

Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes  
October 1, 2024

PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT The Board of County Commissioners met at the Douglas County Courthouse in Armour, SD at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. Members present were Dan Koedam, Marlin Maas, Lori Sparks, Jerod Star and Jim Werkmeister. Auditor Phyllis Barker was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam to adopt the agenda. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Werkmeister to approve the minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> meetings. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Callie Nichols, Interim Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to review the proposed 5-year plan. The 5-year plan meeting will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Nichols informed the Board that the mastic project will begin on Co. Road 580 this week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made Star and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 9:25 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. At 9:35 a.m. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session with no action taken at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Werkmeister to enter executive session at 9:38 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 10:01 a.m. with no action necessary.

DELMONT AREA DRAINAGE

Joel Baier, County Resident, and Interim Superintendent Nichols met with the Board to continue discussion on the ditch cleanout by Delmont. A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Werkmeister to approve the estimate from Vander Pol Construction for the clean out of ditches in the Delmont area with the City of Delmont covering \$3,250.00 of the cost and Joel Baier (landowner) paying up to \$1000.00 for the approach work, the county will then cover the rest of the bill. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

LIQUOR LICENSE

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star to authorizing the Chairperson to sign the renewal of the liquor license held by Dakota Trails Golf Course. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Auditor Barker presented a memo from the Bureau of Finance Management regarding Travel Reimbursement Rates for FY2025. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to 0.67 cents per mile effective October 1, 2024. If an employee elects to use a personal vehicle for county business when a county vehicle is available to them, the mileage reimbursement rate will be set at 45% of the rate set by the IRS, or 0.30 cents per mile. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

#### CAMPGROUND- PLAY GROUND EQUIPMENT

Auditor Barker informed the Board that the County was *not* awarded the Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant for new playground equipment at the Douglas County Recreation Area (Corsica Lake Campground). The donations collected will remain earmarked for the project and Barker will reapply for the grant in 2025. No action was needed.

#### COUNTY CORONER

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Star to appoint Josh Knodel as the Douglas County Coroner effective immediately for the remainder of this term. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 10:31 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session with no action taken at 10:42 a.m. with no action taken.

#### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Chris Lau, Sheriff, met with the Board to present the FFY25 Highway Safety Grants. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Werkmeister to accept the award of the FFY2025 Highway Safety Grants. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

Sheriff Lau introduced Scott Powers to the Commissioners. Powers has been a sheriff's deputy for 18 years in Brule County and has experience in using the county equipment and software. Lau would like to hire Powers to fill the position vacated by Dustin Palmquist as Chief Deputy.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by star to enter executive session at 11:15 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 11:47 a.m. with the following action taken:

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Werkmeister to offer the position of Chief Deputy to Scott Powers at a rate of \$53,000.00 annually with a review after the completion of a sixth month probation. Powers first day will be October 7<sup>th</sup> if he accepts the position. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 11:51 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 12:10 p.m. with no action taken.

#### CLAIMS

The following claims were approved for payment.

#### GENERAL FUND

September Payroll: Commissioners 6061.45 Auditor 10,285.80 Treasurer 11,543.50 States Attorney 6,461.66 Courthouse Janitor 7,049.96 Equalization 10,011.38 Register of Deeds 8,759.19 Veterans Service Officer 1106.50 Sheriff 39,265.70 Coroner 0.00 Welfare 154.27 Ambulance 2,211.80 Extension 3967.73 Weed & Pest 2,838.15 Fair Board 0.00 Drainage 359.93 Planning and Zoning 448.56 Park 0.00 Reliance Standard Life Insurance 590.26 Armour Chronicle 634.24 publishing; Corsica Globe 634.24 publishing; Davison Co. Sheriff's Office

315.00 jail fees; Mitchel DeLange 92.15 repairs; Election Systems & Software 54.14 supplies; AT&T Mobility 430.95 utilities; Floor to Ceiling 24,393.30 courthouse repairs; Goldenwest 723.05 utilities; Bradley Kerner 678.50 CAA fees; McLeod's Office Supply 275.02 supplies; Northwestern Energy 1699.99 utilities; Office Products Center 203.03 supplies; Prairie Environmental Consulting 7750.00 repairs; State Bar of South Dakota 500.00 prof fees; U.S. Bank Voyager 249.28 gas.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

September Payroll: 36,021.20; Armour Chronicle 109.76 publishing; AT&T Mobility 80.08 utilities; Goldenwest 193.53 utilities; U.S Bank Voyager 1492.14 gas.

E911 FUND

September Payroll: 26.46

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

September Payroll: 2,298.82

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:11 p.m., a motion was made by Star, seconded by Koedam to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Sparks, Chairperson  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis Barker, Auditor