

August 3, 2026

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 3, 2026, in the Miner County Courthouse Commission room. Members present: Joe Bechen, Kathy Faber, Tim Neises, and Kari Jo Carlson. Absent: Mike Clary.

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 July 21st meeting were approved.

Neises and Bechen reported on attending the 911 meeting on July 23rd. There may need to be some policy changes to work effectively with the Miner County fire departments. Neises suggested that Denholm and Schwader hold a meeting with the chiefs and assistant chiefs of all the area fire departments who should then instruct their own individual fire departments on procedures going forward. Denholm and Schwader will be at Achievement Days this week to educate the public about the upcoming changes.

Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer showed a July 31st, 2026 balance of \$5,843,295.07 in all state, county, civil, school and trust accounts.

No one appeared for public comment.

It was moved by Carlson, seconded by Faber and carried to authorize the auditor to pay the following claims: Road & Bridge \$49,118.56, MERP Fund \$55,852.20, Reliance Standard \$786.28, Delta Dental \$1,092.08, Retirement \$8,138.47, Colonial Life \$220.58, OASI \$11,042.11, Commissioners \$5,036.00, Auditor \$8,310.50, Treasurer \$6,502.24 (includes Shellie Bluhm @\$3,317.00/mo), States Attorney \$6,550.00, Govt Building \$4,785.01, Director of Equalization \$9,323.06 (includes Autumn Glanzer @\$3,317.00/mo), Register of Deeds \$7,762.13, Vet Service \$640.50, Sheriff \$13,302.80, Coroner \$100.00, Contract Law \$4,547.25, Ambulance \$11,935.75, Extension \$1,477.75, Dispatch \$19,353.18, Emergency Mgt \$666.67, Weed \$135.00 **JULY PAYROLL**. Justin Brandsma \$14.00, Autumn Glanzer \$14.00, Lori Kiehl \$14.00, Amie Kidd \$14.00, Amanda Austerma \$14.00, Shellie Bluhm \$14.00, Becki Mommaerts \$14.00 **PAYROLL TRAVEL**; Feldman Fencing \$2,221.50, Graves Construction \$52,874.25, SD DOT \$18,469.61 **CONTRACTED MAINTENANCE**; TwoTrees Tech \$2,501.26 **EQUIPMENT**; Josh Esser \$180.00 **EVOC DRIVER**; Northwestern Energy \$40.55 **GAS**; Mike Carpentier \$675.00, Gabe Turpin \$357.30 **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**; Microfilm Imaging Systems \$470.00 **RENT**; Dan's Heating & Cooling \$266.84, Homestead Building Supply \$15.30, Trittech Software Systems \$2,220.00, TwoTrees Tech \$1,593.00 **REPAIRS**; Feldman Fencing \$4,329.63, Jebro Inc. \$218,414.28 **ROAD MATERIALS**; Kristian Ellendorf \$900.00 **STATE'S ATTY OFFICE EXPENSE**; Relx, Inc. \$198.00 **SUBSCRIPTION**; Amazon \$163.32, Dust-Tex \$258.28, Jack's Uniforms & Equipment \$67.95, Becki Mommaerts \$10.48, Quill \$231.19, Auto Value \$10.49, Thomson Reuters \$576.00, TwoTrees Tech \$180.00 **SUPPLIES**; AT&T \$417.39, Barb Esser \$30.00, Erin Feldhaus \$30.00, Lori Kiehl \$30.00, Becki Mommaerts \$30.00, Tim Reisch \$433.33, Molly Steeneck \$30.00, Danielle Werkmeister \$30.00, Brittany Yanish \$30.00, Verizon \$95.13 **TELEPHONE**; Autumn Glanzer \$44.10, Kim Lewis \$17.50, Becki Mommaerts \$84.52, Dan Page \$23.10, SDACC \$250.00, Wyatt Walter \$23.80 **TRAVEL**; City of Howard \$4,080.07 **UTILITIES**; Poll Workers

\$7,260.00, On Call Election Workers \$180.00 **ELECTION SALARIES**; Poll Workers \$357.70, On Call Election Workers \$12.60 **MILEAGE**; Canova Village \$50.00, City of Carthage \$50.00, Fedora Fire Department \$75.00 **RENT**.

The following correspondence was received: notices from DANR: 1) Notice of Hearing for Reissuance of General Water Pollution Control Permits for CAFOs, 2) Upland Hutterian Brethren, Inc. – Proposed Swine Expansion Plans & Specifications Review, 3) New Fashion Pork, LLP Revised Nutrient Management Plan; Miner County Sheriff July report.

Highway Superintendent Kremppges distributed his 7-year plan to the board, which was discussed. There was also discussion on updates to the highway building that will need to be budgeted for in the future. The pavement marking crew will soon mark the road south of Fedora and the bridge on the west side of Carthage. The highway crew is mowing the northwest corner of the county. Shoulder work needs to be done east of Canova. Culvert inspections were done last year on county roads; a few need to be reset and others could be lined. A few culverts need to be replaced this year that will require the rental of an excavator. Load postings on the Carthage Oil were discussed. They were originally changed to 50 tons due to the bridge being out. At the time, it was stated that the weight load limits would be reassessed after the bridge was reopened. Commissioners decided to leave the current weight limit postings in place. Kremppges will install counters to monitor the traffic in the area.

Motion by Carlson, second by Faber, and carried to enter into executive session for personnel matters pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 10:00am. Came out of executive session at 10:26am.

The Board of Commissioners, as the Miner County Canvassing Board, conducted the official canvass of the results of the Primary Runoff election held on Tuesday, July 28th, 2026. There were no changes to the results. The Certificate of Canvass was signed and transmitted to the Secretary of State's office.

It was moved by Faber, seconded by Neises and carried to recess as a Board of Commissioners and reconvene as a Planning and Zoning Board acting as the Board of Adjustments. Planning & Zoning Chairman Carlson took the chair. The Planning and Zoning board is meeting in consideration of Ordinance No. 2026-01, An ordinance amending "the zoning ordinance of Miner County" as established by ordinance #04-01 and all amendments thereto, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 11-2, 1967 SDCL, and amendments thereof, and for the repeal of all resolutions and ordinances in conflict therewith.

Chairperson Carlson opened the Public Hearing to consider Ordinance 2026-01. Those present for the hearing included Zoning Administrator Barb Esser, assistant Autumn Glanzer and Auditor Rebecca Mommaerts. No testimony in favor of or in opposition to the ordinance was received. Carlson closed the public hearing. Discussion on some of the verbiage of the ordinance was discussed. Todd Kays, Executive Director of First District of Local Governments, was called to address questions the board had. Kays suggested running the verbiage by the State's Attorney if there were continued concerns.

Motion by Bechen, seconded by Neises and carried to recommend the approval of Ordinance No. 2026-01, without amendments. This ordinance shall become effective upon the date of publication of this notice in the official newspaper, thereby repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith unless a referendum in timely involved prior thereto.

Motion by Faber, seconded by Neises and carried to adjourn as the Planning & Zoning board and reconvene as Board of Commissioners to hold the first reading of Ordinance 2026-01. Motion by Faber, second by Neises, and carried to approve first reading. Motion by Faber, second by Carlson and carried to set the date for the second reading of Ordinance 2026-01 for August 18th at 10:15am.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Faber, and carried to go into executive session for negotiations with personnel pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (4) at 11:04am. The board returned to regular session at 11:29am. Commissioners accepted Neises's resignation as Weed Supervisor, effective August 15th. Motion by Faber, seconded by Carlson, and carried to appoint Amie Kidd as Weed Supervisor, effective August 15th, at the compensation rate of \$25 per hour.

There was a request from Green Valley Township to be added to the list of townships that will receive Fall spraying through the county in 2026. Due to the contract not previously being signed by Green Valley Township, the Commissioners will allow them to be added to the list of townships sprayed through an agreement with the county, but they will be responsible to pay the total cost for the application and chemical used there.

Commissioners changed the second meeting date in September to Tuesday, September 22nd, due to the County Convention overlapping with the original September 15 meeting date.

The request to close the Register of Deeds and Auditor's office from late morning through the end of the day to allow office staff to attend the Southeast Central District meeting was approved.

Motion by Carlson, second by Neises, and carried to create a fulltime Auditor & Equalization Clerk position, utilizing the job description prepared by Rebecca Mommaerts and Barb Esser.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until Tuesday, August 18th. Dated this 21st day of July, 2026.

Joe Bechen, Chairman
Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor