November 5th, 2026
Regular Meeting

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on November 5th, 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 additions of Bemis Complaint, Sioux Valley Commission and handicapped button. All voted yes and the motion carried. 2) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve the October Minutes as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Appointments

Item #1 Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck

Broksieck presented the planning contract with Banner Associates for the planning phase of restoration of County Road 311 since the state does not pay for this portion. The County will try and apply for the same grant that Wildrose applied for. As long as the elevator has enough economic growth, we should be able to apply for the grant. 3) Homan moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the planning contract with Banner Associates not to exceed $25,000. All voted yes and the motion carried. Rhody brought up another place of concern in Astoria that he's had a couple on concerns on that Broksieck will pass onto Waylon Blasius with Banner. 4) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the Northwestern Energy Right of Way Application to bore into the ditch with a four-inch pipe replacing the two-inch currently for the Tech Ord expansion. All voted yes and the motion carried. All RAIF Applications were needed by October 31st. Fieber and Mewherter will look through. At the next commission meeting they will be approved. 5) Rhody moved, seconded by Homan to approve the Roger and Linda Svec perpetual easement for 8/10 of an acre at $660. All voted yes and the motion carried. 6) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the easement for John Krause for 1/10 of an acre. All voted yes and the motion carried. Most Bemis residents signed a formal complaint to the Deuel County Commission about a public health concern and unlivable property. Scott Peterson owns the property and property taxes are not current. Sheriff Cory Borg stated the States Attorney needs to be involved. The commission passed the complaint on to Interim States Attorney Teree Nesvold.

Item #2 9:30 AM Formal Budget Supplement

7) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve a supplement to the general building budget for $70,000 for the roof repair. All voted yes and the motion carried.

8) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to unassign funds from Capital Outlay to general fund unassigned.

Item #3 9:40 AM Formal Budget Supplement

9) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve a supplement to the commission budget for $216,700 for a settlement. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #4 Canvass General Election

The Board of Commissioners convened as the Election Canvassing Board. The board canvased the votes for the November 3rd, 2026, General Election. Voter turnout for Deuel County was 53.95%. The Commissioners canvassed the vote total in each precinct of the county with the following results:

Total Precincts Reporting – 10
Total Ballots Counted – 1720

United States Senator
Mike Rounds – 1,187
Brian L Bengs – 500
United States Representative
Marty Jackley – 1,278
Nicole "Nikki" Gronli – 400
Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Larry Rhoden/Tony Venhuizen – 1,253
Dan Ahlers/Steven McCleerey – 435
Secretary of State
Heather Baxter – 1,135
Tamara J. Lesnar – 87
Terrence Davis – 416
Attorney General
Lance Russell – 1,269
State Auditor
Catherine Barranco – 1,187
Tom Cool – 419
State Treasurer
Melissa Hull – 1,167
Margaret Kuipers – 446
Commissioner of School and Public Lands
Brock Greenfield – 1,228
Raeann Mettler – 408
Public Utilities Commissioner
Don Haggar – 1,097
Frank Kloucek – 512
State Senator, District 04
Stephanie Sauder – 1,216
State Representative, District 04
Ryan Kohl – 1,087
Fred Deutsch – 1,003
Emelia Enquist – 452
Samuel Froehlke – 363
Constitutional Amendment I
Yes – 815
No – 859
Constitutional Amendment J
Yes – 1,139
No – 544
Constitutional Amendment K
Yes – 958
No – 699
Constitutional Amendment L
Yes – 779
No – 887

By random draw, the board drew races for the Post-Election Audit that will be held in the court room on November 12th, 2026 at 6:15 pm. Commissioner Grabow Precinct 3

and drew Public Utilities Commissioner race and Amendment K race. Audit results will be shared with the board at the meeting held on November 24th, 2026. 10) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the draw for the post-election audit. All voted yes and the motion carried. 11) Fieber moved, seconded by Grabow to approve the 2026 General Election Canvass. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #5 10:39 AM Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) Consulting with Legal Counsel

12) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) Consulting with Legal Counsel. All voted yes and the motion carried. Grabow declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 11:04 AM. 13) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve $5,400 to repair the roof of the bowling alley and $8,000 to Christianson Plumbing and Heating for repair to the heater. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #6 9:25 AM Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters

13) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter 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 9:43 AM. 14) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter offer full-time highway positions to AB at $22.06 and TG at $22.59 at the highway shop. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Old Business

15) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve to keep our current Wellmark BCBS for health insurance plan, a Principal Dental plan that includes orthodontic work and one that does not include orthodontic work and Principal Vision Insurance. All voted yes and the motion carried.

16) Homan moved, seconded by Grabow to approve an EAP that would provide each employee with three visits a year. All voted yes and the motion carried.

New Business

17) Homan moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the contract with Johnson Controls in the amount of $13,417. All voted yes and the motion carried.

18) Homan moved, seconded by Rhody to approve support funds in the amount of $250 to the Brandt Senior Citizens & Clear Lake groups. All voted yes and the motion carried.

19) Rhody moved, seconded by Grabow to move the regular commission meeting on November 17th to November 24th. All voted yes and the motion carried.

20) Homan moved, seconded by Rhody to not have the regular commission meeting on December 1st due to moving the November 17th meeting to the 24th add the 29th of December. All voted yes and the motion carried.

21) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve doing the Deuel County Bucks for the Deuel County Employees in the amount of $100. All voted yes and the motion carried.

22) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the new public records request policy. All voted yes and the motion carried.

23) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve Grabow, Parker and Jennifer Mewherter to approve travel go to go the Sioux Valley Commission Meeting in Moody County. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Approval of Warrants

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

Paid Early: DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER $2,999.27 PROPERTY TAXES

Warrants: A&B BUSINESS SOLUTIONS 155.65 SUPPLIES, AARON SVEC 41.02 OP TAXES 312, AGRI PARTNERS INC. 17442.00 SPRAY, AMERICAN STATE BANK 28.62 OP ON TAXES 5865, AT&T MOBILITY 42.54 PHONE, AT&T MOBILITY 314.45 MIFI HOTSPOTS, AT&T MOBILITY 252.24 PHONES, AUSTIN LAW OFFICE 1780.38 CAA, BJERKE SANITATION 150.00 GARBAGE, BOWES CONSTRUCTION INC 7913.10 SUPPLIES, BRIAN SIEGFRIED 27.38 OP TAXES 2337 2346, BUTLER MACHINERY CO 6319.63 REPAIRS, BX CIVIL 108159.50 CONTRACT WORK, CL BUILDING CENTER & RENTAL 19.97 SUPPLIES, CITY OF CLEAR LAKE 411.50 UTILITIES, CLEAR LAKE COURIER 1743.31 PUBLISHING, COLE'S PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, INC 22195.04 SUPPLIES, TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES 475.00 PROF SERVICES, COTALITY 531.69 REFUND ON TAXES, DAKOTA FLUID POWER 702.09 REPAIRS, DACOTAH BANK 1440.84 OP TAXES 3949, DAKOTA DATA SHRED 101.93 PROF SERVICE, DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER 4219.31 DELIQ TAXES HEATHER ESTEY, DIAMOND MOWERS LLC 507.10 SUPPLIES, ECOLAB PEST ELIMINATION DIV 68.03 PROF SERVICE, ELECTION SYSTEMS& SOFTWARE INC 2615.59 SUPPLIES, EVERBRIDGE, INC 3799.67 PUBLIC COMMUN. EM, FIRST BANK & TRUST 4308.00 CREDIT CARD, FLEETPRIDE 124.98 REPAIR, GREEN OVIATT LAW LLP 1663.00 CAA, HEATHER LENTZ 515.00 OP TAXES 3429, ISTATE TRUCK CENTER, INC. 579.48 REPAIR, ITC 1305.03 INTERNET, JOHNSON CONTROLS BLDG SOL, LLC 921.83 REPAIRS, DEB LESSMAN 75.69 TRAVEL, MCLEOD'S 74.10 SUPPLIES, MENARDS 78.64 SUPPLIES, MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS 90.00 RENTALS, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 135.95 UTILITIES, OFFICE PEEPS INC 292.95 SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER CO 93.66 UTILITY, RC TECHNOLOGIES 150.00 UTILITIES, RDO EQUIPMENT CO 486697.06 ROAD GRADER, TERRY OR MINNIE ROOK 300.00 OP TAXES 1143 1144 1908, SANFORD HEALTH 1666.67 OCTOBER, SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION 2673.36 FUEL, SIGN SOLUTIONS USA, LLC 757.21 SUPPLIES, SIR LINES-A-LOT 42865.00 STRIPING, ULTRA 14724.50 SUPPORT AGREEMENTS, CITY OF WATERTOWN 6329.51 911 SURCHARGE OCTOBER, WILLARD SMITH 117.19 OP TAXES,

October Payroll

Commissioners $10979.21, Election $130.63, Auditor's Office $11745.80, Treasurer's Office $12540.18, State's Attorney's Office $8805.64, General Government Building $8780.36, Director of Equalization Office $18573.94, Register of Deeds Office $9798.58, Veteran Service Officer $1544.29, GIS $750.34, Sheriff's Dept. $48561.70, County Assist $392.05, 4-H $30.10, Extension Office $4614.68, Weed & Pest $2223.24, Planning & Zoning $6085.35, Road & Bridge $77933.27, Civil Defense $428.57

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business 24) Fieber moved, seconded by Homan to adjourn. All voted yes and the motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Courtney Parker, Auditor Jay Grabow, Chairman

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