

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on April 21st, 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 with additions gravel crushing, ROW occupancy and Highway Secretary travel expense and to remove VSO's report. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Appointments

Item #1 Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck

Broksieck asked to advertise for the box culvert project on structure number 20-008-220 on April 23 and May 6. Bids will be opened on May 13th at 10:00 AM. 2) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to advertise for Box Culvert Project 20-008-220 on April 23rd and May 6th. All voted yes and the motion carried. Broksieck asked how the commission wanted to bid fuel going forward since we rejected bids during bid letting or if we wanted to buy off the open market. Broksieck needed fuel since then but he purchased from Cole's which was the cheapest to buy off open market as he checked many different vendors. 3) Homan moved, seconded by Mewherter to advertise for fuel bids for a six month period advertising on May 6th and May 13th and opening those bids on May 19th 10:00 AM. All voted yes and the motion carried. Some discussion was had on Northwestern Energy's project as Broksieck presented a right of way occupancy permit. They will bore horizontally under. 4) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the right of way occupancy permit for Northwestern Energy. All voted yes and the motion carried. 6) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve gravel crushing of 5,000 ton at \$31,250 in the Arnie Krause pit, adding to the existing pile. All voted yes and the motion carried. 7) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve surplus of scrap iron. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #2 Veteran Service Officer Lynn Speier

Tabled until the May 5th meeting.

Item #3 at 9:30 AM 2nd Reading of B2022-01-11

Zoning Officer Jodi Theisen read B2022-01-11. Grabow opened the discussion on B2022-01-11. Kirk Phinney from OtterTail Power stated they wanted to be on record opposing B2022-01-11. There was discussion on why the lines are being placed in South Dakota instead of Minnesota. Phinney explained hooking up to as many power plants helps build a reliable system with a strong backbone. Discussion on the Big Stone Plant was had. They have committed to running through 2040. Does not mean they will shut down after 2040. Grabow acknowledged our energy majorly comes from North Dakota so we are trying to find a balance. There was some public input from Steve January, Mary Nosbush and Sheila Monnier about Minnesota and their laws and regulations and less impactful routes. 8) Fieber moved, seconded by Grabow to approve and adopt B2022-01-11. Roll Call Vote: Homan-aye, Mewherter-aye, Fieber-aye, Rhody-aye, Grabow-aye. Motion carries.

Item #4 Weed Supervisor Keith Goens

Goens presented a few items to the board. The board discussed the SDDOT contract and the order in which roads are sprayed. Goens replied State first due to SDDOT contract then County and ending with Township. Goens explained Township roads are not required by SDCL to be sprayed but state and county roads are. However, they do still spray them at no cost to the townships. Altamont and Herrick townships have stated problems. Goens said they need to contact him and he will take care of problems. 9) Rhody moved,

seconded by Fieber to approve the SDDOT contract. All voted yes and the motion carried. Next, Goens stated we need to advertise for an employee. His current employee is stepping away to help his son on his farm. 10) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to advertise until filled. All voted yes and the motion carried. Third, Goens stated Brandon Salzer asked Trevor Frensko to take his spot on the weed board. 11) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber appoint Trevor Frensko to the weed board. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Goens wanted to let the commission know that his trips to conferences has paid off. Deuel County was approved for a grant in the amount of \$7,200 the only condition is the county has to spend double that before he gets the funds. Purchases can include spray, salaries, etc. which will be no problem based on what is spent normally. Goens explained he was rejected on another grant due to less dollars in the state to issue grants. Currently there are 30 people registered for Pocket Gopher School. He is looking for somewhere to host it due to the high numbers. Goens contacted SDSU as they are looking for plots in Deuel County to test what works on Common Mullen at no cost to the county. The weed department has a Capital Outlay total of \$75,000. Goens stated he's going to try and keep going with what they have but would like it if the county could keep adding funds to the pot to ensure a pickup and sprayer could be purchased. The commissioners stated they would revisit the discussion at the end of the year.

Item #5 Sheriff Cory Borg

Borg talked about Grant County Jail Contract at \$105 per day per inmate. 12) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the Grant County Jail Contract at \$105.00 per day per inmate. All voted yes and the motion carried. Borg discussed the Toronto Repeater and the issues that they are having with it for a few years now. There is discussion with OtterTail about a tower that may be used. It needs to be raised from 180 feet to 350 feet. The current repeater by Toronto serves Astoria, Toronto and Brandt areas. Monnier, Deuel County Ambulance EMT/First Responder, stated there was a call last night and she had very hard time getting signal out in that area. Matt Holden, Lake Cochrane resident, stated there are amateur repeaters in that area if they could partner with to help. 13) Homan moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the new 100-watt repeater at \$34,545. All voted yes and the motion carried. Homan wanted it stated, we are not forgetting about that part of the county. Borg will bring contract with OtterTail to a commission meeting before he signs or purchases repeater.

Item #6 Lake Cochrane Improvement Association President Matt Holden

Holden asked that the county remembers them for a walking/biking path around the lake. They are thankful for the help with speed bumps. Broksieck stated flashing solar stop signs cost \$4000. The four speed bumps cost \$6,754. They will be placed strategically around the Lake going in early May and coming out after Labor Day. Grabow stated the road was built for vehicles not a walking path and the county does not have to provide a walking path. Homan asked if the Lake Cochrane Improvement Association can put in funds for two speed bumps. Borg stated he is in favor of the speed bumps. 14) Fieber moved, seconded by Homan to purchase four speed bumps in the amount of \$6,754 and LCIA putting in funds to help fund two more. All voted yes and the motion carried.

Item #7 Zoning Officer Jodi Theisen

Theisen presented one plat. 15) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve the plat entitled "**Lots 22A and 23A, Grabow Second Addition in Gov't Lot 2 in the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 5, T114N, R47W of the 5th P.M., Deuel County, South Dakota**" and Resolution 26-08. All voted yes and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 26-08

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Deuel County, South Dakota, that the plat entitled: “**Lots 22A and 23A, Grabow Second Addition in Gov’t Lot 2 in the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 5, T114N, R47W of the 5th P.M., Deuel County, South Dakota**” which has been submitted for examination pursuant to law, and it appearing that all taxes and special assessments have been paid and that such plat and the survey thereof have been made and executed according to law, the plat is hereby approved, and the County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to endorse on such plat a copy of this Resolution and certify the same.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners
Deuel County, South Dakota

_____(SEAL)
County Auditor, Deuel County, South Dakota

Item #8 11:30 AM Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel Matters

16) 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 11:51 AM.

Item #9 Auditor Courtney Parker

17) Rhody moved, seconded by Grabow to advertise for a full time deputy auditor in the paper April 29th and May 6th. All voted yes and the motion carried.

New Business

18) Homan moved, seconded by Fieber to approve a travel request to SDACO Spring Workshop on May 5-7 in Pierre for the Auditor, Treasurer and Highway Secretary. All voted yes and motion carried.

The 2026 Budget was discussed as the first quarter came to an end. All departments are within reason and there is no unexpected expenses.

The roof is leaking in many spots. Weathergard Crane & Roofing Inc. quoted the fix at \$152,550 while Skywalker Roofing quoted \$69,873. The board discussed they would like something in writing stating from start to finish the project should not take more than 60 days unless unforeseen circumstances and to make sure warranty is in writing. 19) Mewherter moved, seconded by Homan to approve the quote from Skywalker Roofing in the amount of \$69,873 to repair the roof of the Courthouse. All voted yes and motion carried.

20) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the March Cash Balance Sheet. All voted yes and motion carried.

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

CASH TOTAL	\$	996.00
CHECKS TOTAL	\$	39,781.11

CASH ITEM	\$	48.00
CASH CHANGE SHERIFF	\$	50.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS ON HAND	\$	40,875.11
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$	505,471.25
PREMIUM MM FIRST BANK & TRUST OF TORONTO	\$	4,147,226.70
SD FIT	-	
CREDIT CARDS	\$	1,634.05
CD	DNB	\$250,000.00
	FB&T	-
INTEREST EARNED: \$10,324.24		
REVOLVING LOAN	\$	46,035.88
GRAND TOTAL CASH ASSETS	\$	4,991,242.99
GL CASH BALANCE BY FUNDS:		
GENERAL	\$	3,604,014.67
	\$	611,135.52
TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS	\$	776,092.80
Townships	\$88,768.08	Cities \$62,149.21
Schools	\$372,924.47	Rural Fire \$6,829.32
TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER CASH	\$	4,991,242.99

Difference = -

21) Mewherter moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the quote for the horse arena in the amount of \$2,126.75. All voted yes and motion carried.

Approval of Warrants:

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

Paid Early: IBC 190.00 MERP EMPLOYEE CLAIMS, BROOKINGS DEUEL RURAL WATER 114.80 UTILITIES, ITC 1387.76 UTILITIES, TRI STATE WATER INC 254.00 WATER REPAIR, CITY OF WATERTOWN 6190.31 911 SURCHARGE

Transmittals: Schools \$372,924.47, Townships \$108,714.08, Cities \$70,875.60, EDWD \$1,190.21, Upper Deer Creek \$7.25, Rural Fire \$6,829.32

Warrants: A-OX WELDING SUPPLY COMPANY IN 206.33 SUPPLIES, BROOKINGS CO. SHERIFF'S OFFICE 4255.49 JAIL HOUSING, BUTLER MACHINERY CO 209.71 REPAIR, CANBY FARMERS GRAIN CO. 148.09 OVR PMT PROP TAXES, CENTURY LINK 341.40 UTILITIES, CINTAS CORP 121.31 RUGS, CLEAR LAKE AREA DEVELOPMENT 15000.00 2ND QTR AND ADDT'L HELP, DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER 1461.61 DELINQ TAXES, FASTENAL COMPANY 149.18 SUPPLIES, FISHER SAND & GRAVEL CO 4078.03 SUPPLIES, FRITZ CHEVROLET INC 1143.77 MAINTENANCE, GLACIAL LAKES AND PRAIRIES 449.00 ANNUAL SUPPORT, INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS 1866.33 GENERATOR REPAIR, JASON STOHR 1377.54 OVR PMT PROP TAX, JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL 120.72 SUPPLIES, LACAL EQUIPMENT, INC. 1669.61 REPAIR, LARETTA KRANZ 1212.16 REISSUE LOST CK, DEB

LESSMAN 290.73 TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT, BLUE TARP FINANCIAL, INC 216.89
SUPPLIES, OFFICE PEEPS INC 655.19 SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER CO 1273.72 UTILITIES,
PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES 283.82 SAFETY SHIRTS, SANFORD HEALTH OCCMED 64.00
DOT PROF. FEES, SDACC 2597.00 2ND QTR CLERP FUNDS, STAN HOUSTON EQUIPMENT
CO, INC 159.30 REPAIR,

March Payroll

Commissioners \$10,979.19, Election \$130.63, Auditor’s Office \$12,233.57, Treasurer’s
Office \$12,027.10, State’s Attorney’s Office \$8,747.82, General Government Building
\$6,298.34, Director of Equalization Office \$18,017.35, Register of Deeds Office \$9,588.90,
Veteran Service Officer \$1,544.30, GIS \$750.34, Sheriff’s Dept. \$48,712.12, County Assist
\$392.05, 4-H \$0, Extension Office \$3,937.65, Weed & Pest \$4,807.43, Planning & Zoning
\$6,085.37, Road & Bridge \$75,062.94, Civil Defense \$428.57

Public Comment

- Grabow read a letter to the commission, states attorney, and auditor from RURAL. The letter explained a group of citizens is circulating a referendum petition that they plan to turn in on May 4th, 2026.
- Mary Nosbush stated the District 4 Candidate Forum will be held on Saturday May 2nd from 7-9 pm in the Goodwin Area Hall for Republican, Democrat and Independent state legislative candidates. The Deuel County Republicans are sponsoring the event.
- Office of the Governor sent a letter to the commission on Senate Bill 96 to help reduce property tax and input a ½ cent sales tax.
- Sheriff’s Office quit renewing CDLs due to med card changes.

Adjournment:

There being no further business 23) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to adjourn. All voted yes and the motion carried.

ATTEST:

Courtney Parker, Auditor

Jay Grabow, Chairman

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