

Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025

PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT The Board of County Commissioners met at the Douglas County Courthouse in Armour, SD at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. 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 Maas and seconded by Koedam to adopt the agenda. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

TREASURER

Carolyn Lau, Treasurer, updated the Board on the new 605 Drive State Motor Vehicle system. Roxane Steburg was approved to work on February 17th as required by the state for the implementation of the new program.

Lau presented a quote for a new computer through Connecting Point for her office. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing the Treasurer to purchase a new computer for her office from Connecting Point for a total of \$953.25. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SDSU EXTENSION

Hilary Kroupa, SDSU Extension, met with the Board to present the Program Evaluation and Reviewer Feedback for the 4-H Program Manager for Douglas County for 2024. Discussion was held with no action necessary.

4-H EXTENSION

Kim Klein, 4-H Extension Director, met with the Board to discuss her department. Shooting Sports has started; there are a total of 60 kids participating in the program this year. A Clover Buds program for children ages 5-7 has been formed and is currently open for new members. Enrollment ends May 31st.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing Kim Klein to attend the South Regions Program Council Meeting in Lennox on February 27th. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Werkmeister authorizing Kim Klein to attend the SDSU Spring Conference March 4th-6th in Mitchell. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Werkmeister authorizing Kim Klein to attend the 4-H Online training on April 7th in Mitchell. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

WEED AND PEST

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Star authorizing the Weed and Pest Supervisor and one other Board Member to attend the Weed and Pest Conference February 19-21. Any other Board Members wanting to attend for one day may do so. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Callie Nichols, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to present the Weight Resolution for 2025.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister to introduce the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-01
A RESOLUTION OF WEIGHT LIMIT ENFORCEMENTS ON
DOUGLAS COUNTY HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS, Seasonal climatic changes can be detrimental to our highways, and State Laws SDCL 32-14-6 gives the county the authority to prohibit the operation of vehicles or restrict weight of vehicles upon any highway under its jurisdiction, by reason of deterioration of physical condition, rain, snow, or other climatic conditions will seriously damage or destroy unless the use of vehicles on the highway is prohibited or the permissible weights of the vehicles are reduced; and

WHEREAS, by State Law SDCL 32-22-24, Spring Load limits may be put on as early as February 15 and may stay on through April 13. Time of implementation and removal is dependent on weather and road conditions. Limits become effective when the signs are installed and displayed and are no longer enforceable when they are removed; and

WHEREAS, the tax payers bear the burden of the costs of road repair;

WHEREAS, the Board of Douglas County Commissioners, desires the enforcement of weight limitation of Douglas County Roads as set forth and posted by the Douglas County Highway Superintendent.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The limits on Douglas County Highway shall be set as seven (7) ton per axle, on designated roads with the exception of 402nd Ave. from Highway 44 North to county line which will be posted at 80,000 GVW and 7 tons per axle during spring thaw period and when signs are in place; and 284TH ST from HWY 281 to 401st AVE is posted NO THRU TRUCKS-26,000 LBS GVW & 40mph for trucks year round and 7 ton per axle and 26,000 LBS GVW during spring thaw period and when signs are in place.

That the South Dakota Highway Patrol is hereby authorized and requested to enforce weight limitations on Douglas County Roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be as set forth in SDCL 32-22-55.

The following votes were recorded: voting aye: Star, Koedam, Werkmeister, Maas and Sparks. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Dated this 11th day of February, 2025.

SIGNED: _____
Lori Sparks, Chairman, Douglas County Commission

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, County Auditor

Nichols presented a resolution to appoint an engineering firm to complete the County bridge inspections. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to introduce the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-02
BRIDGE REINSPECTION PROGRAM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years. THEREFORE, Douglas County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program. The County requests SDDOT to hire Brosz Engineering for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

The following votes were recorded: voting aye: Koedam, Werkmeister, Maas, Star and Sparks. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Dated this 11th day of February 2025, at Armour, South Dakota.

SIGNED: _____
Lori Sparks, Chairman, Douglas County Commission

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, County Auditor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 10:25 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 10:35 a.m. with the following action taken:

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Koedam to accept the verbal resignation from Jacob Horstman as of January 28, 2025, and to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for a Highway Maintenance Employee and/or a Shop Foremen. All members voted in favor if this action; motion carried.

RANDALL COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

Greg Powell, Randall Water, met with the Board to update them on the new "Connecting Neighbors" Regional Waterline project. Discussion was held with no action necessary.

Chairperson Sparks exited the meeting at 10:57 a.m. Vice- Chairman Werkmeister took control of the meeting.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Phyllis Barker, Auditor, discussed personnel policy updates and payroll procedures with the Board with no action taken at this time.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Maas to authorize the pay-out of vacation and sick leave benefits for Jacob Horstman on February payroll. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam to enter executive session at 11:48 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. Vice-Chair

Werkmeister declared the meeting back to open session at 12:11 p.m. with the following action taken:

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to regretfully accept the resignation from John Engelland due to retirement, effective March 25, 2025. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to advertise for a full-time Custodian. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

CLAIMS

The following claims were approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND

January Payroll: Commissioners 6827.29 Auditor 10,627.45 Treasurer 11,879.19 States Attorney 6069.45 Courthouse Janitor 6949.95 Equalization 10,888.69 Register of Deeds 9,550.04 Veterans Service Officer 1160.33 Sheriff 28,383.47 Coroner 0.00 Welfare 154.48 Ambulance 2,505.34 Extension 4484.59 Weed & Pest 1423.45 Fair board 0.00 Drainage 411.90 Planning and Zoning 450.23 Park 0.00 Reliance Standard Life Insurance 624.31 Agland Coop 392.46 utilities/supplies; Armour Chronicle 718.23 publishing/supplies; City of Armour 146.00 utilities; Buhls Dry Cleaners 184.00 supplies; Cardmember Services 95.73 prof fees; Charles Mix County Sheriff's Office 540.00 jail fees; Cole Papers Inc. 751.78 supplies; Corsica Globe 293.23 publishing; Darrington Water 88.00 supplies; Dave's Plumbing and Heating 231.79 repairs; DCMH 750.00 prof fees; Douglas Electric 216.54 utilities; AT&T Mobility 431.15 utilities; Goldenwest 702.92 utilities; H&H Electric 37.80 repairs; Pamela Hein 3022.75 CAA fees; Johnson Pochop & Bartling Law 1202.00 CAA fees; Legacy Building Supply 29.50 supplies; Lewis & Clark BHS 6500.00 allotment; LifeQuest 3000.00 allotment; Maule Law Office 1064.50 CAA fees; McLeod's Office Supply 240.54 supplies; Microfilm Imaging Systems 200.00 rental fees; Nextraq 46.00 utilities; Northwestern Energy 3351.04 utilities; Office Products Center 240.36 supplies; Scott Powers 27.50 supplies; Randall Community Water Dist. 84.00 utilities; ROCS Senior Meals 1200.00 allotment; Safe Place of Eastern SD 1000.00 allotment; SDACO 198.45 dues; SDAE4-HP 120.00 conference; Select Service Center 158.94 repairs; State 4-H Office 10.00 fees; U.S Bank Voyager 1212.01 gas; Whalen Law Office 4712.00 CAA fees; Wilson's True Value 73.26 supplies; Yankton Co. Treasurer 145.00 prof fees.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

January Payroll 33,843.93; Agland Coop 7962.52 fuel/propane; City of Armour 63.00 utilities; Douglas Electric Coop 133.04 utilities; Ernie Dufek 33.00 reimb.; AT&T Mobility 80.08 utilities; Fousek Truck Service 471.38 supplies; Goldenwest 180.27 utilities; Legacy Building Supply 76.25 repairs; Nextraq 132.65 utilities; Northwestern Energy 306.78 utilities; Safety Service 442.38 repairs; Sanitation Products 151.46 supplies; Titan Machinery 320.22 supplies; Transource Truck & Equip. 228.65 supplies; Vogt's Repair 919.08 repairs/supplies; Werk Weld 184.44 supplies.

E-911 FUND

January Payroll: 26.69; Goldenwest 200.00 prof fees; Midstate Communications 440.11 prof fees; Santel Communications 30.00 prof. fees.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

January Payroll: 2410.73; AT&T Mobility 33.26 utilities; AT&T Mobility 33.26 utilities; Pat Harrington 431.48 travel.

DOMESTIC ABUSE FUND

Safe Place of Eastern SD 365.00 marriage/divorce fees.

MODERNIZATION AND PRESERVATION FUND

Microfilm Imaging Systems 445.00 rental fees.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:31 p.m. a motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to adjourn until the next meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 18, 2025. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____
Lori Sparks, Chairperson
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, Auditor