

February 24, 2026

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

Vice-Chairman Dick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Dick called for approval of the agenda. Motion Heumiller to approve the agenda as posted. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

The minutes from the February 10th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Mehlbrech to approve these minutes for publication. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Public comments: none.

Commissioner Reports: none.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, informed the Board that IMEG Consultants has reviewed the Road Use and Repair Agreement between Grant Solar (Geronimo) and McCook County regarding a commercial solar energy conversion system and has suggested several additions. The changes will be reviewed by States Attorney Fink. Comm Liesinger agreed with Raap's suggestion that the bond should be more than 30 days, at least 60 days. Board agreed that the bond should be extended to 60 days to allow for repairs after construction ends. Right-of-Way markers are going in today. Load limits were set on February 18th, and will be removed following SD DOT guidelines. Current projects include crack sealing and blading.

Laurie Schwans, Register of Deeds, met with the Commission to request the purchase of 4 30-minute parking signs to reserve spaces for McCook County residents, while a Turner County trial is being held here, March 16th - March 27th. Carol Lauer, Treasurer, Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization, and Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, were present. The purchase and placement of 4 signs was approved.

At 9:30 a.m. bids for gas & diesel fuel were opened as advertised. The following bids were received: #1 diesel fuel (estimate 5,000 gallons): Coles Petroleum \$2.84/gal; Stern Oil \$2.9999/gal; Central Farmers \$2.63/gal; and Vollan Oil \$.10 over cost. #2 diesel fuel (estimate 50,000 gallons): Coles \$2.474/gal; Stern Oil \$2.6499/gal; Central Farmers Coop \$2.93/gal; and Vollan Oil \$2.5898/gal. Motion Liesinger to accept bids for #1 and #2 diesel fuel from Coles Petroleum. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried. Gasoline (estimate 28,000 gallons): Coles Petroleum \$2.52/gal; Stern Oil \$2.5899/gal; Central Farmers Coop \$2.58/gal; and Vollan Oil \$2.7675/gal. Motion Mehlbrech to accept bid from Coles Petroleum for gasoline. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

At 9:45 a.m. Hwy Supt Raap presented Tabulation Sheets from the bid letting held on February 18th for Hwy Dept supplies. Hwy Supt Raap, Val Krempeges, Hwy Dept Administrative Assistant, Commissioner Heumiller, Deputy Auditor, Rhonda Olinger, and Auditor Sherman were present, along with several vendor representatives. Bid tallies were reviewed. Motion Liesinger, second Heumiller, and carried, to award bids as follows: Item #1 Liquid Asphalt – Jebro and Flint Hills depending upon product being used; Item #2 Asphalt Concrete for County Patching – Knife River and Commercial Asphalt depending on location of product; Item #3 Reinforced Concrete Culverts – Rinker Materials; Item #4 Precast Concrete Box Culverts – Rinker Materials; Item #5 Concrete Bridge Beams – no bids received; Item #6 Quartzite Materials – Spencer Quarries Inc; Item #7 Bridge Construction/Repair – no bids received; Item #8 Magnesium Chloride – no bids received; Item #9 Deicing Sand – Michael Johnson (location of product); Item #10 Overlay Patching – Commercial Asphalt; Item #12 Joint Sealant Materials – Midstate's Equipment & Supply (WR Meadows brand); Item #13 Corrugated Metal Culverts – TrueNorth Steel; Item #14 Polypropylene Pipe – Core & Main. All bids are on file in the Hwy Dept Office and Auditor's Office for public inspection.

Hwy Supt Raap reminded the Board that IMEG will be holding a bid letting for microsurfacing projects, which includes McCook County, tomorrow, February 25th, at 11:00 a.m., in SF.

Motion Liesinger, second Mehlbrech, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll by Department: 2/14/2026: Commissioners 2293.00; Auditor 6674.90; Treasurer 5747.04; States Attorney 3916.90; Custodian 1533.00; Dir of Equalization 4950.92; Register of Deeds 3816.43; Veterans Service Officer 256.00; Sheriff 15523.07; Contract Law 9303.00; Care of Poor 240.37; Welfare 318.78; Extension Secretary 1633.81; Drainage 375.00; Planning & Zoning 770.76. Transamerica Employee Benefits, February contribution-GAP coverage, 4156.25; AAA Collections, lien collection fee, 60.00; Steve Dick, mileage, 37.80; Brian Havard, travel expense-weed conference, 537.90; Heiman Fire Equipment, check fire extinguishers, 287.50, new extinguisher, 120.00; Hillyard, janitorial supplies, 1012.78; Hughes County Finance Office, January jail billing, 460.00; InfoTech Solutions, Managed IT services, 3433.50, laptop charger, 30.00; Jack's Uniforms, name plate, 25.94; Carol Lauer, office supplies, 16.50; The Lodge at Deadwood, conference lodging, 210.00; McLeod's Printing, office supplies, 14.95; Morgan Law, court appointed attorney for Jairon Romeo-Mendez Lima, 752.80, for Betty Brower, 464.40; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile apps, 143.00; Peters Distributing, alarm system monitor, 388.78; Adam Puthoff, travel expense-weed conference, 51.39; Salem Community Drug, office supplies, 31.94; Schneider Geospatial, Beacon maintenance, 14874.60, GIS support, 19207.20; Laurie Schwans, district meeting expense, 14.00; SDACC, 1st Qtr. CLERP assessment, 3121.00; Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, monthly contracts (current & 3 months not billed in 2025), 800.00.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/14/2026: Hwy Dept 25556.54; cell phone reimbursement, 250.00. Transamerica Employee Benefits, February contribution-GAP coverage, 1645.75; Cole's Petroleum, #2 fuel, 15143.50; Heiman Fire Equipment, fire extinguisher inspection, 1348.00; IMEG, design development, 4500.00; Northwestern Energy, utilities, 94.01; Sign Solutions, signs, 2424.84; Southeastern Electric, utilities, 60.98; Verizon Wireless, cell phone service, 79.74; Xcel Energy, utilities, 20.77.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Mitchell Regional 911, 911 services (95% of surcharge collections), 8048.83; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile app, 26.00; Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities 82.30.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/14/2026: EDS Director 1650.73. Transamerica Employee Benefits, February contribution-GAP coverage, 96.51; Frontline Plus Fire & Rescue, FY2026 siren service, 350.00.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/14/2026: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 239.76.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 2/14/2026: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 4965.64, Medicare 1161.31; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 4966.86; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SD, county share of health insurance contribution 26491.13.

TOTAL CLAIMS: \$78,274.95 Motion Heumiller to convene as Planning Commission. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented Plat of Lot C Tract 2 Larson's Addition in the W1/2SW1/4 of Section 35, T102N, R53W of the 5TH P.M., McCook County, South Dakota, for Chairman and Auditor to re-sign.

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

Be It Resolved by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Tract 1 of Frasier Addition in the East Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 23, 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 24th day of February 2026.

Vice-Chairman, County Planning Commission
McCook County, South Dakota

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

Be It Resolved by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Tract 2 and Tract 3 of Ericksen's Addition in the East Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 27, 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 24th day of February 2026.

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McCook County, South Dakota

At 10:40 a.m. the Board of Adjustment held a public hearing to receive input concerning a request for Conditional Use. Applicant: George B Weber. Legal description: NW4 Ex TR1 and TR 2 Weber's Addition 10-102-53. Reason: transfer building eligibility from SE ¼ ¼ to NE ¼ ¼. Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, presented the application and pulled up the Beacon website to show the parcel map. Kris Tott and Julie Antrim were present. Questions were answered, ensuring no impact on neighboring properties. Motion Liesinger to approve the conditional use request. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

A SEFP Monthly Facilitator Report, New Year, New Leadership, was noted and filed.

Auditor Sherman presented the following abatement applications to the Board for approval. Abatement #13, parcel 17.22.2202, Northern States Power, reason-Assessor error-Centrally Assessed. Amount abated: \$6040.80. Abatement #14, parcel 07.14.3000, Scott & Janie Huls, reason-Assessor error. Amount abated: \$824.80. Abatement #15, Carol Kerr, parcel, 21.10.2016, reason-Assessor error. Amount abated: \$336.40. Abatement #16, Acheson Properties LLC, parcel 08.23.300101, reason-Assessor error-incorrect value. Amount abated: \$2789.00. Abatement #17, parcel 04.14.2001, Scott & Janie Huls, reason-remove special assessment. Amount abated: \$300.00. Abatement #18, parcel 04.34.1000, Robert & Lorna Huysen, reason-remove special assessment. Amount abated: \$600.00. Motion Liesinger to approve the abatements and authorize Vice-Chairman Dick to sign same. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented the 2026 Annual Service Proposal and Contract for Whelen Outdoor Warning Sirens from Frontline Warning Systems to the Board for approval and Chairman signature. This warning siren is located near Lake Vermillion Recreation Area. Motion Liesinger to authorize Vice-Chair Dick to sign the contract. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented 3 CD Renewal Notices to the Commissioners: one at Rivers Edge Bank, Bridgewater, \$100,000, and two at First Dakota National Bank, Salem, \$150,000 & \$100,000. The banks will be contacted next week.

Motion Liesinger to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Dick. Motion carried.

At 11:00 a.m. a public hearing was held to receive input concerning the following request to drain property. Applicant: Bernard Stockwell. Permit #D25-044. Legal description of area to be drained: SW4 25-101-53. Location of outlet(s) of proposed drain: SW4SE4 25-101-53. Steve Dick, Drainage Administrator, noted that the drainage hearing was requested by Bernard Stockwell because not all downstream landowners signed off on the drainage permit application, so it was initially denied. Mike Fink, States Attorney, Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, and eleven other interested parties were present. Drainage Admin Dick presented his report, noting Warren Eitreim whose property is within ½ mile of tile outlet didn't sign-off for the application. TJ Kaffar, Kaffar Tiling, representing Bernard Stockwell, explained the proposed project and presented maps and watershed analysis to Board members. Kaffar added that Stockwell is open to cleaning out a ditch that has silted in. Kiera Leddy, Eitreim's Attorney, noted issues with the application, incomplete site plan, lack of wetlands analysis, missing inter-county coordination, and filing of vested drainage rights. Ledy told the Board that with questions raised today, they can't make an informed decision. States Attorney Fink noted that if the Board chooses, they can continue this hearing until another day. After discussion and due to conflicts with dates, Vice-Chair Dick suggested Monday, March 9th, which was agreeable to parties present. Motion Liesinger to continue the drainage hearing at 11:00 a.m. on March 9th, allowing the gathering of more information and to allow for site visits. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Youth Assistant, met with the Commission, presenting them with 4-H enrollment information dating back to 2011. A yearly agenda noting 4-H activities including meetings, archery practice, pesticide applicator training, horse practice, animal enrollment, shotgun practice, Barn Raisin' BBQ, Achievement Days, State Fair, and 4-H recognition event, to name a few. Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, was present. Sieverding requested permission to attend a meeting scheduled for March 12th in Madison and another at the end of March in Rapid City. Approval granted.

Comm Dick left the meeting.

Comm Liesinger assumed control of the meeting.

Motion Mehlbrech to enter Executive Session at 12:00 a.m. for personnel discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Second Heumiller. Motion carried. Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, and Auditor Sherman were present. Comm Liesinger declared out of Executive Session at 12:10 p.m.

Becky Hoiten, Deputy Auditor, reviewed the 2025 County Annual Report and the Financial Analysis of the County with the Board. Rhonda Olinger, Deputy Auditor, Angie Pulse, Deputy Register of Deeds, and Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, were present. Concerns. As of 12/31/2025, the delinquent taxes totaled \$157,263.57 compared to \$92,731.09 at the end of 2024 and \$67,225.62 at the end of 2023 and \$45,795.06 at the end of 2022. Special Assessments sent to us by the cities increased this year by \$61,940.51 making the amount collected for city special assessments \$405,208.25. Currently there are 19 different special assessments. Most special assessments are for 10 years if they are curb & gutter or special projects. The cities may change front footage each year, as well. The special assessments are added to the first half of taxes, by law, and must be paid before property taxes can be paid. The Tax Account Record maintained by the Auditor's Office shows 16 years of delinquent taxes across all taxing entities.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 24th day of February 2026.

Marc Dick _____
Vice-Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County