

September 22, 2026

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 22, 2026, in the Miner County Courthouse Commission room. Members present: Joe Bechen, Kathy Faber, Tim Neises, Kari Jo Carlson, and Mike Clary. Absent: none.

Chairman Bechen called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. It was moved by Carlson, seconded by Faber, and carried to approve the agenda. The minutes of the September 8th meeting were approved.

Neises and Carlson attended the County Convention on September 14th and 15th. No one appeared for public comment.

It was moved by Clary, seconded by Neises and carried to authorize the auditor to pay the following claims: Road & Bridge \$48,803.71 (includes Eric Smith @ \$23.68), MERP Fund \$57,066.06, Reliance Standard \$729.36, Delta Dental \$1,042.44, Retirement \$7,920.67, Colonial Life \$235.14, OASI \$10,942.48, Commissioners \$5,036.00, Auditor \$9,504.60 (Includes Jodi Hope @ \$1990.20/mo), Treasurer \$7,052.68, States Attorney \$6,550.00, Govt Building \$3,780.10, Director of Equalization \$8,197.57 (includes Jodi Hope @ \$1326.80/mo), Register of Deeds \$7,300.07, Vet Service \$640.50, Sheriff \$13,283.08, Coroner \$100.00 (includes Darrell O'Connor @ \$100.00 per call), Contract Law \$8,219.51, Welfare \$244.38, Ambulance \$12,410.85, Extension \$973.98, Weed \$75.00 (includes Amie Kidd @ \$25.00/hr) Dispatch \$15,891.12, Emergency Mgt \$666.67 **SEPT PAYROLL**. Josh Hahn \$14.00, Darrell O'Connor \$14.00 **PAYROLL TRAVEL**; Alliance \$150.00 **911 CHARGES**; ICAP \$857.75 **COMMUNITY ACTION PAYMENT**; Lammers, Kleibacker, Dawson & Miller \$6,772.60 **COURT APPT ATTY**; Lake Co Sheriff \$65.00, Madison Regional Health \$104.00 **DRUG TEST**; Two Way Solutions \$2,333.96 **EQUIPMENT**; Josh Esser \$30.00 **EVOC DRIVER**; Elan Financial \$62.01, Barb Esser \$18.50, HFCA \$1,616.44, Wingen's Garage \$2,297.86 **FUEL**; Neises Mowing \$305.00 **MOWING**; Miner Co Treasurer \$21.53 **POSTAGE**; Lake Co Sheriff \$95.00 **PRISONER CARE**; Al's Service \$99.01, ES&S \$915.67, Istate Truck Center \$505.58, John Deere Financial \$1,094.73, Shane's Hardware \$18.49, Two Way Solutions \$9,600.00 **REPAIRS**; Commercial Asphalt \$37,206.64, Shane's Hardware \$25.98 **ROAD MATERIALS**; Relx, Inc. \$198.00 **SUBSCRIPTION**; Amazon \$33.38, Butler Machinery \$1,054.31, Dawson Construction \$143.58, Elan Financial \$1,018.94, Home Service Water \$19.40, Istate Truck Center \$497.84, John Deere Financial \$743.37, Miner Co Treasurer \$87.37, RDO Equipment \$1,434.38, Runnings Supply \$76.55, Shane's Hardware \$120.43, CNH Industrial Retail \$188.80, Wingen's Garage \$1,643.00 **SUPPLIES**; Alliance \$68.23 **TELEPHONE**; SD Dept of Public Safety \$2,340.00 **TELETYPE**; Joe Bechen \$52.50, Best Western Ramkota \$220.00, Jillian Calmus \$1,081.66, Arrowhead Resort \$371.40, Barb Esser \$346.89, Kathy Faber \$117.60, Autumn Glanzer \$40.00, HFCA \$36.28, Cheryl Moore \$152.70, Tim Neises \$190.40, Ramkota Pierre \$560.00, Safety Benefits, Inc. \$75.00, SDSU-SDLTAP \$125.00, SD Sheriffs Assn \$140.00 **TRAVEL**; Central Electric \$171.71 **UTILITIES**. Beadle Co Auditor \$2,000.00 **VICTIMS ADVOCATE**.

The following correspondence was received: Notices from DANR: Evapotranspiration Wastewater System Approval for Buckeye Swine, Septic System Design Approval for Buckeye Swine, Statewide Proposed General Permits, and the Nutrient Management Plan for New Fashion Pork; Annual Picnic Invite from the First District of Local Governments; and the August 2026 Sheriff Report.

Auditor & Equalization Clerk Jodi Hope took her oath of office. Motion by Carlson, second by Clary, and carried to authorize Jodi Hope as a signer on all county bank accounts, effective immediately.

The first meeting in November was rescheduled to Thursday, November 5th, at 9:00am due to the General Election on the first Tuesday in November.

Highway Superintendent Krempges gave an update on the highway department. James Valley Landscaping said the cost may increase by a couple hundred dollars if the county waits to perform the landscaping around the highway property until Spring next year, but they were fine with waiting to do the work until then. The gravel crusher moved in and started last week; the rain this week may delay their progress. The County will be getting a final reimbursement for the bridge project on the west side of Carthage in about two or three weeks. The necessary culvert replacements are done; the rented excavator will be returned. Krempges will coordinate with Howard Farmers Coop regarding the fall weed spraying schedule. The highway crew will be blading for the next week or two. Other highway work includes shop work and sign work. LTAP training will be done on Tuesday, if it's not raining.

Faber moved to enter executive session pursuant SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for personnel matters, seconded by Carlson and carried at 9:45am. Returned to regular session at 10:08am.

It was moved by Faber, seconded by Neises, and carried to make an operating transfer, as provided for in the 2026 budget, of \$631,500 from General Fund to Dispatch in the amount of \$100,000, to Highway in the amount of \$530,000 and to Emergency Management in the amount of \$1500.

Commissioners denied the donation request from St. Thomas School for their Annual Grand Gala.

Motion by Carlson, second by Faber, to authorize the auditor to make an automatic supplement for grant funds received from the HAVA (Help American Vote Act) federal funding to the election budget in the amount of \$14,912.81.

Sheriff Eggert gave a departmental update. Deputy Darrell O'Connor turned in his resignation to the county. Eggert requested a salary to offer for a new deputy hire. Eggert researched openings in other SD counties for salary comparison. Due to time constraints, Eggert was asked to finish his departmental update after the scheduled appointments.

Julie Moes and Kristi Endres, representatives from Aflac, presented Aflac dental options to the board. Commissioners will review these quotes for the 2027 calendar year.

Welfare Director Cheryl Moore attended the SDAWO Convention on September 16th and 17th. The SD Funeral Director Association has enlisted a lobbyist to get payments the same across the state. They're suggesting a 3-tier option: 1) cremation, 2) cremation with an urn and burial service, and 3) standard burial with a casket. They're proposing \$3200 for tier 1, \$3500 for tier 2, and \$5500 for tier 3. Miner County is currently \$2500 across the board, so this could increase future costs. During the convention, the welfare directors also toured the crematory.

Schwader gave a 911 departmental update to the board. The state of SD currently has four of these cutovers for 911 service happening now. April Denholm asked about a firm cutover date for Miner and Lake Counties. The state gave a soft answer of November 4th, but dispatchers may need to be scheduled until the following Friday at 5:00pm to ensure office coverage if the transition should take longer. Schwader and Denholm plan to use October to test and train employees and 911 agencies. The next agency meeting is Thursday, October 8th at 5:30 at the Howard Fire Hall. Testing will probably begin after that meeting. On September 15th, Two Way was at the courthouse to install the new Carthage radio and an antenna on the roof for use with the radio. They also installed the Smart Connect software. Canova called the provider to have their internet installed on their own, so the County will have to figure out that billing.

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR MINER COUNTY, SD
For the year January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2027

	Tax Levy in Dollars	Tax Levy in \$'s/1,000
COUNTY TAX LEVIES		
WITHIN LIMITED LEVY:		
County Purposes (SDCL 10-12-9)	\$3,629,408	3.696

It was moved by Carlson seconded by Faber and carried to pass the following resolution.

RESOLUTION 26-11

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET FOR MINER COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, (7-21-5 through 13) SDCL provides that the Board of County Commissioners shall each year prepare a Provisional Budget of all contemplated expenditures and revenues of the County and all its institutions and agencies for such fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners did prepare a Provisional Budget and cause same to be published by law, and

WHEREAS, due and legal notice has been given to the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for the consideration of such Provisional Budget and all changes, eliminations, and additions that have been made thereto;

CHANGES FROM THE 2026 PROVISIONAL BUDGET

<u>REVENUE:</u>	FROM	TO
General Fund		

Cash Applied	\$1,434,782	\$1,448,911
Tax Levy	\$3,607,469	\$3,629,408
County Road & Bridge Fund		
Other Financing Sources	\$2,081,578	\$2,107,154
County-Wide Dispatch Fund		
Other Financing Sources	\$ 62,365	\$ 62,557

EXPENDITURES:

General Fund

Auditor	\$ 224,325	\$ 228,493
Treasurer	\$ 183,195	\$ 184,155
General Govt Building	\$ 236,875	\$ 239,167
Director of Equalization	\$ 273,549	\$ 274,317
Veterans Service Officer	\$ 18,725	\$ 18,917
Sheriff	\$ 390,490	\$ 391,450
County-Wide Law Enforcement	\$ 122,025	\$ 122,409
County Extension	\$ 87,881	\$ 88,457
Transfers Out	\$2,192,808	\$2,218,576
County Road & Bridge Fund		
Highways, Roads & Bridges	\$3,070,478	\$3,096,054
County-Wide Dispatch Fund		
Communications Center	\$ 104,380	\$ 104,572

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that such provisional budget as amended and all its purposes, schedules, appropriations, amounts, estimates, and all matters therein set forth SHALL BE APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURES FOR MINER COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, and all its institutions and agencies for calendar year beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2027, and the same is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Miner County, South Dakota, this 22nd day of September, 2026.

The Annual Budget so adopted is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the county auditor, Miner County, South Dakota. The accompanying taxes are levied by Miner County for the year January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MINER COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Joe Bechen, Chairman
Katherine Faber, Commissioner
Tim Neises, Commissioner
Kari Jo Carlson, Commissioners
Mike Clary, Commissioner

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, County Auditor

Auditor Mommaerts requested clarification for coroner pay when a deputy coroner handles a call, rather than the coroner. The Commissioners requested Coroner Josh Hahn to determine the percentage of the coroner call his deputy if the deputy handles part of the coroner

call and record the percentage on the voucher when submitting it to the Auditor's office. Motion by Clary, second by Neises, and carried to authorize payment to Darrell O'Connor, as deputy coroner, for the coroner call on 8/29/26, to be paid during the next payroll.

Sheriff Eggert continued his department update by requesting to pay the new hire at \$51,000 for an uncertified individual, which is currently Chief Deputy Josh Hahn's salary, for whom Eggert has requested a salary increase for 2027. Commissioners will address this more in executive session. Sheriff Eggert discussed the vehicles used by the Sheriff's department. Eggert also discussed the long-term jail prisoner's relocation; Commissioners suggested Eggert email the judge to see what options the county has for this prisoner's court appearances.

The Carthage school property was discussed. Faber gave an update on Carthage City's side of the process. Treasurer Brittany Yanish gave an update on the Brownfields side of the process. Currently, the county is waiting for the report on whether the asbestos can be removed or whether the entire building will need to be destroyed. The contractor will be coming to assess the building in the coming months. Once that report is back, the county will be able to determine whether to move forward with the tax deed process.

Director of Equalization Barb Esser gave a department update. Autumn Glanzer submitted her resignation, effective September 24. April Lund has accepted the position of Deputy Director of Equalization and will begin on Monday, September 28th.

Motion by Carlson, second by Faber, and carried to move to executive session for personnel matters, pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 11:56am. Board returned to regular session at 12:00pm.

Motion to move into executive session for employee negotiations pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (4) by Faber, second by Carlson, and carried at 12:00pm. Returned to regular session at 12:40pm.

Motion by Clary to advertise for a new deputy sheriff, starting at \$46,000 per year, with a \$2,000 raise upon certification, or \$48,000 for a certified officer if hired prior to January 1, 2027, seconded by Carlson. Motion carried.

Motion to go into executive session for employee negotiations pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (4) by Neises, second by Carlson. Motion carried at 12:52pm. Board returned to regular session at 1:23pm. Motion by Neises to authorize a 5% raise to Brittany Yanish, effective October 1st, with a follow up review at the first of the year 2027; motion seconded by Faber and carried.

Motion by Faber, second by Neises, and carried to go into executive session for personnel matters, pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 1:26pm. Returned to regular session at 1:42pm.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until Tuesday, October 6, 2026. Dated this 22nd day of September, 2026.

Joe Bechen, Chairman

Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor