

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on October 20th, 2026, at 9:00 AM in the Commission Room of the Courthouse with Chairman Jay Grabow presiding. Those present were Commissioners Jay Grabow, Steve Rhody, Scott Fieber, Harry Mewherter and Judith Homan. Also present was Auditor Courtney Parker and a few members of the public. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 1) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the agenda with an addition of the Banner contract for the Lake Cochrane walking path and purchasing road salt. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **Appointments**

#### **Item #1 Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck**

Broksieck presented the Banner contract for the Transportation Alternative program for the Lake Cochrane walking path. There will be a meeting with the SDDOT on November 10th. Broksieck is unsure if he will need to travel to Pierre for the meeting or if it will be accessible through Zoom. 2) Fieber moved, seconded by Homan to approve the Banner contract that will not exceed \$10,000 for the Lake Cochrane walking path. All voted yes and the motion carried. 3) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve Broksieck's travel to Pierre if he needs to attend the meeting on November 10th for the SDDOT meeting. All voted yes and the motion carried.

4) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the purchase of road salt at \$175 a ton delivered roughly totaling \$9800. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Broksieck discussed the current contract for fuel bids will be ends on November 19th. Rebidding for another five-month time frame will get us back to our normal contract dates. 5) Rhody moved, seconded by Grabow to approve advertising for fuel bids in the Clear Lake Courier on November 2nd and 9th. The bids will be opened on November 24th. All voted yes and the motion carried.

#### **Item #2 9:08 AM Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters**

6) Fieber moved, seconded by Homan to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters. All voted yes and the motion carried. Grabow declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 9:18 AM.

7) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to hire Earl Clements as a full-time heavy equipment operator at \$22.33. All voted yes and the motion carried.

#### **Item #3 Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) Contractual Matters**

There was no executive session for contractual matters.

#### **Item #4 Zoning Officer Jodi Theisen**

Theisen presented a plat. 8) Homan moved, seconded by Grabow to approve the plat entitled "**PLAT OF LOTS 1 AND 2 OF LUNDEN ADDITION IN THE SW ¼ OF SECTION 22, T113N, R49W OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> P.M., DEUEL COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA**", and Resolution 26-27. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION NO 26-27**

It was moved by Homan, seconded by Grabow motion carried, the "**PLAT OF LOTS 1 AND 2 OF LUNDEN ADDITION IN THE SW ¼ OF SECTION 22, T113N, R49W OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> P.M., DEUEL COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA**", as described above and hereon be approved an accepted and the Chairman is hereby instructed to endorse on such plat.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2026.

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CHAIRMAN, DEUEL COUNTY BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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COUNTY AUDITOR  
DEUEL COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

**Item #5 Risty Benefits Representative Dan Johnson**

Johnson explained insurance quotes to the board. The Wellmark BCBS plan will increase 7.67%. Currently Deuel County has a dental plan but it does not include orthodontics. Parker had expressed some interest from employees to offer a plan with orthodontics. Johnson also explained Deuel County received a rate pass for 2027 in vision insurance if the same policy is kept. The County paid life insurance policy remained unchanged. Johnson explained a new benefit that some companies are incorporating in their benefit package called an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This provides to employees an immediate, confidential, employer sponsored benefit that helps employees and their dependents identify and address any type of personal or work-related issues. A table was shown providing options. The commission would like Parker to ask the employees if orthodontic work included in their dental plans is something they would prefer and return to the next meeting with a consensus on their opinions. At the November 5th meeting the commission will make their decision regarding all plans.

**Old Business**

Craig Schentzel accepted the part-time maintenance position at \$19.00 per hour with no benefits offered.

**New Business**

9) Rhody moved, seconded by Homan to approve the September Cash Balance Sheet. All voted yes and the motion carried.

**DEUEL COUNTY AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH TREASURER  
END OF MONTH CASH BALANCE- SEPTEMBER 2026**

|                                          |      |                 |
|------------------------------------------|------|-----------------|
| CASH TOTAL                               |      | \$ 1,210.02     |
| CHECKS TOTAL                             |      | \$ 78,483.44    |
| CASH ITEM                                |      | \$ -            |
| CASH CHANGE SHERIFF                      |      | \$ 50.00        |
| TOTAL CASH ASSETS ON HAND                |      | \$ 79,743.46    |
| CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE                 |      | \$ 304,600.10   |
| PREMIUM MM FIRST BANK & TRUST OF TORONTO |      | \$ 4,890,295.79 |
| SD FIT                                   |      | -               |
| CREDIT CARDS                             |      | \$ 421.55       |
| CD                                       | DNB  | \$ 250,000.00   |
|                                          | FB&T | -               |

|                                  |              |            |             |                        |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|
| INTEREST EARNED: \$16,352.11     |              |            |             |                        |
| REVOLVING LOAN                   |              |            |             | \$ 46,038.20           |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL CASH ASSETS</b>   |              |            |             | <b>\$ 5,571,099.10</b> |
| GL CASH BALANCE BY FUNDS:        |              |            |             |                        |
| GENERAL FUND                     |              |            |             | \$ 5,149,817.68        |
| SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS            |              |            |             | \$ (156,714.95)        |
| TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS             |              |            |             | \$ 577,996.37          |
| Townships                        | \$92,872.05  | Cities     | \$47,463.09 |                        |
| Schools                          | \$167,191.26 | Rural Fire | \$2,555.93  |                        |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER CASH</b> |              |            |             | <b>\$ 5,571,099.10</b> |

**Difference = \$ -**

There was no discussion on plumbing and heating quotes.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed Power On Midwest 765kV transmission line project. Grabow expressed concerns regarding the project's impact on farmland, the proposed route through South Dakota, and the pressure landowners are experiencing to sign easement agreements. Concerns regarding easements included decreasing compensation offers and eminent domain threats to leverage landowners. Abby, representing HDR, explained that the project attempts to utilize existing federal easements when possible but was unable to address questions regarding routing the line through Minnesota. Additional discussion included concerns regarding permanent easements, the ability to transfer or sublet easement rights, landowner property rights, and transparency throughout the process. Grabow stated that while the Commission has limited authority over these matters, he believes the County should be represented at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) proceedings. Grabow suggested Eric Peterson as an intervenor. 10) Homan moved, seconded by Rhody, to have two intervenors in the upcoming PUC proceedings, with the individuals to be determined at a later date. All voted yes, and the motion carried.

Peterson provided background on his experience in civil engineering, agricultural drainage, and farming. Peterson discussed concerns regarding permanent easements, potential health risks, livestock impacts, damage to agricultural tile drainage systems, and electrical safety. He shared a personal experience involving a plow they were unloading off of a trailer giving voltage readings of 320–420 volts near a 345kV line. Peterson also raised concerns regarding property rights and potential violations of South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) related to the proposed line's proximity to his airstrip.

### **Approval of Warrants**

11) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to pay all of the warrants as presented. All voted yes and motion carried.

**Paid Early:** DNB NATIONAL BANK 948.16 OVER PAYMENT, DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER DELINQUENT TAXES, LOKEN LAND MANAGEMENT 352.04 LOST CHECK/REISSUE, AT&T MOBILITY 41.54 UTILITIES, ITC 1367.85 INTERNET, CITY OF CLEAR LAKE 386.20 UTILITIES, H-D ELECTRIC COOP INC 802.56 UTILITIES, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 55.13 UTILITIES, BJERKE SANITATION 80.00 GARBAGE, BROOKINGS-DEUEL RURAL WATER 190.20 UTILITIES

**Transmittals:** SCHOOLS 167191.26, TOWNSHIPS 113734.52, CITIES 56590.38, EDWD 474.60, RURAL FIRE 2555.92

**Warrants:** A-OX WELDING SUPPLY COMPANY IN 559.30 SUPPLIES, AUSTIN LAW OFFICE 946.07 CAA FEES, BANNER ASSOCIATES INC 36350.22 PROF SERVICES, BROOKINGS CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE 997.50 PRISION HOUSING, BJERKE SANITATION 90.00 GARBAGE, BOWES CONSTRUCTION INC 61377.07 CONTRACT WORK/ SUPPLIES, BUTLER MACHINERY CO 80.31 REPAIRS, CENTURY LINK 341.40 INTERNET, CINTAS CORP 892.05 PROF SERVIVCE, CL BUILDING CENTER & RENTAL 906.35 FLAG POLE REPLACEMENT SUPPLIES, CITY OF CLEAR LAKE 2000.00 LIQ LISC, CLEAR LAKE COURIER 1157.83 PUBLISHING, TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES 475.00 SUPPLIES, COWBOY COUNTRY STORES 27.57 SUPPLIES, DAKOTA RIGGERS & TOOL SUPPLY 628.09 SUPPLIES, DAKOTA DATA SHRED 97.36 PROF SERVICE, DAKOTA PORTABLE TOILETS, INC 225.00 PROF SERVICE, DAKOTABILITIES 180.00 OCT-DEC SUPPORT, DEUEL COUNTY FARMERS UNION OIL 1200.24 SUPPLIES, ELECTION SYSTEMS& SOFTWARE INC 338.47 SUPPLIES, FISHER SAND & GRAVEL CO 866.47 SUPPLIES, FRITZ CHEVROLET INC 2181.57 REPAIR AND MAINT, GOODWIN TOWNSHIP 32410.40 RAIF REIMB, GRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 3780.00 PRISIONER HOUSING, HAVANA TOWNSHIP 132458.45 RAIF REIMBURSMENT, HEIMAN INC 711.00 SUPPLIES, HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY 3286.25 4TH QTR SUPPORT, INTER-LAKES COMM ACTION INC 1379.75 OCTOBER, ISTATE TRUCK CENTER, INC. 842.81 REPAIRS, JOSH BEKAERT 200.00 CORONER CALL, MENARDS 178.65 SUPPLIES, DENNIS NOSBUSH 129.59 REPAIR, OFFICE PEEPS INC 478.88 SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER CO 1589.68 UTILITIES, RAMKOTA HOTEL-PIERRE 1120.00 HOTEL, RONS SAW SALES 135.92 SUPPLIES, SANFORD HEALTH 1762.67 AUGUST HEALTH NURSE, SAVE YOUR FORK BAKERY 47.00 RETIREMENT CAKE, SO DAK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 300.00 BAL, STAN HOUSTON EQUIPMENT CO, INC 56.94 SUPPLIES, SUPREME WELDING, INC. 45.00 REPAIRS, W W TIRE SERVICE INC-WTN 468.00 REPAIRS, WATERTOWN FORD CHRYSLER 479.99 SUPPLIES, KRISTIN A WOODALL 55.25 JURY TRANSCRIPT, YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY 75.00 PROF SERVICE,

12) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve Grabow getting wood supplies to finish the trim for the commission room. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Nosbush requested an update on the ordinance she previously proposed, noting that Peterson had presented valid reasons supporting its consideration. Grabow explained that the ordinance was initially provided to Interim States Attorney Teree Nesvold and is currently under review by Richardson Law.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business 13) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to adjourn. All voted yes and the motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Courtney Parker, Auditor

Published one time at the approximate cost of

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Jay Grabow, Chairman