

June 25, 2026

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

Members present: Marc Dick, Tom Heumiller, and Charles Liesinger. Member absent: Chuck Mehlbrech. Tom Tott was present.

Chairman Gordon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion carried.

The minutes of the June 16th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Dick to approve these minutes for publication. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

Public comments: none.

Commissioner Reports: Comm Heumiller received complaint from a contractor regarding townships not being able to purchase culverts from the county. Auditor Sherman noted that in the past, the vendor allowed townships to pick up culverts from the Hwy Dept yard and then bill the townships directly. That policy changed and the county had to purchase extra culverts and then bill townships when/if culverts were picked up. The culverts were not a true county expense and inflated budget numbers. Hwy Supt Raap added that the townships can pick up culverts in Sioux Falls or Huron, depending on culvert site location.

Comm Mehlbrech joined the meeting.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, requested board motion to move \$227,013.53 (STP Funds) as follows: from Assigned to Road Purposes to Assigned to Capital Outlay-STP Funds \$216,166.14 and from Assigned to Road Purposes to Restricted-Pavement Marking \$10,847.39. Motion Liesinger to approve the transfers. Second Dick. Motion carried. Hwy Supt Raap presented utility permits to the Board for approval: Golden West Telecommunications (7 locations) 254th Ave E of 453rd St; Clark St W of Valley Rd; 447th Ave N of 255th St; 451st Ave W of 257th St; Hawk Rd (3 locations); 431st Ave N of 267th St; and 432nd Ave N of 268th St. Motion Mehlbrech to approve the Communications Utility Permits. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Triotel Communications, fiber drop to 43046 247th St. Motion Liesinger to approve the Telephone Utility Permit. Second Heumiller. Motion carried. Hwy Supt Raap informed Board that the RAIF funds (\$45,928) that the county received is incorrect, should be \$102,498.04. Three counties received the incorrect funds, Dept of Revenue is working on correcting this. Raap asked Board members if they had input regarding the haul road agreement with Meadow View Colony. None. Raap informed the Board of an accident involving tractor/mower, the employee wasn't injured. A motorist attempting to pass the tractor/mower, making a left turn at intersection of 446th Ave and 263rd St, collided with tractor. Auditor Sherman noted that she will file a claim and send the law enforcement report when she receives it. Current projects include paver patching with chip sealing to begin July 6th.

Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization, presented the 6-year contract with Pictometry International Corp for county flyover. The contract amount is \$27,933.33. Flogstad didn't want to sign the contract without the Commission having a definitive amount. Motion Liesinger to authorize Flogstad to sign the contract for the flyover. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that Avera hospitals quit sending out the Notice of Hospitalizations last year. Sherman added, SDCL 28-13-34.1 states, if hospitalization is furnished to a medically indigent person, the county is not liable for the cost of the hospitalization unless, within fifteen days in the case of an emergency admission, notice of the hospitalization is mailed to the auditor of the county. If a notice is not filed timely, the result is an automatic denial.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that notice was received from Salem City regarding the special assessment roll for Phase II Street and Utility Improvements project. The estimated cost to the county was \$68,276.00 and the actual cost came in at \$44,492.40. The payment for this project is budgeted under Government Building to be paid in 2027.

Motion Liesinger, second Heumiller, carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll by Department: 6/20/2026: Commissioners 2293.00; Auditor 6642.13; Treasurer 6335.84; States Attorney 3916.90; Custodian 1511.10; Dir of Equalization 5090.65; Register of Deeds 3847.12; Veterans Service Officer 384.00; Sheriff 17433.77; Contract Law 9340.74; Care of Poor 240.37; Welfare 592.02; Extension Secretary 1727.35; Drainage 270.00; Planning & Zoning 767.87. Transamerica Employee Benefits, June contribution-GAP coverage, 4404.94; AAA Collections, collection fees, 163.82; Affordable Auto Body, vehicle repairs, 1638.01; Corporate Translation, translation services, 19.43; Mike Fink, May expenses, 485.85; G & R Controls, boiler maintenance, 921.40; Kathryn Heumiller, blood alcohol, 140.00; Lori Heumiller, post-election audit member, 50.00; Iron Wheel Heating & Cooling, inspect sump pump, 50.00; Joan Julson, post-election audit member, 50.00; Lammers Kleibacker, Dawson & Miller, court appointed attorney for Michael VanDerVen, 170.80; Carol Lauer, meals-Spring workshop, 34.33; LifeQuest, 3rd quarter allocation, 750.00; McLeod's Printing, election supplies, 38.00; Linda Mehlbrech, post-election audit member, 50.00; Morgan Theeler, CAA expenses, Brandi Bormann, 23.34; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile apps, 143.00; ODP Business Solutions, office supplies, 270.33; Pulse Electric, replace ballast, 235.46; Salem City, water & sewer, 311.19; Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, May contract, 200.00; Turnwell Mental Health, evaluation, 3500.00; Weber Landscaping, herbicide application-Courthouse yard, 260.00.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 6/20/2026: Hwy Dept 26475.14. Transamerica Employee Benefits, June contribution-GAP coverage, 1742.26. Cole's Petroleum, no lead gasoline, 8316.00; Dakota Fluid Power, supplies, 230.86; Knife River, G2 asphalt, 17707.68; North Central International, supplies, 800.90; Northwestern Energy, utilities, 19.02; Safety-Kleen, parts washer solvent, 234.69; Salem City, water & sewer, 270.26; Sir Lines-A-Lot, pavement markings, 23023.00; Verizon Wireless, cell phone service, 79.73.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Mitchell Regional 911, 911 services (95% of surcharge collections), 8020.44; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile app, 26.00; Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities, 82.69.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 6/20/2026: EDS Director 1650.73. Transamerica Employee Benefits, June contribution-GAP coverage, 96.51. Grocott Ink & Thread, Search & Rescue clothing, 640.00.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 6/20/2026: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 252.94.

RURAL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE FUND: Grant Township, 2nd half RAIF grant, 26,600.00

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 6/20/2026: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 5227.20, Medicare 1222.47; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 5180.09; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield, county share of health insurance contribution, 27545.95.

TOTAL CLAIMS: \$95,556.23.

Auditor Sherman explained that the county has been receiving Opioid Settlement Funds for several years and monies will continue coming until 2038. Funds have been used to purchase DARE supplies, to provide DARE training, and K-9 & handler training. The Approved Uses have been reviewed with States Attorney Fink and funds can also be used to prevent overdose deaths. With board approval, Opioid funds can be used for the July payments to Bridgewater Ambulance Service and McCook County Emergency Medical Services. Motion Liesinger to pay ambulance appropriations with Opioid funds, providing availability and distribution of naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses for members of the public. Second Heumiller. Motion carried.

Motion Mehlbrech, second Liesinger, and carried, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2026-04

Whereas insufficient appropriations were made in the 2026 budget to discharge just obligations of said appropriation.

Whereas SDCL 7-21-32.2 provides that transfers may be made by Resolution of the Board from the Contingency appropriation established pursuant to SDCL 7-21-6.1 to other appropriations.

Therefore, be it resolved that the appropriation of \$6500.00 be transferred from the General Fund Contingency to Juvenile Detention.

Dated 25th day of June 2026.

Steve Gordon _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County

Motion Mehlbrech to approve a Cash Transfer of \$65,000.00 from General Fund to Emergency & Disaster Services Fund.

Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Fred Butzke, McCook County Soil Conservation District Equipment Manager & Wendy Benson, District Manager, reviewed 2027 estimated expenses and revenues (excluding county support) for the district, with the Board, noting a budget deficit of \$30900.

Carol Lauer, Treasurer, reviewed 2027 budget for Treasurer Office with the Board. Lauer noted that she wants fair wages for hourly staff across the board.

Beth Skaff, Food Pantry Coordinator, informed Board that a \$23,000 donation was made to the pantry and a grant was received from Canistota Community Foundation. The 2027 budget was reviewed.

Motion Heumiller to enter Executive Session at 11:00 p.m. for personnel discussion, SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Second Dick. Motion carried. Tasia Dass, HR Coordinator, and Mike Fink, States Attorney, were present. Chairman Gordon declared out of Executive Session at 11:55 p.m.

Brad (BJ) Stiefvater, Jr, Emergency Manager, met with the Commission to review/discuss the 2027 budgets for McCook County Emergency Medical Service (ambulance), 911 Fund, and Emergency Management Fund. Per (5-year) Agreement signed with McCook County EMS Inc in 2025, there is an 8% annual increase for the ambulance service. 95% of the 911 surcharge collections are paid to Mitchell Regional 911 for 911 services.

Jim Julson, Bridgewater Ambulance Service, met with the Board to review 2025 and January – May 2026 ambulance expenses & revenue. Julson noted that the ambulance service is a vital part of the Bridgewater community. Joan Julson was also present to answer questions.

Brian Loken, Development Director LifeQuest Foundation, explained the programs offered through LifeQuest that support people with developmental disabilities, helping them participate in community activities and finding jobs in the community. The request for support for 2027 remains at \$3,000. Loken thanked the commission for their past support and the opportunity to meet with them.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 25th day of June 2026.

Steve Gordon _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County