

Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes
June 3, 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, June 3, 2025. Members present were Dan Koedam, Marlin Maas, Jerod Star and Jim Werkmeister. Auditor Phyllis Barker was also present. Lori Sparks was absent. 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Star to approve the minutes from the May 6th and 20th meetings. All present voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Phyllis Barker, Auditor, met with the Board to present a quote from Two-Trees Technologies for a computer for her office. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to approve the purchase of a new computer for the auditor's office from Two-Trees Technologies for \$1,356.25. All present voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING- ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01

At the advertised time of 9:15 a.m., Vice-Chair Werkmeister declared the Public Hearing open for the review of Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-01. No one from the public was present. The Board reviewed the ordinance as proposed by the Emergency Manager and States Attorney. Vice-Chair Werkmeister declared the hearing closed at 9:20 a.m.

FIRST READING

Motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam to conduct the first reading of *ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01, An Ordinance Regulating Open Burning in Douglas County*. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes recorded: Voting 'aye': Maas, Star, Koedam, and Werkmeister. Voting 'nay': none. Absent: Sparks. Motion carried. The Ordinance is available in its entirety on the County website or at the Auditor's Office.

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to set the second reading for Ordinance #2025-01 for 9:05 a.m. on June 17, 2025. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Brad Ellwanger, Highway Superintendent, and Callie Nichols, Assistant Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to update them on their department. Discussion was held on various items including road repairs, gravel and machinery. No action was needed.

ROAD AND BRIDGE LEVY

Auditor Barker informed the Board that the current Road and Bridge Levy has expired. This levy has historically been a critical source of funding for maintaining and improving our local roads and bridges. Without it, the Road and Bridge Fund lacks the necessary resources to carry out essential services such as road resurfacing, snow removal, bridge repairs, and general infrastructure upkeep. To ensure that our roadways remain safe, efficient, and well-maintained for residents, school transportation, emergency services, and commerce, the Board must consider establishing a new levy. This would allow the Road and Bridge Fund to

remain solvent and continue supporting the essential services our community depends on. Therefore, a motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star to introduce the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-05
RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A LEVY AND COUNTY HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE RESERVE FUND

WHEREAS, Douglas County has deteriorating and substandard county roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS Douglas County has inadequate revenue to meet the minimum road and bridge maintenance required; and

WHEREAS, SDCL 10-12-13 allows the Board of County Commissioners to establish a levy for the creation of a reserve fund to be accumulated and used for the purpose of maintaining, repairing, constructing and reconstructing roads and bridges in Douglas County; and

WHEREAS taxable valuation within Douglas County is less than one billion dollars;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners that there shall be an increased levy in the amount of One Dollar and Twenty Cents (\$1.20) per one thousand dollars of taxable valuation of property located within Douglas County; and that the monies from the levy shall be placed into a reserve fund known as the Douglas County Highway and Bridge Reserve fund; and be it further

RESOLVED that said funds shall be used solely for county road and bridge purposes, and that the County Highway budget shall not be reduced on account of the special funds available; and be it further

RESOLVED that this Resolution shall expire on January 1, 2030.

Upon roll call vote the following was recorded:

Voting "aye": Koedam, Maas, Star and Werkmeister

Voting "nay": None

Absent: Sparks

Dated at Armour, SD this 3rd day of June 2026. Motion carried.

Signed: _____
Jim Werkmeister, Vice Chairperson
Douglas County Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, Douglas County Auditor

TREASURERS OFFICE

Carolyn Lau, Treasurer, met with the Board to discuss upcoming tax deed properties. No action was needed.

CLAIMS

The following claims were approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND

May Payroll: Commissioners 6,966.11 Auditor 10,240.16 Treasurer 11,603.47 States Attorney 5980.23 Courthouse Janitor 7,673.28 Equalization 7,455.88 Register of Deeds 9,206.89 Veterans Service Officer 1160.33 Sheriff 26,425.83 Coroner 0.00 Welfare 154.48 Ambulance 3,423.00 Extension 3712.59 Weed & Pest 2378.75 Fair board 0.00 Drainage 411.86 Planning and Zoning 860.16 Park 1246.29 Reliance Standard Life Insurance 567.51 Armour Chronicle 179.70 publishing; City of Armour 146.00 utilities; Birmingham & Cwach Law Office 293.73 CAA Fees; Buhl's Dry Cleaners 153.50 supplies; C&R Supply 67.80 supplies; Cardmember Services 307.83 prof fees/ supplies; Corsica Globe 179.70 publishing; Dollar General 23.90 supplies; Everson-Beukelman Post #274 200.00 Memorial Day allotment; AT&T Mobility 431.15 utilities; Goldenwest 720.66 utilities; H&H Electric 153.40 repairs/supplies; Steve Johnson 612.00 maint.; Laib- Albrecht Post #249 200.00 Memorial Day allotment; McGrath- Ferguson Post #52 200.00 Memorial Day allotment; McLeod's Office Supply 195.96 supplies; Northwestern Energy 1711.42 utilities; Office Products 400.23 supplies; SDPAA 48,341.66 insurance; Select Service Center 2025.00 repairs; Stamp Fulfillment Services 1345.60 supplies; Two-Trees Technologies 819.00 equipment; US Bank 1338.58 gas; VA Post #6897 45.00 supplies; Wilson's Hardware 33.56 supplies.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

May Payroll: 38,928.58; Agland Coop 1458.50 supplies; ATCO International 224.00 supplies; Bierschbach Equipment 1126.50 repairs/supplies; Corsica Hardware 68.97 supplies; Econo Signs 8026.24 repairs; Legacy Building Supply 39.99 supplies; SD Dept of Transportation 44,293.95 bridge repair; David Vander Pol Construction 25,102.09 culvert replacement; WW Tire Service Inc. 3180.00 supplies; City of Armour 63.00 utilities; AT&T Mobility 80.08 utilities; Goldenwest 182.71 utilities; Henke Tractor Repair 13.00 repairs; Office Products Center 337.86 supplies; SDPAA 15,064.38 insurance; US Bank 678.56 gas; Wilson's Hardware 56.90 supplies.

E911 FUND

May Payroll: 26.85; Goldenwest 200.00 E911 system; Lyle Signs 78.25 supplies; Midstate Communications 440.11 E911 system; Santel Communications 30.00 E911 system.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

May Payroll: 2,473.72; SDPAA 913.84 insurance.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:31 a.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 June 17, 2025. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____
Jim Werkmeister, Vice- Chairperson
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, Auditor