

April 27, 2021

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Chuck Mehlbrech. Members present Charles Liesinger, Dean Koch, Marc Dick, and Steve Gordon.

Chairman Mehlbrech led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mehlbrech called for approval of the Agenda. Motion made by Koch to approve the Agenda as posted. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

The minutes from the April 13th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion made by Gordon to approve the minutes for publication. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Public input: The Salem Community received a THANK YOU from the Sanford Staff and MTC students for the food & treats, kindness & support, all things that made the vaccination efforts run smoothly in McCook County.

Commissioner Reports: Koch stated that the Food Pantry Board met and their report noted that shelves are well stocked and the pantry is setting well financially.

Mic Kreutzfeldt, Hwy Supt, presented a Striping Agreement between SDDOT and McCook County to the Board for signature. The County has submitted 56.2 miles to be striped as a part of the program. The estimated total cost for the striping is \$86766.54 with \$71289.75 being the County share. Motion by Gordon to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the Striping Agreement. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Kreutzfeldt presented Emergency Response Amendment Number 2 to Agreement Number 614984 (2019 flooding damages) to the Board for signature. Motion made by Liesinger to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the Amendment. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Kreutzfeldt presented 2 utility permits for approval for Southeastern Electric. Scope of project: install electrical underground. Locations: 45125 Fox Dr and 24692 444 Ave. Motion by Dick to approve both Electric Utility Permits. Second Koch. Motion carried. No action on an application from Golden West Telecommunications for the Canistota area FTH project as no mapped locations were included. The Commission asked Kreutzfeldt to set up a meeting with Golden West so they can discuss this utility permit. Brian Waldner left Form MI335-S from the Animal Industry Board with the Auditor's Office asking that the Commission sign off on it. Kreutzfeldt provided maps that show the location of the private lagoon system and the disposal system. Motion made by Koch to authorize Chairman Mehlbrech to sign the form which certifies that Golden View Colony is connected to a private lagoon system and the disposal system is approved by the County Commissioners. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Kreutzfeldt presented the Lake County bid for polypropylene culverts awarded to ADS to the Board, noting that the County splits full truckloads with Lake County. Motion by Liesinger to approve the purchase of polypropylene culverts off the Lake County Bid held on March 29, 2021. Second Dick. Motion carried. Kreutzfeldt informed Board that he received several calls from Harold Rinehart about Hwy Dept allowing farmers/landowners to clean/maintain road ditches with department oversight. Rinehart feels that this work should be done by the Hwy Dept or a qualified engineer. Kreutzfeldt noted that he felt the current policy has worked well. Liesinger agreed adding that the Hwy Dept nor local contractors have time for this, and farmers have the necessary equipment to get the work done. Site planning is scheduled May 4th with GF&P for parking improvements at Island Lake that will involve some right-of-way use. Current projects include Ramsey Twp bridge construction, hauling gravel, cleaning bridge decks, and filling potholes. 2019 flood repairs have been completed.

Motion was made by Gordon to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Drainage Administrator Kreutzfeldt presented drainage permit applications to the Board, noting that downstream landowner signatures were obtained, and he has signed off on them. All permits are available for inspection at the Hwy Dept Office.

D20-072	Karla Blindert	SW4 Ex S2SE4SW4 in 9-103-55 (added an outlet)
D21-018	Eugene & Julie Streff	SW4 33-104-55 Ex Lot H1 in SW4SW4 of 33-104-55 & Ex Lot H1 in NW4SW4 33-104-55
D21-019	Eugene & Julie Streff	N1502' of E858' SE4 33-104-55 and S1138' of E670' of SE4 33-104-55 Ex Tract 1

Rayman S Add lying therein & Ex Tract 2 Rayman Addition lying therein

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Motion made by Liesinger, second Dick, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 4/17/21:

Commissioners 1923.05 mileage 211.98; Auditor 5255.78; Treasurer 4083.26; States Attorney 2840.05; Custodian 1226.10; Dir of Equalization 3712.98; Register of Deeds 2833.09; Veterans Service Officer 262.80; Sheriff 10973.09; Contract Law 5188.37; Care of Poor 192.31; Welfare 363.57; Community Health Nurse Secretary 1409.80; Extension Secretary, 1188.54; Drainage 307.61; Planning & Zoning 544.53. Transamerica Employee Benefits, April contribution 3765.06; SD Dept of Revenue, SD Developmental Center-Redfield 60.00; A&B Business Solutions, monthly copier contract 100.44; AAA Collections, lien collection fee 23.00; Avera Queen of Peace Hospital, mental health hold 609.07; Century Business Products, monthly copier contract 175.13; Feeding South Dakota, food pantry delivery charges 70.00; First Circuit CASA Program, 2021 appropriation 1100.00; Amber Frank, witness fee & mileage 20.42; Larry's Food & Auto Service, tires & service 972.59; McLeod's Printing, toner 369.80 calculator roll 5.94; Mid-American Research, room disinfectant 666.00; Office Depot, document scanner 279.99; Pioneer Designs, striping/lettering law enforcement vehicle 450.00; Presto-X, food pantry pest control 39.00; SD Dept of Health, 1st & 2nd Qtr CHN services 2724.50; SDAAO, conference registration 470.00; SDAE4-HP, conference registration 10.00; SDSM&T, GIS workshop registration 550.00; Michael Sharp Esq, court appt attorney for Mayra Jiminez De Los Santos 342.08; Stacey Sieverding, travel expense 74.49; Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare, 2nd Qtr appropriation 1404.50; Two Way Solutions, supplies 9.99; Annette VanEmmerik, mileage 341.46.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 4/17/21: Hwy Dept 22213.48. Transamerica Employee Benefits, April contribution 2618.71; Townships & Cities, 1st Qtr 2021-wheel tax collections 11730.14; Avera Occupational Medicine, drug screen collection 116.00; Northwestern Energy, utilities 23.07; SD Dept of Transportation, share of bridge costs 16401.43; SDACC, workshop registration 75.00; Stern Oil Co, supplies 483.00.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities 61.36.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 4/17/21: EDS Director 1412.31. Transamerica Employee Benefits, April contribution 96.51.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 4/17/21: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 192.16.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 4/17/21: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 3697.67, Medicare 864.80; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 3837.52; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SD, county share of health insurance contribution 18449.02.

Motion was made by Gordon to convene as Planning Commission. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

At 10:30 a.m. the County Commission held a public hearing for 1st reading of Ordinance 2021-02 an Ordinance of McCook County, South Dakota, amending Ordinance 2014-01 – 2014 Revised Zoning Regulations for McCook County by Amending Chapter 3, AG: Agricultural District, Purpose; and Chapter 15.02, Building Permits and Fees, Fees; and Repealing Chapter 15.01(A)(4), Building Permits and Fees, Building Permits. Kaufmann noted that the purpose statements of Chapter 3 and Chapter 15.02 are being amended, and Chapter 15.01(A)(4) is being repealed. The proposal moves the verbiage within the zoning regulations from Chapter 15 to be included in the purpose statement of the Agricultural District. Verbiage added includes “persons choosing to reside in an Ag District should be prepared to accept such inconveniences or discomforts as a normal and necessary aspect of living in an area with a strong rural character and an active agricultural industry”. Kaufmann read the title of the proposed ordinance. No public was in attendance. Motion was made by Liesinger to close public hearing & public comment. Second by Gordon. Roll call vote: Ayes: Liesinger, Gordon, Mehlbrech, Dick, and Koch. Nays: none. Motion carried. The 2nd reading will be held on May 25th at 10:30 a.m.

Motion made by Gordon to convene as Board of Adjustment. Second Koch. Motion carried.

At 10:45 a.m. a Conditional Use Hearing was held to receive input concerning a request for conditional use. Applicant: Keith Raap. Legal description: SE4 28-103-53. Reason: storefront and workshop for gun business and sign on end of driveway. Present: Cori Kaufmann, Zoning Administrator, and Keith Raap. Kaufmann presented the application for placement of a sign at the end of driveway and for portable shed to the Board. Raap explained his business plan and answered questions that the commissioners presented. Motion by Gordon to approve the conditional use request. Second Koch. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Cori Kaufmann, Zoning Administrator, presented 2 plats for approval. Following review of the 1st plat review form, motion was made by Gordon to approve the following County Commission Resolution. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat known and described as Tract 1 of Dawson's Addition in the South Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 102 North, Range 53 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, McCook County, South Dakota, is approved and that the Auditor is hereby directed to endorse on such plat a copy of this resolution and certify the same thereon.

Adopted 27th day of April 2021.

Chair, Board of Commissioners
McCook County, South Dakota

Following review of the 2nd plat review form, motion was made by Koch to approve the following County Commission Resolution. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Be it resolved by the County Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat of Tract 1 of Westhoff Addition, an Addition in the Northeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 103 North, Range 54 West of the 5TH Principal Meridian, McCook County, South Dakota be and the same is hereby approved.

Adopted 27th day of April 2021.

Chairman of the County Board
McCook County, South Dakota

Geralyn Sherman, Welfare Director, and the Commissioners reviewed Care of Poor cases. A Notice of Hospitalization was received from Sanford USD Medical Center (2021-13). Three Notices of Hospitalization were received from Avera McKennan Hospital (2021-12, 2021-15, 2021-16). Two requests for burial assistance were received and applications for county assistance were mailed out. An application for county assistance was mailed to individual who had been hospitalized, not returned yet (2021-09). An application for county assistance for a clinic appointment and medication was approved (2021-14).

Auditor Sherman presented an application for abatement to the Board: #15 Zion Lutheran Church, parcel 18.24.4910, reason for abatement: property is tax exempt, amount abated \$45.60. Motion made by Liesinger to approve the abatement. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, presented updates to the travel policy, still a work in progress, to the Board. Schultz presented the UNUM life insurance renewal, effective June 1, 2021 to the Board. Motion made by Koch to approve the renewal benefit rates. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Schultz noted that the SD Assn of County Commissioners (SDACC) has been researching group health insurance options for its members. The SDACC is requesting employee census information and the current health insurance Summary of Benefits & Coverage, from all SD counties, to request quotes from Blue Cross Blue Shield to formulate plan options. The request for information does NOT obligate our group to participate in the plan once pricing is available. Sonja Nordbye, Benefits Consultant, from Risty Benefits is the contact person for this project. Does the Board want to proceed with providing the census information? Yes, because there is no obligation to participate. Mehlbrech voiced concern regarding penalties when an employer leaves a plan. Tyler Ruhd, Infotech

Solutions, Madison SD, has requested permission to perform a free IT network security health check and report findings back to the Commission. Schultz noted that Tech Solutions, Mitchell, currently takes care of the county's IT needs and questions the need for another IT company to perform a checkup. Following discussion, the Board decided that there is not a need for this IT checkup. Schultz informed the Board that the American Rescue Plan (ARP) includes the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program that SD counties will be receiving soon. At this time there is very limited guidance on what the funding can be spent on. The Auditor's Office will continue to monitor the information that is made available.

At 1:00 p.m. motion was made by Koch to convene as 2021 County Board of Equalization. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Board Member Oaths were completed and filed with the Auditor.

Cori Kaufmann, Dir of Equalization, presented a list of Exempt Properties to the Board for their review, noting that Zion Lutheran Church will be added due to purchase of tax deed property. Motion was made by Liesinger to approve annual applications for continued tax-exempt status. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Director Kaufmann noted that 35 Tax Freeze Applications were approved by the County Treasurer; 5 rejected.

Director Kaufmann presented the Tax Freeze for Elderly and Veterans & Paraplegic Veterans applications to the Board for review. Motion made by Dick to approve these tax reductions. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Director Kaufmann asked the Board for authorization to correct clerical errors of the assessment roll for the 2021 notices. This includes 7 parcels with varying corrections. Motion made by Gordon to authorize Director Kaufmann to correct errors within the real estate records. Second Koch. Motion carried.

The McCook County Board of Equalization heard the following appeals:

TOWN OF SPENCER

Notice of Intention to Raise Valuation Property Owner: Trinity Lutheran Church
Parcel 20.00.0616 Assessed value: NAD1 74,300 and NAD 1,500
Legal description: Lots 16, 17, & 18, Block 6, OT

The Local Board took no action.

Director Kaufmann explained that she is appealing to raise value due to clerical error. The land value is correct, but the house was revalued as a mobile home. Kaufmann would like to revert assessment to 1 story home.

Motion made by Liesinger to increase NAD1 value to 114,500 and retain NAD value of 1,500. Second Koch. Motion carried.

UNION TOWNSHIP

Appeal #1 Property Owner: Roger Hofer
Parcel 14.05.3000 Assessed value: NAA1 13,900 (only appealing house)
Legal description: SE4 5-101-55

Reason for appeal: House is overvalued at 13,900, should be 5,000

The Local Board took no action, retaining Assessor value.

Director Kaufmann informed Board that this property is getting owner occupied status as is home in town on parcel 18.20.0101.

Director recommendation is to remove OO from this property and retain NAA1 value of 13,900.

Motion made by Liesinger to retain NAA1 value of 13,900. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

UNION TOWNSHIP

Appeal #2 Property Owner: Roger Hofer
Parcel 14.24.2003 Assessed value: AGC 36,436
Legal description: Tract 1 Rinehart's Addition Ex Tract 4 of Rinehart's Addition in Tract 1 of Rinehart's Addition & Ex Lot H1, H2, H3 therein 24-101-55

Reason for appeal: At least ¾ of 19.49 acres is slough/water.

The Local Board took no action, retaining Assessor value.

Director recommendation is to retain AGC value of 36,436.

Motion made by Liesinger to retain AGC value of 36,436. Second Dick. Motion carried.

With no other business before the County Board of Equalization, the Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Andy Kinzley, Kinzley Funeral Home, was unable to meet with the Commission to update them on the FEMA Funeral Benefit.

Brad (BJ) Stiefvater, Jr, McCook County Emergency Manager, presented a FEMA Covid-19 update to the Commission.

Stiefvater noted that monthly vaccinations will begin May 19th, no longer every other week. The previous vaccination pods averaged 320 to 360 persons. Stiefvater asked the Commission to consider passing on funds to his ambulance service when the County receives funds

from the American Rescue Plan Act. Laura Schultz, HR Administrator, noted that based on current guidance, a private business is not eligible for this funding but, as noted earlier, this will continue to be monitored. Stiefvater read a thank you from a gentleman who is alive today due to the efforts of S&R members and the ambulance crew. A \$1,000 donation to Search & Rescue accompanied the thank you note. Stiefvater presented Search & Rescue update, asking the Board if they would approve payment of EMT classes for one, maybe two, S&R members. Yes.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 27th day of April 2021.

Charles Mehlbrech _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County