

Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026

PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT The Board of County Commissioners met at the Douglas County Courthouse in Armour SD at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Members present were Dan Koedam, Marlin Maas, Jerod Star and Jim Werkmeister. Auditor Phyllis Barker was also present. Chairperson Lori Sparks was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star 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 December 2nd, 16th and 30th meetings. All present voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION

Jessica Goehring, Director of Equalization, met with the Board to update them on her department. Goehring explained that two tax abatements are necessary pursuant to SDCL 10-4-40 and one pursuant to SDCL 10-6A-4. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam authorizing the auditor to complete the following abatements for Taxes Payable 2026: #2025-0346 in the amount of \$2,097.66, #2025-1449 in the amount of \$483.44, and #2025-2361 in the amount of \$443.96. All present voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to enter executive session at 9:12 a.m. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1). All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. At 9:21 a.m., Vice-Chair Werkmeister declared the meeting back to open session with no action taken at this time.

AMBULANCE

Nicole Neugebauer and Shelly Menning, Directors of the Armour and Corsica Ambulance Services, appeared before the Board to provide their annual service updates. The Douglas County- Armour Ambulance had 110 calls in 2025. Douglas County- Corsica Ambulance had 109 calls in 2025. It was reported that DCMH donated \$10,000 to each ambulance service in 2025. Discussion was held with no action necessary.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Brad Ellwanger, Highway Superintendent, and Callie Nichols, Assistant Superintendent, met with the Board to update them on their department.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing the Vice-Chair to sign the Application for Occupancy on the Right-of-Way of County Highways submitted by Douglas Electric for telecommunication facilities occupancy on 398th Ave. located in the SE corner of Section 24, T98N, R63W. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

BID LETTING

At the advertised time of 10:00 a.m., the sealed bids for the 2026 County Highway Projects were opened and reviewed by the Board.

CHIP-SEAL PROJECTS

Project #1-26 Road 7-3; 4.2 miles
Project #2-26 Road 19-3; 1 mile
Project #3-26 Road 560-3, 560-4; 10.1 miles
Project #4-26 Road 520-2, 520-3; 1.2 miles

BIDS:

The Road Guy Construction Co., Inc.: 3206 E Highway 50, Yankton, SD 57078: \$2.43 per square yard for total of \$574,801.92 for all four projects.

Bituminous Paving Inc.: PO Box 6, Ortonville, MN 56278: \$2.80 per square yard for total of \$662,323.20 for all three projects.

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to approve the low bid from The Road Guy Construction Co., Inc. for Project #1-26 - #4-26. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes recorded: Voting 'aye': Werkmeister, Maas, Star and Koedam. Voting 'nay': none. Absent: Sparks. Motion carried.

OVERLAY PATCHING PROJECTS

- 1) County Road 3-2: 1000 ft/ 26 ft wide/ 2.5" thick—2 Patches
- 2) County Road 13-1: 1000 ft/ 27 ft wide/ 2.5" thick—3 Patches

BIDS:

Commercial Asphalt 25254 413th Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301: \$125.00 per ton of Hot Mix for a total cost of \$283,750.00 for a total of five overlay patches.

A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to accept the sole bid from Commercial Asphalt for the Overlay Patching Projects for 2026. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes recorded: Voting 'aye': Star, Koedam, Werkmeister, and Maas. Voting 'nay': none. Absent: Sparks. Motion carried.

LOAD LIMITS

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

RESOLUTION #2026-02
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.

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.

Dated this 20th day of January 2026.

SIGNED: _____
Jim Werkmeister,
Vice-Chairman, Douglas County Commission

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, County Auditor

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Chris Lau, Sheriff, met with the Board to provide an update on her department. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing the Vice-Chairperson to sign the Law Enforcement Dispatch Agreement for 2026 with Charles Mix County Sheriff's Office and Douglas County Sheriff's Office. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

OPERATING TRANSFER

Motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas authorizing the Auditor to make an operating funds transfer of \$400,000 from the General Fund Cash Balance to the Highway Cash Balance and \$70,000.00 from General Fund Cash Balance to the E911 Fund Cash Balance as budgeted for 2026. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Maas to enter executive session pursuant to 1-25-2(1) at 11:08 a.m. All present voted in favor of this action; motion carried. Vice-Chair Werkmeister declared the meeting back to open session at 11:48 a.m. with no action taken.

FEES REPORT (December 2025)

Register of Deeds Fees: \$5918.00

Clerk of Courts Fees: \$2171.50

AUDITORS ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER: December 2025

Checking Accounts	\$2181.36
Cash on Hand.....	\$500.00
Petty Cash.....	\$400.00

Un-deposited receipts.....	\$2770.10
Money Market Investments.....	\$3,234,923.00
Certificate of Deposits	\$300,000.00
Total	\$3,540,774.46

FUND BALANCE

General Fund	\$2,423,801.31
Special Revenue Funds	\$514,361.33
Tax Increment District Fund.....	\$0.00
Trust and Agency Funds	\$302,611.82
Total	\$3,540,774.46

CLAIMS

The following claims were approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND

December 2025 Payroll: Commissioners 6864.53 Auditor 11,219.09 Treasurer 12,036.27 States Attorney 5,980.24 Courthouse Janitor 8628.50 Equalization 6626.90 Register of Deeds 9587.80 Sheriff 29,059.30 Coroner 115.87 Welfare 155.25 Ambulance 2583.70 Extension 3833.00 Weed & Pest 1692.90 Fair board 12.60 Drainage 0.00 Planning and Zoning 376.65 Park 0.00 Reliance Standard Life Insurance 700.11

Amazon Capital Services 479.66 supplies/furniture; Armour Chronicle 808.00 publishing; City of Armour 146.00 utilities; Bertsch Law Office 306.05 prof fees; Buhl's Dry Cleaners 184.00 supplies; Cardmember Services 1376.29 supplies/ prof fees; Charles Mix Co. Sheriff's Office 450.00 prof fees; Susan Connor 248.08 prof fees; Corsica Globe 763.00 publishing; Corsica Hardware 62.58 supplies; Darrington Water 64.00 supplies; DCMH 96.00 prof fees; Douglas Electric 88.50 utilities; AT&T Mobility 435.35 utilities; Keith Goehring 1017.38 CAA fees; Pamela Hein 1423.59 CAA Fees; Kone Inc. 1227.18 maint.; Marshall & Swift/ Boeckh 688.20 prof fees; Microfilm Imaging Systems 100.00 rental fees; Nextraq LLC 46.00 utilities; Office Products Center 28.37 supplies; Planning & Development District III 16,239.00 dues; Randall Comm. Water District 84.00 utilities; SD Assoc of W&P Supervisors 75.00 dues; SD County Weed and Pest 720.00 conference; SD Sheriff's Association 780.05 dues; SD States Attorney Association 780.05 dues; SDAAO 75.00 dues; SDACC 1824.00 dues; SDACO 795.85 dues; SDML Workers Comp Fund: 10,754.57 insurance; Select Service Center 601.78 repairs; Two-Trees Technologies 48.00 pro fees; Wilson's Hardware 133.08 supplies.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

December 2025 Payroll: 47,428.06; Agland Coop 10,536.83 propane/supplies; Armour Chronicle 17.49 publishing; City of Armour 87.00 utilities; Barga Inc. 81,370.55 repairs; Blackstrap Inc. 2033.85 repairs; Commercial Asphalt Co. 708.90 cold mix; Corsica Hardware 189.25 supplies; Dakota Rigger & Tool 680.25 coats; Dakota Sales and Rental 390.00 rental fees; Equipment Blades 15,840.00 supplies; AT&T Mobility 81.08 utilities; Fousek Truck Service 3069.02 supplies; Michael Redd 1644.28 repairs; Midstates Equipment & Supply 16,348.34 repairs; Nextraq LLC 132.65 utilities; Northwestern Energy 17.60 utilities; SDAHS 800.00 dues/conference; SD Dept of Transportation 55,800.00 bridge replacement; SD LTAP 125.00 conference; SDML Workers Comp Fund 12,446.93 insurance; Star Mfg. 53.84 supplies; Subsurface Inc. 206,735.00 culvert repairs; Transource Truck Equip. 3995.80 repairs/supplies; WW Tire Service 7263.80 supplies.

E911 FUND

December 2025 Payroll: 26.82; Charles Mix County 29,425.34 4th qtr fees; Midstate Communications 440.11 E911 system; Santel Communications 30.00 E911 system.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

December 2025 Payroll: 2410.44; AT&T Mobility 32.48 utilities; Office Products Center 449.32 supplies; SDML Workers Comp Fund 474.50 insurance; Two-Way Solutions 780.97 equipment.

MODERNIZATION AND PRESERVATION FUND

Microfilm Imaging Systems 237.50 rental fees.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:01 p.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 February 3, 2026. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

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

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Barker, Auditor