

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on December 2nd, 2025, at 9:00 AM in the Commission Room of the Courthouse with Vice Chairman Scott Fieber presiding. Those present were Commissioners Scott Fieber, Harry Mewherter and Judith Homan. Absent were Jay Grabow and Steve Rhody. Also present was Auditor Courtney Parker and a few members of the public. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 1) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the agenda with additions of County Road 309 (Hunt Road) Contract, Jay Grabow & Kevin DeBoer travel request, and right of way permit. All voted yes and the motion carried. 2) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the November Minutes. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Appointments

Item #1 Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck

Broksieck presented two contracts. The first was for County Road 309 in the amount of \$26,000 for design survey and boring. Other discussion was had in prior commission meetings. 3) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve the contract with Banner Associates for County Road 309 in the amount of \$26,000. All voted yes and the motion carried. The second was for County Road 313 in the amount of \$58,500. Other discussion was had in prior commission meetings. 4) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the contract with Banner Associates for County Road 313 in the amount of \$58,500. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Broksieck presented a BIG application for Eastman Bridge 20-153-210 over Cobb Creek on 187th Street, .4 miles east of 481st Avenue. The total BIG points is 51.50. Total proposed grant is an 80%/20% split. The Grant portion would cover \$893,600 with the County's portion being \$223,400. 5) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the BIG Grant for Bridge 20-153-210 totaling \$1,117,000. The breakdown of funding is 80% State funded totaling \$893,600 and 20% County funded totaling \$223,400. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Broksieck presented a right of way occupancy for Michael Merle to bore 13-inch tile under highway. 6) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve the right of way occupancy application. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Broksieck had a few updates for the board. They will need another pickup soon as the 2011 half ton has 289,000 miles on it and dodge pickup has a bad cylinder, a Sterling truck was tipped over and dented the hood and broken mirror otherwise it is fine. Broksieck will not turn into insurance. A bridge was hit on 188th Street and needs the bridge railing replaced. This is a bridge we are working on the BIG grant for but need to replace the railing in the meantime. The Cat backhoe was ordered. Insurance let us know in order for staff members to be on property when off duty they will need to sign a release.

Item #2 Highway Secretary Lisa Jorvig

Jorvig discussed software price increase with board. Pubworks was bought out by Gworks causing a newer updated software to be run. Deuel County currently pays around \$4,000 a year but will increase to \$10,000 a year. Jorvig stated they are good to work with. A few extra costs initially totaling in \$13,000 to switch over. The software will go live in March. 7) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the cost increase for Gworks software totaling \$13,000. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #3 at 9:24 AM Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters

8) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for Personnel Matters. All voted yes and the motion carried. Fieber declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 10:06 AM.

Item #4 Sheriff Cory Borg

9) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve the K-9 cage surplus to no cost to another government agency. All voted yes and the motion carried.

10) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the K-9 surplus at \$1.00 to handler. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Code Red was hacked and is currently out of service. Some portions are back up and working but their communication during this time has been poor. Didn't get informed that it was initially down. Borg is looking into other vendors that do the same thing. Code Red contract ends on 12/25. Borg will be presenting options at next meeting.

Item #5 Burts

Tabled.

Item #6 at 10:38 AM Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters

11) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for Personnel Matters. All voted yes and the motion carried. Fieber declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 10:56 AM.

12) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the Sheriff's recommendation to terminate a County employee. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Borg asked for a motion to advertise for a 5th deputy. Discussion was tabled until next meeting.

New Business

13) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the 4-H MOU for 2026. All voted yes and the motion carried.

14) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to authorize Vice Chairman Fieber to sign state aid for county veterans officer in 2025. All voted yes and the motion carried.

15) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve Grabow and DeBoer's travel request to Pierre on December 1st and 2nd for meetings with legislature on data centers. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Approval of Warrants

16) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to pay all warrants. All voted yes and motion carried.

Paid Early: IBC 2250.00 MERP Funds, 911 Surcharge 341.40 911 Utilities, Deuel County Treasurer 72.68 Delinquent Taxes, Principal Life Insurance 1486.56 Insurance, Wellmark 20,587.39 Health Insurance,

Warrants: A&B BUSINESS SOLUTIONS 135.35 SUPPLIES, A-OX WELDING SUPPLY COMPANY IN 264.19 SUPPLIES, AMERICINN BY WYNDHAM 708.00 HOTEL STAY ELEC TRAINING, AT&T MOBILITY 292.28 UTILITIES, AUSTIN LAW OFFICE 708.00 CAA FEES, BROOKINGS DEUEL RURAL WATER 118.00 UTILITIES, BLACKSTRAP INC. 4565.55 SALT SAND SUPPLIES, BUTLER MACHINERY CO 397.80 REPAIR, CARTNEY BEARING & SUPPLY CO 115.60 REPAIR, FOELL, PC 160.00 DOT EXAMS, CINTAS CORP 172.62 RUGS, CLEAR LAKE BUILDING CENTER 17.45 SUPPLIES, CITY OF CLEAR LAKE 283.30 UTILITIES, CLEAR LAKE COURIER 550.72 PUBLICATIONS/SUPPLIES, CLAIMS ASSOCIATES, INC 3704.98 DEDUCTABLE, TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES 1999.25 PROF. SERVICE., DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER 1240.10 DELINQ TAXES, EM SERVICES MARKETING CORP INC 2368.00 I AM RESPONDING SERVICES, ELECTION SYSTEMS& SOFTWARE INC 5183.80 LICENSE & WARRANTY, FISHER SAND & GRAVEL CO 1129.14 SUPPLIES, FLEETPRIDE 256.34 REPAIR, GREEN OVIATT LAW LLP 738.00 CAA FEES, HELSPER, MCCARTY & RASMUSSEN 722.40 CAA FEES, LACAL EQUIPMENT INC. 1630.35 REPAIR, DEB LESSMAN 224.24 REG. TRAVEL

REIMB, BLUE TARP FINANCIAL, INC 382.23 SUPPLIES, MENARDS 37.97 SUPPLIES, DENNIS NOSBUSH 178.57 MAINTENANCE, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 679.81 UTILITIES, OFFICE PEEPS INC 416.92 SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER CO 61.24 UTILITIES, POWERPLAN OIB 620.09 REPAIR, PROLINE INC 176.00 SUPPLIES, RAMKOTA HOTEL&CONFERENCE CENTE 816.00 SPRING CONFERENCE HOTEL STAY, RC FIRST AID 49.50 SUPPLIES, RICHARDSON, WYLY, WISE, 300.00 PROF. SERVICE, ROME TOWNSHIP 1268.00 POCKET GOPHERS, RON'S SAW SHOP 644.96 SUPPLIES, RUNNING'S SUPPLY INC 469.03 SUPPLIES, SANFORD HEALTH OCCMED 105.00 PROF. SERVICE, SD ASSN COUNTY WEED & PEST SUP 75.00 DUES, SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION 5691.51 FUEL SUPPLIES, SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF REVENUE 97713.47 EOM FEES, SDACO 118.00 M&P FEES, SD PUBLIC ASSURANCE ALLIANCE 604.48 AUTO LIAB FREIGHTLINER & DUMP, SIGN SOLUTIONS USA, LLC 889.07 SUPPLIES, SIOUX VALLEY CO-OP 262.51 SUPPLIES, TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIP INC 745.14 REPAIR, W W TIRE SERVICE INC-WTN 1697.84 REPAIR,

November Payroll

Commissioners \$10,647.41, Election \$134.25, Auditor's Office \$12,354.21, Treasurer's Office \$12,241.22, State's Attorney's Office \$10,560.73, General Government Building \$8,752.94, Director of Equalization Office \$18,435.78, Register of Deeds Office \$10,100.41, Veteran Service Officer \$3,001.53, GIS \$749.03, Sheriff's Dept. \$51,019.17, County Assist \$402.64, 4-H \$0, Extension Office \$6,372.73, Weed & Pest \$4,720.88, Planning & Zoning \$5,585.78, Road & Bridge \$72,315.21, Civil Defense \$428.08

Public Comment

Gary Hudiburgh with SotaSoDak gave updates on items he's been working on. Hudiburgh discussed Federal Infrastructure Funding Opportunities. He discussed pursuing congressional appropriations for Deuel County road and bridge maintenance. Commission told him to reach out to Broksieck and discuss. Another item he discussed was the Dakota Bridge Project. A workforce development program expanding to serve our rural communities. This program leverages Minnesota Training Partnership's proven 5-week Wind Energy Industry Orientation curriculum which achieves 90%+ placement rates. While initially developed to serve South Dakota's nine sovereign tribal nations, Dakota Bridge is expanding to include rural non-tribal communities like those in Deuel County. Third, Hudiburgh discussed SotaSoDak & Suicide Prevention Partnership to collaborate with Sanford Health public health nurse. A suicide prevention training will be in Gary on December 10th at 6:30 PM in the Gary Fire Hall.

- Shelia Monnier spoke to the commission about the industrialization projection in the Southern part of Deuel County and the disapproval the citizens of that location have for it. She spoke many concerns: small farms cannot get tax cuts so why should these big, industrialized companies, how long will these tax deductions be in place until taken away from us, and boom it may have on local businesses but what about the people that live in the industrial zone. Monnier quoted zoning regulations are supposed to help existing homes and landowners. Monnier asked the commission to think about the people, not the money.
- Michelle Oftedahl asked the commission to Google Earth New Albany, Ohio from 2020 to 2025 as you can see the impact one data center has on a community. She stated data centers really don't have much of a benefit at all to our location. They are not against progress for progress sake but our county should focus on agriculture-based things to bring value to our rural community. Oftedahl stated the Astoria station only has three employees and of those employees none of them live

around here or they do and don't get involved in our community. Fire department won't complain as they are good people but these facilities add more potential for things to go wrong which the rural fire departments are not equipped to handle. Commission sees the tax money but it might disappear. If there's any chance that property taxes may be abolished, then why add anything at this time? Oftedahl asked the commissioners to take their thoughts into consideration.

Adjournment

There being no further business 17) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to adjourn. All voted yes and the motion carried.

ATTEST:

Courtney Parker, Auditor

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Scott Fieber, Vice Chairman