

March 10, 2026

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Steve Gordon.

Members present: Marc Dick, Charles Liesinger, Chuck Mehlbrech, and Tom Heumiller.

Chairman Gordon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Gordon called for approval of the agenda. Auditor Sherman noted the addition of Steve Dick, Drainage Administrator, at 11:00 a.m. Comm Dick noted utilizing the Executive Session at 11:50 a.m. Motion Mehlbrech to approve the agenda as posted. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

The minutes from February 24, 2026, meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Liesinger to approve these minutes for publication. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Public comment: none.

Commissioner Reports: none.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, informed the Board that Mike Kerrigan has inquired about filling in the ditch along Railway St and adding a big culvert, N of Cameron Inn, for the building of 5 townhouses. Kerrigan has an engineer working on this. Raap noted that Canistota City and the County will also have their engineers working on this inquiry. Raap informed the Board that SDDOT wanted to use 431<sup>st</sup> Ave as a haul road when reconstruction project begins on SD38 going W of Spencer Quarry. Raap told them no. Raap reported that Astech Corp had the low bid for the 2026 McCook County Microsurfacing Project, \$253,466.55 and the Board needs to make a motion to accept the bid. Other bids were received from Asphalt Surfacing Co \$364,969.10 and BMC Enterprises Inc \$425,973.55. Motion Liesinger to award the microsurfacing bid to Astech Corp. Second Dick. Motion carried. Raap asked that fixed asset #797, 1999 Int'l Truck (distributor) and fixed asset #662, Rosco Marc I Distributor be declared surplus as they are no longer suitable for purpose acquired. Motion Heumiller to declare both items as surplus property. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Raap noted that Grant Solar has provided a Road Haul Agreement for 446<sup>th</sup> Ave with several changes: bond extends 90 days past construction, road evaluations will be required during and after construction, and county has authority to shut project down due to weather events. Motion Mehlbrech to approve the agreement. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Raap added that Grant Solar did request wide, temporary approaches (86') during construction. Motion Liesinger to allow temporary approaches and authorize Hwy Supt Raap to sign agreement. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried. The condition of a shared culvert in Brookfield Twp was discussed. Raap informed the Board that he will be attending Short Course in Deadwood next week.

February 2026 Law Enforcement Report and reports showing the breakdown of calls made and hours worked in each community, were noted and filed. County Report: accidents 3, alarm 2, investigations 2, other 13, school patrol 21, theft 2, traffic stops 31 (warnings 22 & citations 9), warrant 1, and welfare checks 2.

The following building permit was issued in February 2026:

26-005          Joshua & Angela Sperling          garage/pole building          Buseman Tract 1 in S2SW4 16-101-54

Auditor Sherman presented information to the Board regarding payment of Hazard Mitigation Grant funding for DR-4527-11R-SD, McCook County Generator Project (for TM Rural Water). This project started in 2022 with Secog handling the paperwork. Sherman noted that she contacted Dept of Legislative Audit to verify how to handle this revenue and expenditure (to TM Rural Water) because neither was budgeted for. With that, a motion is needed to do an automatic supplement to Emergency Management Fund for unanticipated revenue for the State grant and do an auto supplement to the Emergency Management Fund for the expenditure. Motion Heumiller to approve automatic supplements for the unanticipated revenue and the expenditure. Second Mehlbrech. Nay: Liesinger. Abstain: Dick. Ayes: Heumiller, Mehlbrech, and Gordon. Motion carried.

Motion Heumiller to enter Executive Session at 9:45 a.m. for personnel discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, and Auditor Sherman were present. Chairman Dick declared out of Executive Session at 10:15 a.m.

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

Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization/Zoning Administrator, informed the Commission that local landowners have been approached about establishing an area for a data center, looking for a section of land. Secog gathered information from a Nebraska ordinance to draft a data center definition for the county zoning regulations. Flogstad presented the ordinance for data center definition to the Board. Data centers are not listed as permitted use in an Ag district. Discussed the demands they may pose for rural communities, economic impact (TIF's), infrastructure, and role of utilities-water & electricity. Auditor Sherman noted that State's Attorney Fink did say there is a legislative bill on data center taxation, and doesn't know the status of it. The Commission will wait for State guidance before adopting a definition for a data center in our zoning regulations. The Board asked Auditor Sherman to contact States Attorney Fink so they can further discuss this with him. Kris Tott was present, and noted that increased rates will be a concern for consumers because costs will trickle down to them.

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

Steve Dick, Drainage Administrator, informed the Board that following the Special Meeting held yesterday, Dave Evens did sign a routine maintenance permit required for downstream drainage work, this was one of the conditions placed on Drainage Permit D25-044, for Bernard Stockwell. Dick noted that Stockwell has asked about requesting a hearing at a future meeting if there is continued delay from the other landowner. The Board agreed that we wait until the end of the week for the other landowner to return their routine maintenance permit before scheduling another hearing.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Motion Heumiller, second Liesinger, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/28/2026: Commissioners 2293.00 mileage 256.20; Auditor 6642.14; Treasurer 5950.08, (new hire: Mary Jo Heiberger, Deputy Treasurer, \$19.50/hour) States Attorney 3916.90; Custodian 1533.00; Dir of Equalization 4910.72; Register of Deeds 3847.12; Veterans Service Officer 128.00; Sheriff 17433.16, (new hire: Trey Bierman, PT Deputy Sheriff, Uncertified, \$21.71/hour) Contract Law 10473.72; Care of Poor 240.37; Welfare 409.86; 4-H Youth Assistant 1633.80; Weed 1508.70; Drainage 457.50; Planning & Zoning 770.18. SD Dept of Revenue, SD Developmental Center-Redfield, 60.00; A&B Business, monthly copier contract, 86.74; Alternative HR, March HR services, 5600.00, AutoEx, vehicle maintenance, 534.82; Card Service Center, AED cabinet, 129.99, postage, fuel, supplies, 599.14, dogfood, 50.78, Armorer Course, 300.00, travel expense, 52.46, TV for security system, 149.99, Desert Snow training, 771.47, fuel, 77.08; Century Business Products, monthly copier contracts, 870.43; Chesterman Co, bottled water, 121.00; City of Bridgewater, March ambulance appropriation, 3978.75; Dakota Data Shred, shredding service, 175.22; Davison County Sheriff, February jail services, 2835.00; Steve Dick, mileage, 21.70; Mike Fink, February expenses, 451.78; Gordon Flesch, monthly copier contract, 33.00; Inter-Lakes Community Action, March Community Service Worker funds, 1210.08; Jack's Uniforms & Equipment, uniforms, 819.09; Lammers, Kleibacker, Dawson & Miller, court appointed for Dylan Armando James, 1365.60; Carol Lauer, office supplies, 20.97; Lewis Drug, prisoner care, 57.17; The Lodge at Deadwood, weed conference-lodging, 210.00; McCook County EMS, March appropriation, 14941.41; McCook County Treasurer, postage, 139.98, vehicle transfer, 34.00; McCormick Motors, vehicle maintenance, 1377.62; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanning equipment rent, 626.00; MidAmerican Energy, utilities-courthouse, 1012.05, food pantry, 97.06; Morgan Theeler LLP, court appointed attorney for Dalen Fleming, 873.80, Zackary Overbey, 587.73, Sarah Lockaby, 560.14; New Century Press, publishing 452.85; ODP Business Solutions, office supplies, 150.93; Pioneer Designs, striping/lettering 2 law enforcement vehicles, 1100.00; Presto-X, food pantry-pest control, 54.63; RBS Sanitation, garbage pickup-courthouse, 111.46, food pantry 115.20; Salem City, utilities-courthouse, 172.95, food pantry, 136.17; SD Achieve dba Lifescape,

service for 5 residents, 300.00; SD Assn of County Weed, 2026 dues, 200.00, conference registration, 500.00; SD Public Health Laboratory, lab services, 150.00; SDAE4-HP, 4-H conference, 120.00; Stacey Sieverding, mileage, 53.90; Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, February contract, 200.00; Thomson Reuters, codified law books, 237.96; Total Stop, cookies for township meeting, 40.69; Triotel Communications, telephone/internet service, 915.93; Verizon Wireless, iPad service, 40.01 cell phone service, 397.30; Wash N Go, car wash tokens, 200.00; Xcel Energy, utilities-courthouse, 791.54, food pantry, 111.61.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/28/2026: Hwy Dept 24372.36 (new hire: Kevin Kueter, Hwy Maintenance Worker, 23.00/hour). Appera, mat & towel rental, 99.58; Auto Value, supplies, 2781.75; Avera Occupational Medicine, drug screen, 51.00; Bierschbach Equipment, temporary road signs, 786.00; Butler Machinery, supplies, 95.40; Card Service Center, NACE conference-advance deposit, 293.98, supplies, 1474.36; Central Farmers Coop, gates, fuel, 10656.70; Century Business Products, monthly copier contract, 163.55; Chesterman Company, bottled water, 6.00; Commercial Asphalt, omega mix, 1283.50; Gessner Welding & Repair, tank oxygen, 59.00; Lyle Signs, posts, 775.00; McCormick Motors, supplies, 52.17; MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 439.21; Midstates Equipment & Supply, elastoflex, 29699.01; New Century Press, publishing, 184.37; Pheastland Industries, safety clothing, 231.46; Pomp's Tire Service, tires & supplies, 8925.00; RBS Sanitation, garbage service, 86.96; Salem City, utilities, 252.76; Salem Lumber, supplies, 6.44; Southeastern Electric, utilities, 56.27; Triotel Communications, telephone/internet service, 105.90; Xcel Energy, utilities, 692.41.

911 SERVICE FUND: Golden West Telecommunications, 911 telephone service 200.00; Triotel Communications, 911 telephone service 179.20.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/28/2026: EDS Director 1650.73. AT&T Mobility, EM iPad service, 40.54; Brad Stiefvater Jr, February expenses, 135.40; TM Rural Water, generator grant, 165,993.88; Triotel Communications, telephone & internet service, 144.74.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/28/2026: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 240.88. PharmChem, sweat patch analysis, 255.60.

LAW LIBRARY FUND: Thomson Reuters-West, SD Codified Law books, 237.96.

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$273,770.28

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 2/28/2026: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 5189.59, Medicare 1213.67; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 5225.87; Wellmark BlueCross/BlueShield of SD, county share of health insurance premium 7092.18.

The Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer for the month of February 2026: deposits in banks, \$5,466,027.62; cash to deposit, \$3,379.63; checks to deposit, \$52,013.20; CC payments, \$1,241.50; Cash Items \$173.98; Treasurer's Cash, \$1,396.02; Register of Deeds, \$450.00; Sheriff, \$500.00; CD's, \$700,000.00. The total deposits on hand: \$6,225,181.95.

Auditor Sherman presented update on CD renewals. Annual renewals: Rivers Edge Bank \$100,000-3.8%, Security State Bank \$50,000-3.27%, First Dakota National Bank \$100,000-3.65%, and 7-month renewal: First Dakota National Bank \$150,000-3.85%. The checking interest has dropped from 3.00% to 2.35%.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that a \$1/copy is charged to individuals who request copies and that staff time is charged at the hourly rate of pay for whomever is completing the request. The Auditor's Office is receiving more requests made under the Freedom of Information Act that information be sent electronically. States Attorney Fink recommended clarification of the policy adopted July 12, 2022. Motion Heumiller to charge \$1 per page for both paper and electronic records under FOIA/Sunshine Act requests, and the hourly rate for staff. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that the County received, \$21,636.23, the 75% match reimbursement for the court security grant project.

Auditor Sherman reported that SRO Agreements were sent to the school business managers on March 4<sup>th</sup>, no inquiries/questions received to date.

Max Jones and Troy Thompson, The Garland Company, provided a presentation on their roofing services to the Commission. The company uses local contractors and does inspections during re-roof projects. Discussed the importance of proper drainage, insulation for roof life, poor retrofits, using commercial-grade gutters, oversized downspouts, and heat tape for large facilities. Detailed bid documents and construction oversight are provided. Comm Dick asked the cost of inspecting the courthouse roof. There is no cost for a construction inspection of the roof. The Board agreed that they would like a report on the roof system to identify any concerns.

Motion Heumiller to enter Executive Session at 12:10 p.m. for personnel discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Second Dick. Motion carried. Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, was present. Chairman Gordon declared out of Executive Session at 12:35 p.m.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

Steve Gordon \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman \_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor, McCook County