

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MELLETTTE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
February 4, 2025
DRAFT

The meeting of the Mellette County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Brown in the Commission Room in the Mellette County Courthouse at White River, SD on January 4, 2025 at 9:04 am. Commission members present were Vernon Brown, Wesley Schmidt, and Jr. Brandis; also present was Auditor Jenny Galbraith and State's Attorney Kirby Krogman.

All motions are to be considered unanimous unless otherwise stated.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Brandis, seconded by Schmidt.

Visitors: George Ludvik presented a document for the commission to review of SDCL 7-2-5 which states the recommended salary for commissioners in populations under 8,000 is \$4896.00.

Road & Bridge: Commission received correspondence from Maurice Gustafson's attorney on the gravel pit located on his property. Executive Session in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(3) for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel: Krogman requested executive session to discuss legal matters. Motion by Schmidt to enter executive session at 9:10 am, second by Brandis. At 10:09 am Chairman Brown declared executive session over. Schmidt motioned to reject Gustafson's request to 1) gravel a two mile stretch of road to his daughter Shayna Dillon's place and blade the road 2) pay Gustafson and additional \$4 per ton for the 15,000 ton of gravel that would be remaining an 3) reimburse Gustafson for his attorney fees; second by Brandis. Schmidt motioned to offer to gravel the 2 mile stretch of road but will not do the blade work since it is a township road, pay Gustafson an additional \$1.25 per ton for the remaining 15,000 ton of gravel, and the county will not reimburse Gustafson for any attorney fees. Commission reviewed the SDDOT Bridge Inspection Resolution 3-2025 and reviewed available consulting engineers. Motion by Brandis to approve signing Resolution 3-2025 with Brosz Engineering as the consulting engineer as follows:

3-2025

**BRIDGE REINSPECTION
PROGRAM RESOLUTION
FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS**

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, Mellette County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire Brosz Engineering (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 4th day of February, 2025, at White River, South Dakota.

Board of County Commissioners
Of Mellette County

ATTEST:
/s/ Jenny Galbraith
County Auditor

/s/ Vernon Brown
Chairman of the Board

Commission reviewed an application of occupancy on the right of way of county highways from Golden West. Motion by Schmidt to approve the application, second by Brandis.

Auditor: Auditor Galbraith discussed open meeting laws and that it only takes 2 commissioners to have a quorum so they cannot communicate outside of a meeting, electronic communication is included in this.

Sheriff: Sheriff Gildemaster joined the meeting to discuss purchasing a vehicle on state bid this year since the Sheriff's office is short one vehicle. Motion by Brandis to purchase a 2025 Chevrolet on State Bid for \$49,461 and to purchase what is needed to outfit it, second by Schmidt. Sheriff also discussed two conferences that he wants to attend, one is the Sex Offender Registry Training and the other is the Spring Sheriff's Conference which would require 2 nights hotel and a \$100 registration fee. Motion by Schmidt to have him attend the 2 conferences, second by Brandis.

New Business: Commission discussed appointing a county designee to request fire suppression resources from the South Dakota Wildland Fire Division. Motion by Brandis, second by Brown to appoint Schmidt by the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 4-2025

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY DESIGNEE REQUESTING FIRE SUPPRESSION RESOURCES FROM THE SOUTH DAKOTA WILDLAND FIRE DIVISION

WHEREAS, the SD Department of Public Safety Wildland Fire Division, at the request of the Mellette County appointed designee, shall assist in the suppression of any range fire within the county to provide up to six state personnel and two state vehicles for mutual aid at no cost to the county; and WHEREAS, additional resources may be required beyond the assistance provided at no cost, the county designee shall reimburse the Wildland Fire Division for reasonable expenses incurred; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mellette County Board of Commissioners, that the Mellette County Commissioner, Wesley Schmidt, is appointed as designee for Mellette County, and is authorized to request fire suppression assistance from the South Dakota Department of Public Safety Wildland Fire Division and to obligate county funds for reimbursement of additional resources in accordance with SDCL 41-20A-11 for the time period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028.

Dated this 4th day of February 2025.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Vernon Brown, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Jenny Galbraith, Auditor

Commission discussed SDACO New Officials Workshop and SDACC Spring Workshop to be held in Pierre April 9-10, 2025. Motion by Schmidt to have Galbraith, Krogman, Schmidt, and Brown attend the workshop, second by Brandis. Commission discussed re-appointing 2 board members whose terms expired on December 31, 2024 and to fill one vacancy for a 5 year term. Will discuss with the current and potential board members and appoint at the next meeting. Commission reviewed Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan local funding match letter; motion by Schmidt to sign, second by Brandis.

Commission reviewed the proceedings from January 14 & 17, 2025. Motion by Brandis to approve proceedings, second by Schmidt.

CLAIMS: Commission reviewed claims presented. Motion by Brandis, seconded by Schmidt to approve the following claims:

GENERAL FUND: Commission: Amazon, 40.99, clock; Reliance Standard, 1.88 life insurance premium.

Elections: ES&S, 1448.94, election coding. Auditor: Amazon, 80.99, office supplies; AT&T, 48.30, cell

phone; TwoTrees Technologies, 48.75, retention server; Quill, 100.77, office supplies; Reliance Standard,

9.40, life insurance premium. Treasurer: TwoTrees Technologies, 48.75, retention server; First Bank &

Trust, 236.34, certified mail & large envelopes; Reliance Standard, 9.40, life insurance premium. States

Attorney: Reliance Standard, 9.40, life insurance premium. Court Appointed Attorney: Fischer Law Office,

696.99, attorney fees; Kelsey Ruby, 502.25, attorney fees; Sandy Steffen, 3439.76, attorney fees. Courthouse:

Amazon, 1199.24, blinds & vacuum; City of White River, 190.68, water/sewer/garbage; Direct Digital

Control, 956.25, support contract; Heart City Plumbing & Heating, 7673.69, sewer & boiler repair; Mead Lumber, 143.97, paint, Reliance Standard, 9.40, life insurance premium. Director of Equalization: Amazon, 162.94, office supplies; TwoTrees Technologies, 48.75, retention server; McLeod's, 210.00, assessment notices; District III Planning & Development Dist., 2000.00, 2025 GIS parcel maintenance & host billing; Reliance Standard, 9.40, life insurance premium. Register of Deeds: Amazon, 39.98, chair wheels; HCS LLC, 80.00, printer repair; Reliance Standard, 3.76, life insurance premium. VA Office: Tyler Technologies, 449.00, software renewal. Sheriff: AT&T, 193.24, cell phones; Dustin Baxter, 195.21, fuel reimbursement; Cenex Fleet Fueling, 95.63, fuel; Murdo Car Sales, 5369.88, 2014 Ford repairs; Reliance standard, 18.80, life insurance premium; SD Dept. of Health, 265.00, drug testing; SD Sheriff's Assn., 557.54, annual dues; WW Tire, 899.57, tires. Jail: City of Winner, 3741.59, December prisoner housing & transport. Ambulance: A&B Welding, 33.48, med oxygen; CC Medical Billing, 40.00. ambulance billing; City of White River, 10.66, water/sewer. E-911: City of Winner, 2392.362, November surcharge; City of Winner, 7103.00, annual 911 contract fee. Fire: BankWest Insurance, 2535.00, Norris Fire Dept insurance premium; City of White River, 10.67, water/sewer. Emergency Management: City of White River, 10.67, water/sewer.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Amazon, 322.79, iPad & case for timeclock; AT&T, 48.30, cell phone; Butler Machinery, 892.10, motor grader repairs; City of White River, 74.34, garbage; TwoTrees Technologies, 48.75, server retention; D&E, 126.77, fuel & DEF; Gillen's, 256.00, unleaded fuel; Reliance Standard, 9.40, life insurance premium.

JANUARY PAYROLL: Commissioners 2,686.01; Auditor 5,981.08; Treasurer 6,421.51; States Attorney 6,563.39; Courthouse 3,442.27; Director of Equalization 4,253.99; Register of Deeds 5,062.56; VA Office 480.39; IT-Website 356.00; Sheriff 20,682.12; Highway 17,814.15; Emergency Management 423.87.

Reports: Auditor's Account w/ Treasurer as of January 31, 2025 is as follows: Actual cash \$1183.37; Checks \$20,470.57; Credit Card Payments \$823.33. First Fidelity Checking \$1,624,955.95; First Fidelity CD's \$350,000.00; ROD Account \$250.00 Total: \$1,997,683.22. Register of Deeds collected \$3908.00 for the month of January 2025. Clerk of Courts collected \$5,472.62 for the month of December 2024.

At 2:52 pm Chairman Brown declared the meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 9:00 am.

At 12:23 pm Chairman Brown declared the meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Approved this 19th day of February 2025.

Vernon Brown, Chairman Mellette County Commissioners

ATTEST

Jenny Galbraith, County Auditor