

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MELLETTE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA  
February 3, 2026

The meeting of the Mellette County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Brown in the Commissioner Room in the Mellette County Courthouse at White River, SD on February 3, 2026 at 9:11 am. Commission members present were Vernon Brown and Jr. Brandis; also present was Auditor Jenny Galbraith.

The pledge of allegiance was recited  
All motions are to be considered unanimous unless otherwise stated.

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

Open Visitors – Public Comment: None present

Road & Bridge – Highway Superintendent Tre Iyotte joined the meeting to update the Commission on what the Highway department has done in the past month. Iyotte also discussed with Commission hiring Gilbert Morrison the help with the highway department on an as call as needed status. Motion by Brown to hire Morrison on this status at \$18.00/hour, second by Brandis. George Dickson joined the meeting to discuss graveling the county road that runs past the cemetery in Wood. Tre will put it on the list to gravel this spring. Leanna Waln joined the meeting to discuss having a culvert and approach installed to their property on Cedar Butte Road, Tre will look at the location and will discuss further at the next meeting. Commission reviewed SDDOT Bridge Inspection Resolution 1-2026, after approved engineers were reviewed and discussed it was decided to continue with Brosz Engineering. Motion by Brown to approve Resolution 1-2026 as stated below, second by Brandis.

REOLUTION 1-2026

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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026, 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 for Occupancy on the Right of Way of County Highways from Golden West. Motion by Brown to approve, second by Brandis.

Auditor – Jenny Galbraith discussed with the Commission replacing a computer in the office. Estimate received from HCS LLC for \$2540.00. Motion by Brown to approve the computer purchase from HCS LLC, second by Brandis.

Executive Session in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(1) re. personnel: Brown requested executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion by Brown to enter executive session at 10:38 am, second by Brandis. At 11:09 am Chairman Brown declared executive session over.

Unfinished Business: Commission discussed the starting wages for newly Elected Officials. Commission stated that the starting Salary for County Treasurer, Auditor, and Register of Deeds shall be a minimum of \$33,825 annually as per SD Codified Law 7-7-9.1 and starting Salary for Sheriff shall be a minimum of \$41,256 annually as per SD Codified Law 7-12-15. Wages can be negotiated dependent upon prior experience. Commission discussed the Emergency Manager position and it will be readvertised and discussed at meeting in March.

New Business: Commission discussed camera's that were requested by the Fire Dept. at the EMS building. Will need to get a quote for cameras at the City Fire Hall as well as they will tie together. Will discuss the cameras at the meeting in March. Commission discussed the hours of the courthouse changing from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday and will not close over the noon hour. Motion by Brown to change the hours, second by Brandis.

Commission reviewed the proceedings from January 6, 2026; motion by Brandis to approve the proceedings, seconded by Brown.

Commission reviewed claims for February and claims that were paid in January. Motion by Brandis to approve the claims as follows, second by Brown.

**COMMISSION**

MC News	publishing	99.83
SDACC	26 membership dues	1622.00

**AUDITOR**

AT&T	cell phone	46.52
Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	35.89
Two Trees Technologies	server retention	48.75
MC News	publishing	30.59
Office Products	copier	5.85
SDACO	26 membership dues	243.88

**TREASURER**

Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	35.89
Two Trees Technologies	server retention	48.75
USPS	postage	243.64
First Bank & Trust	Quicken renewal	81.15
MC News	publishing	162.13
Office Products	copier	5.85
SDACO	26 membership dues	243.89
USPS	tax bill mailing	662.00

**COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY**

Aisha Carr	attorney fees	485.90
Fischer Law Office	attorney fees	4350.52
Kelsey Ruby	attorney fees	2301.40
Sandy Steffen	attorney fees	2011.81

**COURTHOUSE**

City of White River	water/sewer/garbage	190.68
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Mid-American Research Chem	cleaning supplies	331.46
Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	35.89
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service	661.43
CHS	propane	1072.11
City of White River	water/sewer/trash	187.88
<b>PHONE SERVICE</b>		
Golden West	phone/internet	604.58
<b>DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION</b>		
Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	35.89
Two Trees Technologies	server retention	48.75
Office Products	copier	5.85
District III	GIS annual fee	2000.00
<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS</b>		
Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	35.89
Office Products Center	copier/office supplies	221.89
SDACO	26 membership dues	243.89
<b>VA OFFICE</b>		
Tyler Technologies	Vetraspec renewal	475.94
<b>SHERIFF</b>		
AT&T	cell phone & radios	316.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling	January fuel	485.52
FedEx	evidence shipping	30.52
Sunmasters	25 Chevrolet equipment	2465.00
Timeclock Plus	timeclock fee	144.05
Verizon	fleet management	63.51
Wex Bank	January fuel	970.40
Central States Radar	radar certification	126.00
Firewatch Outpost	fuel	17.14
Gall's	uniforms	362.79
Office Products	copier	40.65
Northern Safety Tech.	25 Chevrolet equipment	3760.38
SD Dept of Health	lab fees	50.00
SD Sheriff's Assn.	26 membership dues	557.54
Winner Family Drug	prisoner medication	5.00
<b>JAIL</b>		
City of Winner	December prisoner housing & trans.	2356.40
City of White River	water	32.00
CRS	November & December prisoner ins.	119.11
CRS	prisoner medical bill	429.54
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service	101.96
City of White River	water/sewer	32.00
Golden West	phone/internet	101.61
<b>AMBULANCE</b>		
CC Medical Billing	billing fees	45.00
City of White River	water/sewer	10.66
A&B Welding	med oxygen	40.05
CC Medical Billing	billing fees	45.00
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service	132.04
Golden West	phone/internet	24.20
<b>EXTENSION</b>		
Office Products	copier	5.53
<b>PLANNING &amp; ZONING</b>		

CSDED	2026 dues	7372.30
<b>E-911</b>		
City of Winner	surcharge	10454.92
Golden West	phone line	52.74
<b>FIRE PROTECTION</b>		
Bankwest Insurance	vehicle & liability Norris FD	3185.00
City of White River	water/sewer	10.66
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service Wood	337.08
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service WR	132.05
Golden West	phone/internet	24.19
Tripp Co. Water	annual water – Wood	465.54
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>		
City of White River	water/sewer	10.66
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service	132.05
City of White River	water/sewer	32.00
Golden West	phone/internet	24.19
<b>M&amp;P</b>		
SDACO	December fees collected	50.00
<b>SALES &amp; EXCISE TAX</b>		
SD State Treasurer	July-December tax collected	21.95
<b>STATE MOTOR VEH COLLECTION</b>		
SD State Treasurer	December fees collected	46744.37
<b>ROAD &amp; BRIDGE</b>		
Butler Machinery	parts	63.03
Cherry Todd Electric	electric service	138.84
CHS	diesel fuel/propane	8254.71
City of White River	trash	74.34
Firewatch Outpost	supplies	72.11
Gillen's Station	fuel	62.00
Maurice Gustafson	gravel – 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment	19240.00
LaCreek Electric	electric service Norris	68.14
SD Hwy Superintendent Assn.	2026 dues	600.00
Tripp Co. Water	Wood shop water	16.00
<b>PAYROLL</b>		
<b>January 9, 2026</b>		
Commission	1133.14	
Auditor	2191.18	
Treasurer	2991.94	
States Attorney	2624.36	
Courthouse	1389.66	
Director of Equalization	2045.68	
Register of Deeds	2969.72	
IT-Website	340.97	
Sheriff	11728.39	
Highway	5737.93	
<b>January 23, 2026</b>		
Commission	2126.71	
Auditor	3452.22	
Treasurer	3778.32	
States Attorney	2624.37	
Courthouse	1621.27	
Director of Equalization	2645.22	

Register of Deeds	2982.65
Sheriff	12798.98
Highway	5563.91

At 11:40 am Chairman Brown declared the meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:00 am.

Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026.

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Vernon Brown, Chairman, Mellette County Commissioners

ATTEST

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Jenny Galbraith, County Auditor