Douglas County Commissioner Meeting Minutes
October 6, 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, October 6, 2026. Members present were Dan Koedam, Marlin Maas, Lori Sparks, Jerod Star and Jim Werkmeister. Auditor Melissa Bowers was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister to adopt the amended agenda. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Star to approve the minutes from September 1st and 22nd meeting minutes. All members voted in favor of this action, motion carried.

BID LETTING
At the advertised time 10:00 a.m. on September 22nd all the sealed bids for CMP Installation on 271st St. & 402nd Ave (3 sites) were opened. Pursuant to SDCL 1-18A-5 (7) the Board agreed to review the bids and get a recommendation from Eric Prunty of Brosz Engineering.
Site #1 271st St. Structure Replacement SN:22-213-030
Site #2 402nd Ave. Pipe Replacement
Site #3 402nd Ave. Pipe Replacement

BIDS:
Berens Excavating Po Box 1083, Platte SD 57369 $130,200.00 for all 3 sites.
First Rate Excavate, Inc. 1509 E. 39th St., N. Sioux Falls SD 57104 $168,494 for all 3 sites.
Alliance Construction Po Box 88136 Sioux Falls, SD 57109 $160,311.00 for all 3 sites.
Vanderpol Dragline, Inc. 1001 Hot Rod Road Mitchell, SD 57301 $111,968.00 for all 3 sites.
Halbur Construction, LLC. 1196 111th St Hadley, MN 56151 $94,423.00 for all 3 sites.
Brock Contracting Po Box 88601 Sioux Falls, SD 57109 $99,679.25 for all 3 sites.
Midwest Constructors, LLC. 522 S. Flynn St. North Sioux City, SD 57049 $184,463.25 for all 3 sites.
David Vanderpol Construction Company 37730 273rd St. Harrison SD 57344-5011 $81,425.00 for all 3 sites.
Upon recommendation from Eric Prunty, Brosz Engineering and Brad Ellwanger, Highway Superintendent, A motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister to accept the bid from David Vanderpol Construction for $81,425.00. 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. Ellwanger discussed purchasing gravel from Sandy Lau in the future. No action was taken at this time.
Ellwanger mentioned that one of the John Deere motor graders is need of repairs. He is currently waiting to hear back from John Deere. No action needed at this time.

EMERGENCY MANAGER
Pat Harrington, Emergency Manager, met with the board to update them on his department. Harrington presented the Board with a Mutual Aid Agreement for the Intercounty. The agreement

states in emergency or disasters counties may share resources. A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam to approve chairperson Sparks to sign the Mutual Aid agreement. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.
Bowers presented the board with a couple of new quotes from Riverside Technologies, Inc (RTI) for a new computer for Emergency Manager's office. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Werkmeister and seconded by Star to approve the purchase of a new computer for Emergency Manager from RTI for a total of $ 2004.00. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
John Clem, Planning and Development District III met with the Board for the Final Hazard Mitigation Meeting. Callie Nichols, Assistant Highway Superintendent, Daren Feenstra, City of Corsica, Pat Harrington, Emergency Manager, Darwin Delange, City of Corsica, David Majerus, City of Armour, Barb Dozark, City of Delmont, and Jay Spaans, Douglas Electric Coop were also present. Discussion was held. Clem explained he will get the plan sent to FEMA this week. No action taken at this time.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT
Chris Lau, Sheriff met with Board to update them on her department. Rachel Mairose, States Attorney, was also present. The Board expressed concerns about the lack of transparency and communication between the Commission and the Sheriff's Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 10:30 a.m., a motion was made by Star and seconded by Werkmeister to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Voting 'aye': Werkmeister, Star, Maas, and Koedam. Voting 'nay': Sparks; motion carried. At 11:24 a.m. Chairperson Sparks declared the meeting back to open session. No action taken at this time.

Chairperson Sparks requested that Jim Werkmeister, Vice Chairman, take over the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

A motion was made by Star and seconded by Maas to accept the resignation of Chief Deputy Scott Powers effective September 8, 2026. Voting 'aye': Werkmeister, Star, Maas, and Koedam. Voting 'nay': Sparks; motion carried.
A motion was made by Koedam and seconded by Star to accept Deputy Elijah Kuhlman's resignation from his full-time position and approve his transition to part-time employment effective October 1, 2026. Voting 'aye': Werkmeister, Star, Maas, and Koedam. Voting 'nay': Sparks; motion carried.
Sheriff Lau discussed getting a detailed quote from Central Square for the 911 transition. Discussion was held. No action taken at this time.
Sheriff Lau provided the Board with an update on the new Sheriff vehicle. Sioux Falls Two- Way is working on getting the equipment installed in the vehicle today.
The City of Armour approached Sheriff Lau about the Law Enforcement contract for next year. Lau stated historically that the contract has increased by 3% each year. Discussion was held with no action taken at this time.
A motion was made by Maas and seconded by Koedam, upon the recommendation of Sheriff Lau, and contingent upon his acceptance, to hire Keaton Johnsen as a full-time Sheriff's Deputy at a rate of $49,920.00 annually effective October 26, 2026. Johnson will be subject to a review after the completion of a six-month probation and a signed contract prior to attending the Law Enforcement Academy. Voting 'aye': Werkmeister, Star, Maas, and Koedam. Voting 'nay': Sparks; motion carried.

UJS GRANT
Phillip Lane met with the Board to discuss the UJS grant accepted at the 9/22/26 meeting. The Board expressed concerns about having audio on the camera systems. Lane stated that the cameras he ordered do have audio. Discussion was held. The Board requested a list of where the cameras are going and more specific details on how the camera's audio can be turned off for next meeting. No action taken at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 12:14 a motion was made by Sparks and seconded by Maas to enter executive session pursuant SDCL 1-25-2 (1). All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried. At 12:31 p.m. Vice-Chairman Werkmeister declared the meeting back to open session. No action taken at this time.

Vice-Chairman Werkmeister returned control of the meeting back to Chairperson Sparks at 12:33p.m.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT
Auditor Bowers presented a memo from the Bureau of Finance Management regarding Travel Reimbursement Rates for FY2027. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to 0.76 cents per mile effective October 1, 2026. 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 0.34 cents per mile. 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 2027. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

4-H EXTENSION
Kim Klein, 4H Extension Director, met with the Board to update them on her department. Klein informed the Board that the 4-H Recognition Event is November 7th at 7:00 p.m.
Klein asked for approval to attend the South Region meeting October 19th in Howard. A motion was made by Star and seconded by Koedam authorizing Klein to attend the South Region meeting. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

AUDITORS ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER: August 2026

Checking Accounts	$1,545.19
Cash on Hand	$500.00
Petty Cash	$400.00
Un-deposited receipts	$39,442.81
Preferred Checking	$2,870,759.00
Certificate of Deposits	$400,000.00
Total	$3,312,647.00

FUND BALANCE

General Fund	$2,549,370.62
Special Revenue Funds	$488,575.68

Tax Increment District Fund…….. $0.00
Trust and Agency Funds …….. $274,700.70
Total …….. $3,312,647.00

CLAIMS
The following claims were approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND
September payroll: Commissioners 7,198.23 Auditor 11,957.26 Treasurer 12,814.53 States Attorney 4,590.45 Courthouse Janitor 8,038.63 Equalization 7,183.01 Register of Deeds 9,963.53 Sheriff 34,843.14 Welfare 52.55 Ambulance 4,262.02 Extension 4,163.15 Weed & Pest 1,770.59 Drainage 107.99 Planning & Zoning 810.95 Reliance Standard Life Inusurance 671.59; Armour Chronicle 207.11 publishing; Armour City 146.00 utilities; Cardmember Services 460.06 supplies/prof fees; Corsica Globe 207.11 publishing; Corsica Hardware 22.45 supplies; First Net 531.00 utilities; Goldenwest 598.34 utilities; Dan Koedam 327.56 travel; Carolyn Lau 168.16 travel; Legacy Building & Supply 69.00 supplies; Marlin Maas 196.16 travel; Microfilm Imaging 1812.50 prof fees/rental fees; Nextraq LLC 46.00 utilities; Northwestern Energy 2097.01 utilities; Office Products 63.55 supplies; Randall Community Water 245.00 utilities; SDACC 1731.00 CLERP; Select Service Center 1521.23 repairs; Jerod Star 434.14 travel; SD Dept of Public Safety 2340.00 equipment; Corporate Payment System 2266.28 gas; USPS 1517.55 supplies; Van's Dray & Recycling 140.00 utilities; Jim Werkmeister 196.16 travel; Best Western Ramkota 880.00 travel; Whalen Law Office 414.00 prof fee; Wilson Hardware 93.75 supplies

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND
September Payroll: 44,059.54; Agland Coop 3365.50 fuel; Armour Chronicle 376.32 publishing; Armour City 136.00 utilities; Cardmember Services 1173.40 supplies; Corsica Hardware 10.98 supplies; Brad Ellwanger 297.42 supplies; First Net 83.08 utilities; Goldenwest 223.81 utilities; Meyerink Farm Service 6.59 supplies; Nextraq LLC 132.65 utilities; SD Dept of Transportation 1003.91 prof fees; Transource 1738.89 repairs/supplies; Corporate Payment System 952.13 gas; Wilson Hardware 102.38 supplies; Ymker Auction 1200.00 beams

RURAL ACCESS INFASTRUCTURE FUND
Belmont Township 40417.60 prof fees

E911 FUND
September Payroll: 27.97; Goldenwest 200.00 E911 system; Midstate Communications 440.11 E911 system; Santel Communications 30.00 E911 system

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND
September Payroll: 2528.20; First Net 33.48 utilities; Motorola Solutions 192.00 prof fees

ADJOURNMENT
At 12:50 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 October 20, 2026. All members voted in favor of this action; motion carried.

SIGNED: _____
Lori Sparks, Chairperson
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Melissa Bowers, Auditor