May 29, 2025

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

The minutes from the May 13th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Heumiller to approve the minutes for publication. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Public comment: none.

Commissioner Reports: Liesinger attended SEFP meeting. Gordon, Liesinger, and Hwy Supt Raap met with Levi Hilner, Hollaway Construction, and Adam Polley, IMEG Engineering, to discuss the request for liquidated damages regarding bridge project #44-010-185.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, informed the Board that the Emery bridge project (#44-010-185) has been completed. Levi Hilner, Hollaway Construction, and Adam Polley, IMEG Engineering, were present. Raap noted that Leonard Matthaei is requesting $13768.85 for laying gravel for the bridge to be open through the winter months. Matthaei has also requested pay for dirt overage on the bridge project for an additional $103,407.50 but has not presented any weight tickets. Raap noted that Hilner has asked for liquidated damages, 63 days totaling $94,500, recommending that the 63 days be paid. Motion Dick to pay the liquidated damages of $94,500 to Hollaway Construction. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Raap presented documentation for Chairman signature. Motion Liesinger to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the Contractor's Application for Payment (#22), in the amount of $231,454.18. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Motion Liesinger to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign Change Order No 1 & Final for Commercial Asphalt due to price decrease ($2679.50) for asphalt overlay project BRO 8044(00)22-1, PCN 08XC. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Motion Liesinger to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign Contractor's Application for Payment in the amount of $114,121.00 to Commercial Asphalt, which noted the decreased price. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Raap presented paving history of McCook County roads. Out of 164.45 total miles of asphalt, 84.35 miles are over 20 years old. Raap asked the Board to consider an opt out ($1,000,000) to pave 5 miles of road per year. Heumiller asked which roads are lower traffic roads that could take less maintenance. Raap stated that vehicle counts are being done, to determine which roads are less traveled.

Geralyn Sherman, Welfare Director, and the Board reviewed Care of Poor Report. A Notice of Hospitalization was received from Sanford USD Medical Center (2025-05). An application for funeral assistance was denied because there were life insurance policies specifically for funeral expenses (2025-04).

Motion Gordon to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

Mic Kreutzfeldt, Drainage Administrator, presented 2 drainage permit applications to the Board, noting that downstream landowner signatures were obtained, and he has signed off on them. All permits are available for inspection at the Hwy Dept Office.

D25-017	Randall Harms	NE4 Ex Lot H-1 & Ex Tract 1 & Tract 2 Harms Add 32-102-54
D25-018	Engbarth Properties	SE4 of 32-102-54 Inc ½ of Vacated Roadway Running between Sections 32 & 33 lying Adjacent to SE4

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization, joined the meeting. Flogstad asked the Board to make permanent the increase of hours worked per week (37.5) for Angie McCormick, Equalization & Zoning Clerk, and to allow Isaac Kipp, Staff Appraiser, to work up to

39 hours per week when out in the field doing appraisal work; this would be temporary, seasonal. Motion Gordon to approve both requests. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Motion Dick to convene as Planning & Zoning Commission. Second Leisinger. Motion carried.

Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, informed the Board that after several inquiries in the past several months about subdivisions in Lake and Rural Residential area, a further review of the current Subdivision Ordinance was completed by Flogstad with our SECOG representative. SECOG will be working on writing an amendment to the current regulations, addressing minor plats (less than three lots being platted, with no to low impact on surrounding properties, environmental resources, or public facilities).

Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, presented 2 plats for approval. Following review of the plat review form, motion Gordon to approve the 1st plat. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Lots 21A and 22A of Eagle Ridge Addition, an Addition in the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 102 North, Range 53 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 29th day of May 2025.

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Chair, County Planning Commission
McCook County, South Dakota

Following review of the plat review form, motion Heumiller to approve the 2nd plat. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Tract 1 of Chase Addition in the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section 5, Township 102 North, Range 54 West of the 5TH P. M., McCook County, South Dakota, having been examined, is approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1987, Chapter 11-6, and any amendments thereof.

Adopted this 29th day of May 2025.

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Chair, County Planning Commission
McCook County, South Dakota

Motion Gordon to convene as Board of Adjustment. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Mike Fink, States Attorney, Isaac Kipp, Staff Appraiser, Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, and Mike Flannery were present.

At 10:30 a.m. the Board of Adjustment held a public hearing to receive input concerning a request for conditional use. Applicant Steve Simpson (present). Legal description: Triang Tract Desc as S203' of W486' lying SW of Hwy 38 in SW Corner SW4SE4 19-103-53. Reason: Recreational Facility in Ag District (remote control car track). Flogstad presented the Conditional Use Application to the Board noting parking, lighting, curfew, and noise as several items of concern. Simpson noted that there would be no more than 10-15 vehicles, should be able to be done by 10:00 p.m., and lights shine down. Flogstad checked with Dept of Transportation, no parking is allowed on SD38 or in the highway R-O-W. Mike Flannery noted safety concerns. Simpson stated that he has installed fence panels 2' from the existing wall for a windbreak. With no further discussion, Flogstad noted the following conditions: revisit permit in one year to address any issues; lighting downward facing-nothing towards road; max number of vehicles, 20; operations cease at midnight; and no parking on highway or highway right-of-way. Motion Gordon to approve the request for conditional use with the conditions noted. Second Dick. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

At 10:40 a.m. the Board of Adjustment held a public hearing to receive input concerning request for variance. Applicant: Scott Stubbe (present). Owner: Joan Raap. Legal description: SE4 27-104-53. Reason: reduction of setback to 40' for house. Zoning Admin Flogstad presented the Application for Variance to the Board noting that the request for the setback reduction is 40' instead of 50' for mobile home to be moved in. Motion Gordon to approve the request for variance. Second Dick. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Motion Heumiller, second Gordon, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 5/24/2025: Commissioners 2183.80; Auditor 6493.47; Treasurer 4942.59; States Attorney 3730.38; Custodian 1376.76; Dir of Equalization 4669.98; Register of Deeds 3662.06; Veterans Service Officer 341.40; Sheriff 15145.80; Contract Law 8535.06; Care of Poor 228.92; Welfare 401.27; Extension Secretary 1556.10; Weed, 79.66; Drainage 310.80; Planning & Zoning 667.58. Witness Fees & mileage, 41.02; TransAmerica Employee Benefits, May GAP billing, 4156.25; AAA Collections, lien collection fees, 270.00; Card Service Center, lodging, 636.98, care of poor-lodging 90.00, gas 15.00, groceries, 29.27, dog food, 199.48, supplies, 1398.20; DeCastro Law Office, court appointed attorney for Jim Weigand, 4845.75; Kathyrn Heumiller, blood alcohol draw, 140.00; Rebecca Hoiten, travel expense, 31.71; Jack's Uniforms, name plate, 24.94; MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 203.21; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX, 286.00; ODP Business Solutions, office supplies & nitrile gloves, 626.10; Pulse Electric, repair ballast, 156.07; RBS Sanitation, garbage service-courthouse, 111.16, food pantry, 109.71; Laurie Schwans, travel expense, 125.87; SDAAO, conference registration, 250.00; SDACC, 2nd Quarter CLERP, 4162.00; Geralyn Sherman, mileage, 276.00; Two Way Solutions, accessories for law enforcement vehicle, 2370.00.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 5/24/2025: Hwy Dept 25550.56; TransAmerica Employee Benefits, May GAP billing, 1493.57; Avera Occupational Medicine, random drug screens, 202.00; Butler Machinery, parts & labor, 19095.28; Cole's Petroleum, sulfur diesel, 14659.89; Heiman Inc., supplies, 236.94; Holloway Construction, project 44-010-185, 231,454.18; Jan's Garage, freon, 116.00; Knife River, G2 Asphalt, 273.75; MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 29.19; Pheasantland Industries, safety clothing, 2272.60; RBS Sanitation, garbage service, 82.82.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Motorola Solutions, Apps safeguard, 26.00l Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities, 81.19.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 5/24/2025: EDS Director 1572.12. TransAmerica Employee Benefits, May GAP billing, 96.51; AT&T Mobility, EM iPad services, 40.04; Card Service Center, toner, 107.99.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll:5/24/2025: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 239.76; McCook County Sheriff, refund of Scram fees, 108.00.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 5/24/2025: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 5049.92, Medicare 1181.05; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 4721.11.

TOTAL CLAIMS: $287,591.62

Motion Heumiller to approve an Automatic Supplement to Emergency & Disaster Services Fund, Supply line, in the amount of $22,120.80 for the reimbursement for protective clothing costs for Search & Rescue members. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Matt Alley, McCook Central School Supt, Lonny Johnson, Montrose School Supt, Zach Campbell, Canistota School Supt, and Jason Bailey, Bridgewater/Emery School Supt, met with the Commissioners to discuss future of having a School Resource Officer/s in the school districts. Mark Norris, Sheriff, Mike Fink, States Attorney, Becky Hoiten, Deputy Auditor, and Anna Flogstad were present. Auditor Sherman read an email received from the B/E Business Manager which stated that the school district will not be able to participate in this program for the 2025-2026 school year due to the possibility of the loss of Federal funding and the mandated teacher salaries now in place. Supt Bailey: the input from the Business Manager doesn't mean that B/E is out but we feel there need to be changes to the program. Supt Johnson: noted agreement with changes need to be made. Need to build relationships with students, does 1 day really make a difference? Sheriff Norris: 30 years ago, cops in schools was unheard of, and now…. DARE has made a difference. I've found that some officers aren't a good fit. Currently, I'm planning on sending Deputy Anna Misar and Deputy Kim Berry to SRO training. The County has a huge investment in the officers but can only do so much. Supt Alley: agree that we need to build relationships, if the days go down, then what? Education is a priority for us. Sheriff Norris asked if we could keep things status quo for

the next school year? Supt Campbell: are we looking at having one or two SROs? Feel there should be some expectations of an SRO, or guidelines, are they in the lunchroom, in the halls, greeting kids as they come into the school. Can the school have expectations? The SRO program is a valuable resource and there should be accountability, with an evaluation at the end of a school year and these should be the same for each school district. Mehlbrech suggested that Sheriff Norris, Deputy Misar, and the superintendents get together to develop a list of expectations/guidelines for the two SROs and provide it at the next meeting. Supt Bailey: what's the role as Deputy Sheriff vs School Resource Officer. After discussion, it was agreed that the Superintendents can attend the June 24th Commission meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Comm Dick left the meeting at this time.

Auditor Sherman presented the SEFP 2025 Annual Report to the Board; this will be noted and filed.

The following Township Bonds have been filed with the Auditor's Office: CLERKS: Mark Miles, Ramsey; Norman Peterson, Brookfield; Richard Wobig, Sun Prairie; Heather Bork, Pearl; Roland Loudenburg, Benton; Mark Eickman, Salem; Ken Krouse, Richland; John Smith, Montrose; Katrina Zimmer, Montrose; Jeff Scott, Greenland; Dustin Addy, Canistota; Jerome Tschetter, Emery; Brian Thrift, Jefferson; Lonnie Glanzer, Bridgewater; Kalyn Buse, Union; Mary Dick, Grant; Spring Valley. TREASURERS: Barb Kipp, Ramsey; Ted Anderson, Brookfield; Tim Matthaei, Sun Prairie; Amelia Matthaei, Benton; Pat Gottlob, Salem; Mary Nelson, Richland; Katrina Zimmer, Montrose; Karen Hofer, Greenland; Gary Parry, Canistota; Thomas Kolbeck, Emery; Vernon Hofer, Jefferson; Robin Hofer, Bridgewater; Michael Weber, Union; Steve Richarz, Grant; Donita Davis, Spring Valley. The bond for the Pearl Twp Treasurer has not been filed.

Motion Heumiller to enter Executive Session at 11:50 a.m. for personnel discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Auditor Sherman was present. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Chairman Mehlbrech declared out of Executive Session at 12:00 p.m.

At this time, the school Superintendents and Sheriff Norris rejoined the meeting, having had more discussion after leaving the Commission meeting earlier. It was noted that the Superintendents have decided that they will work with one (1) School Resource Officer as follows: Canistota School District 2 days, McCook Central School District 2 days, Montrose School District ½ day, and Bridgewater/Emery School District ½ day. Sheriff Norris stated that this is too hard for one officer. It was noted that the Superintendents feel this is where they're at and this allows some budget flexibility. They will have uniform expectations/guidelines to present to the Commission at the June 24th meeting.

At 12:20 p.m., Sheriff Norris asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel concerns, per SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Motion Liesinger to enter Executive Session at 12:20 p.m. for personnel discussion. Sheriff Norris and Auditor Sherman were present. Second Heumiller. Motion carried. Chairman Mehlbrech declared out of Executive Session at 12:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 29th day of May 2025.

Charles Mehlbrech _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County