

November 26, 2024

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

Chairman Liesinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Liesinger called for approval of the agenda. Motion Koch to approve the agenda as posted. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

The minutes from the November 7th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Gordon to approve the minutes for publication. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Public comment was provided by Roger Hofer. Hofer asked if Salem City had made the County aware of the \$68,276 it would owe as a property owner abutting Phase II Street & Utility Improvement Project and is there a budget for these costs? No and no.

Commissioner Reports: Comm Dick noted that he saw the solar farm at New Underwood, an eye sore in his opinion. Commissioners Koch, Gordon, and Mehlbrech attended the district meeting held in Jerauld County and noted discussion regarding ordinances for solar energy and wind energy. Comm Mehlbrech attended a phone conference with Dusty Johnson, noting that questions were skirted around.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Auditor Sherman presented the Certificate of Post-Election Audit and the accompanying tally sheets to the Commission. The race for Presidential Electors and the Initiated Measure 28 question, Precinct 6, were hand counted (395 ballots). Presidential: Harris/Walz 74 votes; Oliver/Maat 0 votes; Trump/Vance 305 votes; and Kennedy/Shanahan 7 votes. One discrepancy was noted. The tabulator counted 304 votes for Trump/Vance. IM28: 73 Yes votes and 310 No votes. These counts matched the tabulator. Motion Koch to accept and approve the post-election audit report. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented Proof of Loss Statement for damage received from hail on July 30th, to the Board. Sherman noted that she did not sign off on the form because the claims adjuster shows no damage to the shingles of the Hwy Dept building, only the metal roof. The Board asked Hwy Supt Raap to contact Salem Lumber and have a contractor check the shingled roof prior to the next meeting. No motion was made to sign the Proof of Loss Statement. Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Program Assistant, was present.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, presented a land use agreement between the County and Reed Tieszen to the Board for approval. Following discussion, motion Gordon to pay Tieszen \$600 for land use loss (3 acres of gravel pit area location on parcel 16.04.1002 abutting 451st Ave) for stockpiling the chips (estimated 600 tons). Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried. Raap presented a utility permit for approval. Motion Koch to approve Water Utility Permit for Kingbrook Rural Water. Scope of project: water service in SW4 Section 23, Richland Twp. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Raap informed the Board that John Bryant did not return to work after last pay day.

Josh Prather, IMEG, presented a 2025 Application for Bridge Improvement Grant (BIG) Funds Preservation or Rehab/Replacement for bridge #44-210-103, location W city limits Montrose. Work Description: replace existing steel girder bridge with proposed 3 – 12'x6' box culverts. Motion Gordon, to approve a resolution authorizing submission of the application. Second Koch. Motion carried.

2024-16

2025 BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM / RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS, McCook County, South Dakota wishes to submit an application for consideration of award for the Bridge Improvement Grant Program:

STRUCTURE NUMBER AND LOCATION:

44-210-103
West City Limits of Montrose, SD

and WHEREAS, McCook County, South Dakota certifies that the project(s) are listed in the county's Five-Year County Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan.

and WHEREAS, McCook County, South Dakota agrees to pay the 20% match on the Bridge Improvement Grant funds and 100% of ineligible expenses.

and WHEREAS, McCook County, South Dakota hereby authorizes the Bridge Improvement Grant application(s) and any required funding commitments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the South Dakota Department of Transportation be and hereby is requested to accept the attached Bridge Improvement Grant application(s).

Vote of Commissioners: Yes 5 No 0

Dated at Salem, SD, this 26th day of November 2024.

ATTEST:

County Auditor

Chairman

Prather reviewed the 2024 bridge inspections with Hwy Supt Raap and the Commissioners. 67 structures were inspected. There are 68 total structures in the Federal Inspection Program. 63 structures are rated good, 3 structures are fair, and 2 structures are poor.

Motion Koch to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Mic Kreutzfeldt, Drainage Administrator, presented 3 drainage permits to the Board, noting that the downstream landowner signatures were obtained, and he has signed off on them.

D24-008	Don & Donna Larson	E2SW4 Ex Tract 3 of Larson's Addn 35-102-53
D24-009	Jeff & Marcia Anderson	NE4 Ex Tract 1 of Anderson's Addn 21-104-54
D24-010	Brock Anderson	Tract 1 Anderson's Addn SE4NE4 21-104-54

Kreutzfeldt informed the Board that Charles Stahl found the old drain tile referred to in Permit D22-007. The new tile was placed 1 foot higher due to old tile not being found and he would like to apply for a permit to lower to approved elevation now. Question whether this project needs a new permit or a routine maintenance permit to make the change. The board agreed that a permit for routine maintenance would suffice. Discussion held on area ditch cleaning without a routine drainage permit, no action taken.

Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Motion Koch to convene as Planning Commission. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Anna Flogstad, DOE Staff Appraiser, presented 3 building permits to the Commission for approval.

24-087	Raymond & Elizabeth Shape	20x35 addition to home	Tract 1 White's Addn S2SW4 7-104-55.
24-088	Advanced Ag Solutions LLC	60x152 Ag Business Machine Shed	Tract 1 of Marquardt Addn NE4 36-102-55
24-081	Mark & Margaret Glanzer	replace siding	E565' of W940' of N775' W2NW4 31-102-54

Motion Dick to approve these building permits and authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign same. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

At 10:30 a.m. the Board of Adjustment held a public hearing to receive input concerning a request for a variance.

Applicant: Grant Solar LLC. Legal descriptions: E2SE4 Ex Lot H1 (2.46AC) 14-101-54/Landowner: Townsend Family LLP. W2SE4 Ex Lot H1 (2.54AC) 14-101-54/Landowner: Townsend Family LLP; and SW4 Ex 1.56 AC & Ex Lot H2(4.95AC)14-101-54/Landowner: RAEA1 Farms LLC. Reason: request variance from property line setback within project area. Anna Flogstad, Staff Appraiser, presented the Variance Application to the Board. Mike Fink, States Attorney, Sean Hegyi, Secog Planner, and several other interested parties were present. Amber Miller, Mollie Smith, and Victoria Orchard, with National Grid Renewables, were present to explain the variance request. Chairman Liesinger opened the hearing for public comment. Miller explained that the request does not affect the outer boundary line of the project. Andy Tieszen: do future owners have to stay in project if lease is pulled? Smith: all parcels have to remain in the project. Orchard: there are no pull outs, full lease. Roger Hofer: are taxes based on Ag assessment: Yes. Julaine Wieman: what about future owners. DJ Buseman: why changing now, why wasn't this part of the original conditional use hearing? With no further comments, Chairman Liesinger closed public comment, addressing the Adoption of Findings form. States Attorney Fink informed the Board that they could adopt findings as noted in the Variance Application presented by Grant Solar, if they agree with them.

Following discussion, motion Mehlbrech to adopt the Grant Solar findings. Second Koch. Ayes: Koch, Mehlbrech, Gordon, Liesinger. Nays: Dick. Motion carried. Motion Koch to approve the request for variance. Second Mehlbrech. Ayes: Koch, Mehlbrech, Gordon, Liesinger. Nays: Dick. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Auditor Sherman asked the Board about terminating or continuing the GeoPermits Hosting Contract with Schneider Geospatial. Motion Dick to terminate the contract because current office staff hasn't been involved with implementing the software, the Hwy Supt knows nothing about the software, and continuing implementation isn't feasible with a new Dir of Equalization/Zoning Administrator. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented the 2025 jail contract with Lake County to the Board for approval. The per prisoner-day rate is \$90.00. Motion Mehlbrech to authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign the 2025 Lake County Inmate Housing Contract. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented the 2025 jail contract with Minnehaha County to the Board for approval. The per prisoner-day rate is \$112.00. Motion Koch to authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign the 2025 Minnehaha County Jail Bed per Diem Contract. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented an addendum updating the 2024 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SDSU Extension to the Board for approval. Motion Koch to authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign the 2025 Addendum. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

The November SEFP Report was noted and filed.

Motion Mehlbrech, second Koch, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 11/9/2024 & 11/23/24: Commissioners 2229.80, 2079.80; Auditor 6856.36, 6128.90; Treasurer 5312.50, 4540.91; States Attorney 3598.21, 3598.21; Custodian 1390.90, 1390.90; Dir of Equalization 3301.03, 3224.70; Register of Deeds 3517.44, 3447.84; Veterans Service Officer 325.20, 325.20; Sheriff 15259.39, 15179.13; Contract Law 8789.32, 8247.52; Care of Poor 228.16, 228.16; Welfare 294.41, 439.03; 4-H Program Assistant 1481.90, 1524.24; Drainage 190.78, 216.11; Planning & Zoning 130.24, 122.89. SD Dept of Revenue, 2nd ½ Animal Damage Control appropriation 1567.04, SD Developmental Center-Redfield 60.00; Post-Election Audit salaries 150.00; TransAmerica Employee Benefits, November contribution 3608.97; AAA Collections, lien collection fees, 51.25; AVI Systems, balance of courtroom audio upgrade, 6894.79; Century Business Products, monthly copier contracts, 225.07; Certified Language, interpreting service, 11.55; Dailey Law, court appointed for Jillian Crosley, 924.50; Davison County Sheriff, October jail services, 9975.00; Eich Law Office, court appointed for Adam & Jacque Cloggett, 310.50; Kyle Elder, fuel, 38.52; Election Systems & Software, premarked test deck, 139.47; Jack's Uniforms, uniforms, 391.63; Lewis Drug, prisoner care, 43.57; Lifequest, 3rd & 4th quarter appropriations, 1440.00; Lincoln County Auditor, reimburse mental health evaluations and serving papers, 492.51; McLeod's Printing, P&Z conditional use signs, 250.00; Meyer Motor, vehicle maintenance, 619.18; MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 211.48; Mitchell Clinic, prisoner care, 352.00; Morgan Theeler, court appointed attorney for Elizabeth Dubray, 687.62 & 35.47, for Angela Gille, 372.62, for Leslie Wuebben, 829.97, for Kylar Hansen, 719.27 & 909.05, for Timothy Tisdall, 264.50, for Olivia Conway, 1007.75, for Sandra Stewart, 1313.40, for Van Zahrbock, 480.59 & 434.25, for Jose Aldana, 786.78; ODP Business Products, office supplies, 157.19; Presto-X, pest control, 97.42; RBS Sanitation, garbage service at courthouse and food pantry, 215.00; Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, confined stray, 152.95; The Special, subscription renewal, 47.08; Two Way Solutions, radio supplies, 856.46; US Postal Service, stamped envelopes and 6 rolls of stamps, 5188.00; Xcel Energy, utilities, 842.19.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 11/9/2024 & 11/23/24: Hwy Dept 24696.61; cell phone stipends 250.00; 23749.24. Blackstrap Inc., road salt, 1845.30; C & H Radiator, clean and test radiator, 300.00; Hollaway Construction, bridge #44-010-185-19 project, 53629.14; Lyle Signs, parts and supplies, 1669.28; Michael Johnson Construction, install culvert, 18750.00;

MidAmerican Energy, utilities, 22.24; Northwestern Energy, utilities, 11.68; Puthoff Sales & Service, parts, 775.40; Ramkota Hotel, lodging for Safety Conference, 232.00; SD Dept of Transportation, project CS8044()24-1, 195.42 and project PTNBIS (44) 860.86; Sperling Repair, 2017 Mack repairs, 350.00; Transource Truck and Equip., parts and supplies, 671.36; Two Way Solutions, radio repairs, 638.96; Verizon Wireless, cell phone service, 82.74

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Motorola Solutions, monthly wave service, 26.00; Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities, 81.65.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 11/9/2024 & 11/23/24: EDS Director 1497.26, 1497.26. Brad Stiefvater Jr., October expenses, 108.10, Total Stop, S&R fuel, 37.76.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 11/9/24 & 11/23/24: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 214.82, 212.82.

LAW LIBRARY: AVI Systems, courtroom audio upgrade, 4500.00.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 11/9/24 & 11/23/24: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 4667.54, 4471.56; Medicare 1091.60, 1045.77; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 4681.90, 4488.96; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SD, county share of health insurance contribution 5030.37, 18627.42.

TOTAL CLAIMS: \$122,556.47

Motion Koch, second Gordon, and carried, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2024-17

Whereas insufficient appropriations were made in the 2024 budget to discharge just obligations of said appropriation.

Whereas SDCL 7-21-32.2 provides that transfers may be made by Resolution of the Board from the Contingency appropriation established pursuant to SDCL 7-21-6.1 to other appropriations.

Therefore, be it resolved that the appropriation of \$23,500.00 be transferred from the General Fund Contingency as follows: Elections 1,000.00; Court Appointed Attorney \$13,000.00; Jail \$9,000.00; and Mentally Handicapped \$500.00.

Dated this 26th day of November 2024.

Charles Liesinger _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County

Audit Sherman informed the Commission that Contingency will have a balance of \$43,000 after today's transfers; started with \$200,000. Not knowing what claims will be presented in December, Sherman asked the Board to consider holding a supplemental budget hearing for the Court Appointed Attorney and Jail budgets; \$20,000 for each budget. Following discussion, motion Koch to hold a supplemental budget hearing on Monday, December 30th, at 11:00 a.m. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman asked States Attorney Fink how/if the County can move forward with a Community Health Nurse Contract that no longer fits the needs of the county because of changes in that office. States Attorney Fink noted that the State has made no language changes as requested. The 2025 agreement in essence mirrors the 2024 agreement. Auditor Sherman noted that neither agreement has been signed, adding that the County hasn't received any billings for 2024, asking if payments should be made. After discussion, it was decided that no payments should be made without a signed agreement.

Discussion was held regarding 2025 funding for McCook County Emergency Medical Services. Mike Fink, States Attorney, Brad (BJ) Stiefvater, McCook County EMS President, ambulance personnel, Lori Heumiller, Salem City FO, Kathy Townsend, Canistota City FO, and Nichole Siemonsma, Montrose City FO, were present. Stiefvater presented a one-year contract with verbiage changes as requested by city attorney's to States Attorney Fink noting that this contract follows language of prior contracts. Stiefvater added that he would present a new contract in January to give the County the dollar amount for an opt out. Siemonsma questioned how an opt out

works. Auditor Sherman questioned a county opt out for a private business. Roger Hofer: Hanson County should be paying for McCook County coverage. Comm Koch: establishing an ambulance district was in the Hanson County minutes about a month ago. Auditor Sherman shared concerns about paying half of the 2025 appropriation in January due to the ambulance service turmoil and having the funds. Stiefvater noted that the January payment covers his line of credit. Following this discussion, motion Mehlbrech to approve a one-year contract and negotiate the dollar amount for the January payment at the January 14th Commission meeting. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Motion Koch to enter Executive Session at 12:20 p.m. for personnel discussion (SDCL 1-25-2 (1)). Second Gordon. Motion carried. Michelle Stubkjaer, HR Consultant, joined the meeting. Chairman Liesinger declared out of Executive Session at 12:50 p.m.

Auditor Sherman returned to the meeting.

Motion Koch to hire Theresa Lauck as Temporary Part-Time employee in Treasurer's Office, December 2, 2024, date of hire, rate of pay \$17.33/hour. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Motion Gordon to hire Jodi Spencer as Director of Equalization/Planning & Zoning Administrator, December 2, 2024, date of hire, annual salary \$58,686.00. Second Koch. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 26th day of November 2024.

Charles Liesinger _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County