

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on March 17th, 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 many members of the public. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 1) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **Appointments**

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

Broksieck presented the agreement for the SDDOT BIG Grant for structure number 20-008-220 in the amount of \$1,112,400 (80%) of project. 2) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve and sign the agreement for structure number 20-008-220, project number BRF 6308(00)26-2, PCN 0AG7 in the amount of \$1,122,400. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Broksieck explained there is something wrong with the Cat blade. The quote has not come back yet. The highway shop sent in an oil sample to help define the problem.

Temp Easements was not discussed as the agreements were not completed yet.

#### **Item #2 9:04 AM Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters**

3) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for Personnel Matters. All voted yes and the motion carried. Grabow declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 9:20 AM.

4) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody hire Lucas Ippolito as an equipment operator for the county highway shop starting at \$22.06 including eligibility for all benefits starting on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. All voted yes and the motion carried.

#### **Item #3 Todd Boyd**

Boyd discussed his findings on the Fairground land. He stated the county is exempt from indemnity bond in this quiet title. Chairman Grabow will need to be at court on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 AM for the hearing. Huppler, land surveyor, suggested a land swap to square things off and give the 4-H more room. This would require getting into contact with Mrs. Lanners to see if she would swap land with The County. Homan agreed to contact Lanners. Boyd suggested platting each area separately for liability purposes and a clear defined lease so the school will be able to lease the football, track, softball field, the City of Clear Lake can lease the baseball diamond.

#### **Item #4 Missouri River Energy Services Presentation; Item #5 10:00 AM Joint Meeting with Zoning Board – Rezoning Item; #6 10:30 AM Joint Meeting with Zoning Board – CUP**

The Deuel County Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment met jointly with the Deuel County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Courthouse in Clear Lake.

Theisen stated the next agenda item was a joint public hearing with the Deuel County Board of Commissioners regarding a rezoning request submitted by Missouri River Energy Services and property owner James E. Peterson (James E. Peterson Living Trust). The request is to rezone approximately 71 acres, described as the E1/2SE1/4, except the west 9 rods, of Section Seven (7), Township One Hundred Thirteen (113) North, Range Forty-Eight (48) West of the 5th P.M., Deuel County, South Dakota, from "AG" Agricultural District to "CI" Commercial/Industrial District. Chairman Dahl and the Chairman Commission Grabow opened the public hearing for their respective boards.

MRES Representatives gave a presentation on information regarding the proposed facility and all the different research, studies, and community outreach that has gone into the preparation of the proposed power plant.

Many members of the public spoke on many different topics of concern including noise, conflicts with Agriculture land, diesel backup generators, electricity demands, wetlands, narrow unfit roads for hauling fuel to the plant, light pollution, pushing this project to an industrial park, rural character, health impacts, low-frequency noise, inaccuracies in the public outreach process, comprehensive plan conflicts, negative impacts to surrounding land value, accuracy of noise studies performed, lack of awareness to county residents, not current traffic studies used in studies, and threats to farmland.

After public comment was closed, the boards asked questions to the MRES representatives. These questions included excess land being platted, status easements of landowners, option to purchase nearby residences, water demand, plant operation, generators, noise standards, natural gas usage, alternative locations and follow up testing.

Zoning Officer Jodi Theisen presented the staff report and explained the rezoning request. She stated that Missouri River Energy Services submitted both a rezoning application and a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application on February 19, 2026. Public and Private Utilities are only allowed as Conditional Use within the Commercial/Industrial District, so the rezoning request must be approved before the CUP can be considered. Theisen recommended the CUP be delayed until April 13, 2026 to ensure proper evaluation of conditions and compliance with planning objectives.

Motion by Lammers, seconded by Dahl, to recommend approval of the rezoning request from "AG" Agricultural District to "CI" Commercial/Industrial District and forward the recommendation to the Deuel County Board of Commissioners. Dahl called a roll call vote; Kanengieter- no, Lammers – no, DeBoer – no, Grabow - yes, and Dahl – no. Motion failed. The board did not recommend approval of the rezoning request.

The Planning Commission adjourned, and the Board of Adjustment convened for the Conditional Use Permit.

Motion by DeBoer, seconded by Grabow, to postpone discussion and final action on the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) request until April 13, 2026, meeting, contingent upon approval of the rezoning by the Deuel County Board of Commissioners. All voted in favor; motion passed unanimously.

Zoning meeting was adjourned.

Following adjournment, the Deuel County Commissioners held the First Reading of Ordinance B2022-01-09A. 5) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter to have the second reading on B2022-01-09A on April 7th, 2026, at 9:30 AM. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **New Business:**

6) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the new county burial process. All voted yes and motion carried.

7) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve travel requests for the Equalization Office to USPAP in Pierre on May 5 & 6 for two employees and Conference June 2-5 to Sioux Falls for three employees. All voted yes and motion carried.

8) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve five people to attend the Sioux Valley Commission Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> in DeSmet. All voted yes and motion carried.

Discussion on the 4-H arena is tabled until the next meeting after Grabow can go take a look at the items needing to be fixed.

The 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration was discussed. The County suggested giving some funds to towns to help with their celebrations instead of being in competition with them. Grabow asked Parker to reach out to the cities on this.

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

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

CASH TOTAL				\$	1,438.40
CHECKS TOTAL				\$	43,207.81
CASH ITEM				\$	-
CASH CHANGE SHERIFF				\$	50.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS ON HAND				\$	44,696.21
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE				\$	177,427.64
PREMIUM MM FIRST BANK & TRUST OF TORONTO				\$	4,362,239.33
SD FIT				-	
CREDIT CARDS				\$	1,473.47
CD		DNB	\$	250,000.00	
		FB&T	-		
INTEREST EARNED: \$9,990.12					
REVOLVING LOAN				\$	46,035.53
<b>GRAND TOTAL CASH ASSETS</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>4,881,872.18</b>
GL CASH BALANCE BY FUNDS:					
GENERAL				\$	3,552,672.24
				\$	811,192.98
TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS				\$	518,006.96
Townships	\$70,252.00	Cities	\$32,650.81		
Schools	\$188,539.47	Rural Fire	\$3,711.35		
<b>TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER CASH</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>4,881,872.18</b>

Difference  
 = \$ -

10) Homan moved, seconded by Fieber to approve Resolution #26-04 Voter Precinct Polling Locations. All voted yes and motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #26-04  
 VOTER PRECINCT POLLING LOCATIONS**

WHEREAS, Deuel County must establish polling places in each precinct, for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 and General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the polling places in each precinct in Deuel County shall be as follows:

<b>Precincts</b>	<b>Locations</b>
1- Altamont Township, Portland Township, Lowe Township, Altamont Inc.	Dakota Ridge Lodge, Altamont
3- Brandt Township, Norden Township, Brandt Inc.	Brandt Community Center
4- Clear Lake Inc. Ward 1	Clear Lake Community Center
5- Clear Lake Inc. Ward 2	Clear Lake Community Center
6- Clear Lake Inc. Ward 3	Clear Lake Community Center
7- Goodwin Township, Goodwin Inc., Rome Township	Goodwin Fire Hall
8- Glenwood Township, Herrick Township, Antelope Valley Township, Gary Inc.	Gary Fire Hall
9- Havana Township, Clear Lake Township, Hidewood Township	Clear Lake Community Center
10- Scandinavia Township, Astoria Inc.	Legion Hall Astoria
11- Blom Township, Toronto Inc., Grange Township	Toronto Community Room/Fire Hall

Dated this 17th day of March, 2026  
 ATTEST:

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 Courtney Parker, Deuel County Auditor

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 Jay Grabow, Chairman  
 Deuel County Commission

Parker stated the 2025 annual report was submitted to the state. 11) Fieber moved, seconded by Grabow to advertise the annual report. All voted yes and motion carried.

**Approval of Warrants:**

12) Mewherter moved, seconded by Rhody to pay warrants as presented. All voted yes and motion carried.

**Paid Early:** IBC 120.00 MERP Employee Claims, IBC 40.00 Employee Claims, IBC 268.50 MERP February Admin Fees

**Transmittals:** Schools: 188,539.47, Townships: 18,736.76, Cities: 18,396.89, EDWD 623.72, Upper Deer Creek: 8.90, Rural Fire: 3,711.35

**Warrants:** A-OX WELDING SUPPLY COMPANY INC 58.79 RENTAL, ACCESS ELEVATOR & LIFTS INC 597.00 LIFT REPAIR, AUSTIN LAW OFFICE 585.60 CAA, AUTO VALUE PARTS STORE 166.80 REPAIRS, BANNER ASSOCIATES INC 51,896.50 PROF SERVICES,

BROOKINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2,389.09 JAIL HOUSING/SUPPLIES, BROOKINGS DEUEL RURAL WATER 177.00 UTILITIES, GREGORY BLUM 66.80 JUROR & MILEAGE, CENTURY LINK 341.40 911 UTILITIES, CINTAS CORP 172.62 RUGS, CLEAR LAKE BUILDING CENTER 82.90 REPAIR, CODE FOUR LABS CORP 3,600.00 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION SOFTWARE, COLE'S PETROLEUM PRODUCTS INC 2,775.20 FUEL, TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES 2,111.45 PROF SERVICES, DAKOTA DATA SHRED 87.61 PROF SERVICES, DEUEL COUNTY FARMERS UNION OIL 923.97 SUPPLIES/UTILITIES, DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER 956.37 DELINQUENT TAXES, DOCKENDORF EQUIPMENT CO INC 3,119.37 REPAIR, TINA DURBIN 70.00 JUROR & MILEAGE, KAYLA FIEBER 68.20 JUROR & MILEAGE, FIRST BANK AND TRUST 2,896.66 CC STATEMENT, TREVOR FRENKO 71.75 WEED ANNUAL MEETING, FRITZ CHEVROLET INC 600.00 REPAIR, DANIEL GATES 50.00 JUROR, DWAYNE GORDER 71.75 WEED MEETING, OVIATT LAW LLP 577.20 CAA FEES, H-D ELECTRIC COOP INC 923.88 UTILITIES, FRANCIS HAUGER 79.18 REIMBURSEMENT SUPPLIES, HIDEWOOD TOWNSHIP 361.50 POCKET GOPHERS, HILLYARD/SIOUX FALLS 98.55 SUPPLIES, DOROTHY HOWARD 66.80 JUROR & MILEAGE, INTER-LAKE COMM ACTION INC 1,379.75 MARCH SUPPORT, ITC 1,407.09 UTILITIES, DEB LESSMAN 339.24 TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT, THE LODGE AT DEADWOOD 681.72 HOTEL STAY, CRAIG MAGEDANZ 68.85 WEED MEETING, MATTHEW BENDER & CO INC 130.43 COURT RULE BOOKS, MIDSTATES EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY 14,471.69 RUBBER SUPPLIES, NAPA AUTO PARTS 447.95 REPAIR, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 513.77 UTILITIES, OFFICE PEEPS INC 786.05 SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER CO 1,320.29 UTILITIES, NATHAN PALM 65.95 WEED MEETING, ADAM RAML 85.00 JUROR & MILEAGE, RC FIRST AID 41.00 SUPPLIES, SCOTT RUBY 50.00 JUROR, SANFORD HEALTH OCCMED 32.00 DRUG TESTING, SO DAK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 150.00 BLOOD DRAWS, SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION 1,376.51 FUEL, SD FEDERAL PROPERTY AGENCY 735.00 SUPPLIES, DENNIS SHERMAN 73.80 JUROR & MILEAGE, MATTHEW THOMAS 71.00 JUROR & MILEAGE, CITY OF WATERTOWN 6,349.63 911 SURCHARGE

### **February Payroll**

Commissioners \$10,979.23, Election \$130.63, Auditor's Office \$12,388.32, Treasurer's Office \$12,249.61, State's Attorney's Office \$8,747.83, General Government Building \$6,449.33, Director of Equalization Office \$18,522.68, Register of Deeds Office \$9,746.15, Veteran Service Officer \$1,544.29, GIS \$750.34, Sheriff's Dept. \$48,726.01, County Assist \$392.05, 4-H \$0, Extension Office \$3,950.21, Weed & Pest \$1,460.59, Planning & Zoning \$6,255.83, Road & Bridge \$76,515.60, Civil Defense \$428.57

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business 13) Homan moved, seconded by Grabow 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