

Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes
October 7, 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, October 7, 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 Werkmeister 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 Maas to approve the minutes from the September 2nd and 16th meetings. 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. The City of Armour has asked the Highway Department for assistance in crack sealing the city roads. Discussion was held, with no action taken at this time.

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star authorizing the Chairperson to sign the South Dakota Department of Transportation Request for Design Exception- Local Government Agencies for Project Number: BRO 8022(00)25-1, for the replacement of SN 22-213-030, 2.0 miles North & 6.3 miles East of Corsica, SD on 271st Street over Unnamed Tributary to Choteau Creek, to reduce the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister authorizing the Chairperson to sign the Rental Agreement between Douglas County and Brad Ellwanger for the use of a Caterpillar Skid Loader with an attachment for cutting trees at a rate of \$350.00 per week. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

4-H EXTENSION

Kim Klein, 4-H Extension Director, met with the Board to update them on her department. Klein provided an overview of the 4-H Program for 2024-2025 year. There was a total of 88 members, or 18% of the available youth in Douglas County. The Recognition Event will be held on November 1st. The Fair Board made a motion to recommend the Commission set the storage rates to \$300.00 for equipment up to 29ft., and \$400 for anything over 29ft. for the months of October 1st, 2025 through May 1st, 2025. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Werkmeister to approve the rate increase, with the understanding that the rates will be discussed with Commissioner *before* contracts are sent to renters for 2026. With Star voting nay, all others voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing Kim Klein to attend the South Dakota Beyond Ready Activation Summit on November 12th and 13th. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 9:55 a.m. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1). All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 10:13 a.m. with no action taken.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Auditor Barker presented a memo from the Bureau of Finance Management regarding Travel

Reimbursement Rates for FY2026. A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Star to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to 0.70 cents per mile effective October 1, 2025. 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 0.32 cents per mile. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

WHEEL TAX

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

RESOLUTION #2025-07

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUE OF A COUNTY WHEEL TAX

WHEREAS, Douglas County, pursuant to the authority of 32-5A-1 et seq., has imposed a wheel tax, and

WHEREAS, Douglas County can levy a maximum of \$5.00 per wheel, not to exceed sixty dollars (\$60.00) per vehicle; and

WHEREAS, SDCL 32-5A-2, allows the Board of County Commissioners to establish a means of distributing the revenue generated by the wheel tax among the County and the municipalities and townships located within the County,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, that a levy of \$5.00 per wheel has been established and that the revenue generated from the County wheel tax pursuant to Ordinance No. 2025-02 shall be distributed as follows:

90% to be retained by Douglas County, 5% to be distributed to the municipalities, and 5% to be distributed to the townships; Pursuant to SDCL 32-11-4.1 and SDCL 32-11-5. Date of distribution shall be annually.

Dated this 7th day of October 2025

All members voted in favor of this action, motion carried.

SIGNED: Lori Sparks, Chairperson

ATTEST: Phyllis Barker, County Auditor

AMBULANCE ROSTER

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to add the following drivers to the Corsica EMS Roster: Melanie Vander Pol- Bailey, Farlin Barse, Raven Barse, Seth Denning, Lowell Devries, and Jerry Wisdom. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

AUDITOR

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam authorizing Phyllis Barker to attend Election Training sessions on October 29-30th and November 19-20th. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT III

A Motion was made by Maas and seconded by Werkmeister authorizing the Chairperson to sign the Statement of Extension to the Joint Cooperative Agreement verifying that Douglas County will take

part in the District III Association of Local Governments and will allot \$12,739.00 for the 2026 calendar year. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

DAKOTA TRAILS LIQUOR LICENSE

A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Maas to authorizing the Chairperson to sign the renewal of the liquor license held by Dakota Trails Golf Course for 2026. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Maas to enter executive session at 10:40 a.m. pursuant to 1-25-2 (1). All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session at 11:36 a.m. with no action taken at this time.

CLAIMS

The following claims were approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND

September Payroll: Commissioners 6872.24 Auditor 10,831.01 Treasurer 12,024.58 States Attorney 5980.23 Courthouse Janitor 7973.65 Equalization 6971.04 Register of Deeds 10,137.46 Sheriff 25,376.17 Coroner 0.00 Welfare 154.48 Ambulance 3310.53 Extension 4200.85 Weed & Pest 2217.41 Fair board 0.00 Drainage 411.86 Planning and Zoning 447.82 Park 0.00 Reliance Standard Life Insurance 567.51

Agland Coop 689.56 travel/repairs/utilities; Armour Chronicle 367.91 publishing; City of Armour 138.00 utilities; Armour Dray 120.00 utilities; Bordewyk Plumbing and Heating 138.34 repairs; Buhl's Dry Cleaning 246.00 supplies; Card Member Services 1694.24 prof fees/ supplies/ repairs; Corsica Globe 367.91 publishing; Corsica Hardware 2936.38 repairs/supplies; Darrington Water 24.00 supplies; Davison Co. Treasurer 265.84 mental health; Department of Health 50.00 prof fees; Douglas Electric Co op 3133.00 repairs/utilities/equipment; AT&T Mobility 430.84 utilities; Jessica Goehring 422.86 travel; Golden West 728.25 utilities; Graham Tire Mitchell 838.48 repairs; Kim Klein 41.92 supply reimb; Phillip Lane 6.85 supple reimb; Microfilm Imaging Systems 820.00 rental fees; Nextraq 72.00 utilities; Northwestern Energy 2293.78 utilities; Office Products Center 604.72 supplies; Craig Parkhurst 1557.66 prof fees/ utilities; Ramkota Hotel 896.00 conference; Randall Comm. Water Dist. 103.80 utilities; SD Dept. of Public Safety 2340.00 radios; SD Dept of Revenue 611.63 (August) 611.63 (September) Mental Health; SDACC 2299.00 CLERP; Select Service Center 1809.56 repairs; Severson Service 500.00 prof fees; Two Trees Technologies 2949.25 prof fees; US Bank 1317.34 gas; Van Brothers Inc. 150.00 utilities.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

September Payroll: 44,022.92; Agland Co op 6977.05 diesel; City of Armour 63.00 utilities; Armour Dray 35.00 utilities; Douglas Electric Co op 72.58 utilities; AT&T Mobility 80.08 utilities; Golden West 185.27 utilities; Jeff Grosz 235.40 repairs; Meyerink Farm Service 52.80 repairs; Nextraq 132.65 utilities; Northwestern Energy 14.02 utilities; SD Dept. of Transportation 5373.25 prof fees/bridge; Star Mfg. 1733.34 repairs; Transourse Truck & Equip. 529.48 repairs/supplies; Two Trees Technologies 249.45 prof fees; US Bank 328.54 gas; Vogt's Repair 101.07 supplies; Wilson's Hardware 20.48 supplies.

E-911 FUND

September Payroll: 26.53; Charles Mix County 28,405.32 E911 Services; Golden West 200.00 E911 System; Midstate Communications 440.11 E911 System; Santel Communications 30.00 E911 System.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

September Payroll: 2,410.73; AT&T Mobility 31.98 utilities; Two Trees Technologies 153.15 prof fees.

MODERNIZATION AND PRESERVATION FUND

Microfilm Imaging Systems 237.50 rental fees.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:48 a.m. a motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star to adjourn until the next meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m. on October 21, 2025. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____

Lori Sparks, Chairperson
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: _____

Phyllis Barker, Auditor