

April 14, 2026

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met for equalization on April 14, 2026, in the Miner County Courthouse Commission room. Members present: Joe Bechen, Kathy Faber, Tim Neises, Kari Jo Carlson and Mike Clary. Members absent: none.

Chairman Bechen called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. It was moved by Faber, seconded by Neises, and carried to approve the agenda. The minutes of the April 7th meeting were approved.

It was moved by Carlson, seconded by Faber and carried to authorize the auditor to pay the following claims: Chris Nipe \$3,744.50 **COURT APPT ATTY**; Miner Co Recreation Assn \$3,500.00 **GRANT**; Lincoln Co Auditor \$302.60 **MENTAL ILLNESS HEARING EXPENSE**; Office Ally \$44.95 **PROCESSING FEE**; Amazon \$44.67, McLeod's Printing \$184.12 **SUPPLIES**; Alliance \$68.07 **TELEPHONE**; Jill Calmus \$217.64, Kim Lewis \$17.50, Cheryl Moore \$48.02, Dan Page \$23.10, SDACO \$300.00, Kent Terwilliger \$99.54, Wyatt Walter \$23.80 **TRAVEL**.

Clary reported on the pipeline training in Madison. Neises and Bechen reported on the city meeting regarding the future of the ambulance barn. Faber, Bechen and Neises reported on the annual weed board meeting.

It was moved by Clary, seconded by Neises to appoint Kari Jo Carlson as the point of contact for Miner County with the Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership Board of Directors Region 4.

The board members took their oaths of office serving as the Board of Equalization.

Treasurer Brittany Yanish informed the board she has received 40 applications and approved 34 applications for the freeze on assessments of disabled and senior citizens and requested the board instruct the Director of Equalization to make those changes to the assessment roll. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Faber and carried to authorize the director to make the changes for the applications submitted to and approved by the treasurer for 2026.

Director of Equalization Barb Esser presented information on applications for disabled veteran exemption; eight were approved for 2026. Motion by Clary, seconded by Neises, and carried to authorize the Director of Equalization to make changes on the assessment rolls to reflect the qualifying applications for the Disabled Veterans Exemption.

It was moved by Carlson, seconded by Faber and carried to approve 38 annual applications for continued tax-exempt status (SDCL 10-4-19) for Miner County Historical Society, Fedora Fire Department, Evangelical Good Samaritan Society, Horizon Health Care, Carthage Museum & Historical Society, Orville Redding American Legion Post #61, Nels Pederson American Legion Post #145, townships, churches, and cemeteries throughout Miner County.

Discretionary was 102 parcels with a taxable loss \$5,001,829. The 2026 factors were AG=.850 and NonAg=.908.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Clary and carried to authorize the Director of Equalization to make the following clerical adjustments on the assessment rolls:

#593 NW4 3-105-58

- Remove structure value of \$27,208.

Esser reported that there were no appeals at local boards. No county appeals were filed. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Faber, to end equalization and adjourn as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Board of Commissioners.

Discussion on the weed supervisor position took place. Bechen brought to the board the spraying contracts for the 2026 season that were sent to all 16 townships by Weed Supervisor Terwilliger in February. The county is looking at options to fulfill the contracts for 2026, but there might be changes for 2027 and forward due to Terwilliger's resignation. If changes are made, a letter will be drafted by Carlson to send to the townships. Bechen will work with the Auditor's office to create an advertisement for weed spraying bids soon.

Discussion on the emergency management position took place. Faber discussed codified law of possibly needing 3 years of experience of comprehensive disaster to be Emergency Manager. Ellendorf was to investigate it and help with a job description for interviews. Discussion will be held at the next meeting to determine what the County wants to hire for, once more information is obtained.

Ambulance Manager Cora Schwader spoke about the city council meeting held on 4/13/26. The Ambulance Building Committee will meet on Monday April 20, 2026 at the ambulance barn to discuss future options.

Medical cards for the Highway Department were discussed. Ron was to reach out to SDPAA to see if the County had to obtain them before July 1st or if they are exempt. Discussion will be held at the next meeting with the findings.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until April 21st. Dated this 14th day of April, 2026.

Joe Bechen, Chairman
Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Justin Brandsma, Miner County Deputy Auditor