

January 28, 2026

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met in special session on January 28, 2026, in the Miner County Courthouse Commission Room. Members present: Joe Bechen, Kathy Faber, Tim Neises, Kari Jo Carlson and Mike Clary. Sanborn County Commissioners present: Earl Hinricher, Jeff Ebersdorfer, Gary Blindauer, Duane Peterson, and Steve Larson. Others present: Miner County Director of 911 & Dispatch Services Cora Schwader and Chief Deputy Sheriff Josh Hahn, and Sanborn County Auditor Kami Moody and Sheriff Tom Fridley.

Chairman Bechen called the meeting to order. The flag pledge was recited. Motion by Faber, second by Neises and carried to approve the agenda. The history of the agreement for 911 services between Miner and Sanborn Counties was discussed. There has not been a written agreement since the 1990's. Sheriff Fridley assured Miner County that the assistance between the two counties' sheriffs' departments will not change, no matter how things are resolved.

Schwader suggested figuring out an agreement for 2026 first. Schwader had estimated \$3500 for 100% of the surcharge monies plus \$833.33 per month for traffic, for a total of \$4333.33 per month. Although Sanborn County states they had previously paid 90%, due to the fact they will be paying 95% to Mitchell when they transition, they are willing to pay 95% of their surcharge monies to Miner County for 2026. Both counties will know an exact transition date at least 30 days in advance. Miner County will accept monthly payments but would like the payments at the beginning of the month, rather than after services are provided. Sanborn County Commissioners unanimously agreed to pay the estimated amount for 95% of surcharge monies, plus \$833.33 per month for traffic, at \$4,160 per month, to be paid at the first meeting of each month (with January and February payments being paid at the first meeting in February). Due to needing to estimate the surcharge amounts, once the transition to Mitchell takes place, and the actual surcharge monies are received, the difference will be paid to whichever county is owed funds at that time. Ebersdorfer expressed his appreciation to Cora Schwader for the great service provided by Miner County for 911 services.

Larsen made a proposal to leave 2024 at 90%, pay 2025 at 95%, and go forward with the agreement for 2026. There was fault on both sides for not getting back together to finalize the agreement sooner when law changes affected the surcharge monies in 2024. All commissioners from both counties agreed to this compromise. Sanborn County agreed to pay Miner County \$1,021 for services rendered in 2024, and \$2,100 for services rendered in 2025, for a total of \$3,121. This past balance will be paid with the 2026 service payment at the February 3rd meeting.

FEMA reimbursements and poor liens were discussed.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until February 3rd. Dated this 28th day of January, 2026.

Joe Bechen, Chairman
Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor