2183.80; mileage 188.40; Auditor 6325.51; Treasurer 5326.96; States Attorney 3730.38; Custodian 1460.20; Dir of Equalization 4707.70; Register of Deeds 3574.35; Veterans Service Officer 341.40; Sheriff 16970.76; Contract Law 9310.97; Care of Poor 228.92; Welfare 303.66; Extension Secretary 1693.60; Drainage 152.50; Planning & Zoning 671.22. Reemployment Assistance Division of SD, 2nd Qtr. contribution, 534.21; A & B Business, monthly copier contract, 82.97; Alternative HR, July HR services, 5600.00; Alvine Law Firm, court appointed attorney for Brockton Hubers, 635.24; Colton Golder, 1108.40; Anthony Zimmer, Jr, 697.00; Lane Hess, 660.24; Shea Klinkhammer, 840.24; Athena Kraayenbrink, 324.00; Auto Value, supplies, 27.02; AutoEx, vehicle maintenance, 341.28; Avera Queen of Peace, blood alcohol services, 411.00; Bankwest Insurance, surety bonds, 100.00; Card Service Center, supplies, 2866.23, SRO training, 550.00, dog food, 51.28; Central Farmers, gas & trimmer line, 67.74; Certified Languages, interpreter services, 9.90; Children's Inn Shelter, 2025 appropriation, 850.00; City of Bridgewater, July ambulance appropriation, 3866.67; Dakota Data Shred, shredding services, 146.14; Davison County Sheriff, June jail services, 3885.00; Davison County Treasurer, reimbursement for mental health evaluations & hearings, 666.33; De Castro Law Office, medical records request, 11.95; Mike Fink, June expenses, 912.67; Fremar, Trimec weed spray, 135.72; Gordon Flesch, monthly copier contract, 33.00; Heartland Funeral Home, care of poor, 1200.00; Kathyrn Heumiller, blood alcohol draw, 140.00; Interlakes Community Action, July Community Service worker, 1107.58; Iron Wheel, fix air conditioner, 110.00; McCook Conservation District, 3rd quarter appropriation, 3750.00; McCook County EMS, July ambulance appropriation, 11559.09; McCook County Treasurer, postage, 581.77; McCormick Motors, vehicle maintenance, 620.12; McLeod's Printing, office supplies & copy paper, 2483.86; Meadow View Hutterian, refund P&Z hearing fee, 150.00; Microfilm Imaging,

monthly scanning equipment rent, 626.00; Miller Funeral Home, care of poor, 1200.00; Morgan Theeler, court appointed attorney for Adrian Gonzalez, 443.00, Adrian Gonzalez, 180.00, Adrian Gonzalez, 288.00; New Century Press, publishing, 553.00; Office Depot, chair mat & envelopes, 68.58; Puthoff Sales & Service, supplies, 9.90; RBS Sanitation, courthouse & food pantry garbage pick-up, 221.17; Salem City, courthouse & food pantry water & sewer, 303.12; Randy Schwader, travel expense, 41.92; SD Achieve dba Lifescape, service for 6 residents, 300.00; SD Public Health Laboratory, lab services, 325.00; Tech Solutions, managed IT services, 3667.00; Thomson Reuters-West, law book supplements, 59.92; Triotel, telephone/internet service, 757.21; US Postal Service, stamps, 4161.00; Verizon Wireless, iPad service, 40.01, cell phone service, 455.80, phones, 628.73; Wash N Go, car wash tokens, 200.00; Xcel Energy, utilities, 989.31.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 7/5/2025: Hwy Dept 27693.67; phone reimbursement 225.00. Reemployment Assistance Division of SD, 2nd Qtr contribution, 254.12; All State Ag Parts, carb kit, 25.89; Appeara, mat & towel rent, 96.52; Astech Corp, micro surfacing project-Co Rd 09AB, 233054.01; Auto Value, supplies, 1686.20; Butler Machinery, supplies & repair, 35757.27; C&B Operations, parts, 105.99; Card Service Center, conference lodging, 132.13, supplies, 308.19; Central Farmers Coop, supplies, 7089.20; Fleetpride, supplies, 123.99; Flint Hills Resources, asphalt, 86777.28; Gessner Welding, oxygen tank, 59.00; Knife River, G2 asphalt, 5162.40; Mac's – Sioux Falls, supplies, 485.73; McLeod's Printing, copy paper, 287.94; MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 22.90; NAPA Auto Parts, supplies, 465.05; Peterson Repair, tires, 1247.88; Pomp's Tire Service, tires, 4962.00; Puthoff Sales & Service, supplies, 159.81; RBS Sanitation, garbage pick-up, 82.82; Safety-Kleen, solvent, 226.65; Salem City, water & sewer, 260.05; Salem Lumber, supplies, 118.50, steel for roof, 10429.67; SD Public Assurance Alliance, insurance for Mack truck, 964.38; SDACC, 2025 SDACHS workshop registration, 100.00; Southeastern Electric, utilities, 45.56 Transource Truck & Equipment, parts, 6918.67; Triotel, telephone & internet service, 103.38; Triple D Repair, mower repair & supplies, 4946.28; US Postal Service, stamps, 219.00; White Cap, mat for ditch at bridge 44-010-185, 7450.00.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Golden West Telecommunications, 911 telephone service, 200.00; Triotel, telephone/internet service, 175.20.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 7/5/2025: EDS Director 1572.12. Reemployment Assistance Division of SD, 2nd Qtr contribution, 33.40. AT & T Mobility, EM iPad service, 40.04; Card Service Center, weather station, 2081.43; McLeod's Printing, copy paper, 239.95; Triotel Communications, telephone/internet service, 144.54; US Postal Service, stamps, 73.00.

DOMESTIC ABUSE PROGRAM: Children's Inn Shelter, 2024 Collections, 1330.00.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 7/5/2025: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 257.75. PharmChem, sweat patch analysis & fentanyl screens, 255.60.

RURAL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE FUND: Greenland Township, project 44-2249-1438, 5645.00, project 44-2249-1437, 5645.00.

LAW LIBRARY: Thomson Reuters, law book supplements, 59.92.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 7/5/2025: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 5,093.68, Medicare 1,191.26; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 4,944.35; Wellmark BCBS, county share of health insurance premium, 6214.65.

TOTAL CLAIMS: $487,865.13

The Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer for the month of June 2025: deposits in banks, $6,352,499.55; cash to deposit, $1,501.74; checks to deposit, $25,877.50; CC payments, $1,472.78; Cash Items (postage) $581.77; Treasurer's Cash, $988.23; Register of Deeds, $450.00; Sheriff, $500.00; CD's, $700,000.00. The total deposits on hand: $7,083,871.57.

Motion Liesinger to enter Executive Session at 11:00 a.m. for litigation discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (3). Second Gordon. Motion carried. William Garry, Cadwell Sanford Deibert & Garry LLP, Joe Jares, Claims Adjuster Claims Associates, Hampton Iverson, SDPAA Member Services Representative, and Mike Fink, States Attorney, were present. Chairman Mehlbrech declared out of Executive Session at 11:30 a.m.

Fred Butzke and Stephanie Albin, McCook County Soil Conservation District, reviewed 2024 expenditures and revenues for the district, with the Board, and noted a request of $15,000 for 2026. Butzke noted that there is much uncertainty with Federal programs, thanking the Board for prior appropriations and on-going support.

Ann Richards met with the Commission, requesting that “no jake braking sign/s” be erected on SD262. Martin Barattini, two ladies from Bridgewater, Mike Fink, States Attorney, and Mark Norris, Sheriff, were present. Richards noted that this may not help, but she appreciates the commissioner’s time. St Atty Fink presented several “draft” ordinances noting that the legal description of the specific areas needs to be included in the ordinance verbiage. If the County adopts an ordinance, SDDOT then needs to approve placement of a sign, the county purchases the sign/s and erects them. Sheriff Norris added that jake brakes are a safety feature and if they must be used, so be it. Richards stated that she’s meeting with Bridgewater City Council tonight to ask for their support of a jake brake ordinance. Fink noted that the county or city can adopt an ordinance. Barattini added that times for excessive noise vary, but usually in the early a.m. hours. Richards told the Board that she’d bring a copy of the letter of support from Bridgewater City Council to them.

Dennis Ryckam, Factor360, and Mike Waldner, Dakota State University Director of SecureSD, met with the Commission to provide them with solutions to update cybersecurity and policies for strategic assessment. A checklist of solutions and steps to receive services was reviewed and discussed. Mark Norris, Sheriff, Kaylee DeVries, Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher, Val Krempges, Hwy Secretary, and Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Program Asst. Ryckam reviewed cost estimates for migration to .gov from .com and a website redesign project setup with the group. Waldner reviewed required program steps that need to be done immediately, if not already completed. Waldner noted that documentation to get things started has been completed by Auditor Sherman. Motion Dick to work with Factor360 in handling the website migration and the .gov migration for the County. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 8th day of July 2025.

Charles Mehlbrech _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County