

**January 20th, 2026**

**County Commissioners Meeting**

at Hamlin County Courthouse (300 4th Street; Hayti, SD)

on Second Floor in Commissioners Room (go through Auditor's Office)

9:30 Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Agenda

Approve minutes

9:35 Highway Dept

10:15 Veteran's Service Officer

10:30 Second Reading Ordinance

10:35 Public comment

10:45 Set township meeting date

10:50 Renew Open meeting laws

11:00 Abatements

11:10 Bills

11:20 Set Salaries

12:00 New Hire

12:05 Appoint Contact for Fire Suppression Assistance

12:10 Count Treasurer's Cash

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**Minutes:**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES: The Hamlin County Board of Commissioners met on Jan. 20,2026 with the following members present: Rudebusch, Saathoff, Tulson, Buck and Popham. No one absent. John Delzer States Attorney also present.

The Chairman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to approve the agenda as posted. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Buck seconded by Tulson to approve the minutes of Dec. 23,2025 and Jan.6,2026 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY DEPT: Bryan Pedersen Hwy Supt met with the Board. He presented the load limits to the Board for their reviewal. The Company is still working on the 2014 motor grader. They feel it might be in the computer part of the grader. They received the new grader at the shop on Monday and are using such. He gave each Commissioner the Annual Highway Department report for 2025 prepared by the Highway Bookkeeper.

LOAD LIMITS: Motion by Buck seconded by Popham to approve Load Limits Resolution. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

WHEREAS, The County of Hamlin SD is responsible for the maintenance of certain highways under its jurisdiction, WHEREAS it appears that said highways, by deterioration, rain, snow or other climatic conditions will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless the use of vehicles there is prohibited or restrictions as to weight of vehicles are imposed and WHEREAS, the County of Hamlin lacks the scale equipment with which to enforce weight limits. NOW THEREFORE pursuant to SDCL 32-14-16 and any laws amendatory thereto, be it resolved that the load limit on Hamlin County asphalt roads and some gravel roads within the County of Hamlin SD shall be 7 ton per axel. This resolution will be in effect for a full 75 day period.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be erected and maintained signs designating the provision of this Resolution as provided by State law and that the Resolution shall be effective until or unless such signs are erected and maintained. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Hamlin shall request the SD Highway Patrol to enter the County of Hamlin with scales adequate to weigh motor vehicles to ensure compliance with State Laws pertaining to vehicle weight and with the weight laws established by this Resolution, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be effective each and every year hereafter unless repealed or modified by duly enacted Resolution,

Dated at Hayti SD this Jan. 20,2026

Randall Rudebusch Chairman

ATTEST: Dixie Opdahl Hamlin County Auditor.

FUEL QUOTES: Jan. 13 ,2026 in Hazel Diesel Hamlin County Farmers Coop 2.90 Farmers Union 2.85 All quotes do not contain certain taxes.

PERMANENT EASEMENT CULVERT: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Tulson to authorize the Chairman to sign the permanent easement to be acquired for culvert in the SW ¼ of Section 11 Twp 113N Range 52 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM except Stone Bridge Lagoon Addition therein and except Lot H1 therein Hamlin County SD. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

VETERANS SERVICE: Jay Roberts Veterans Service Officer met with the Board. He went over the new requirements from the State for him to do in order for the County to be reimbursed for part of the salary. He is required to attend SDDVA Annual Benefit School, Attend one of the SDDVA's Mini Conferences, and Host at least one veteran outreach event each quarter . He will be helping hold one on Jan. 10 and one on March 24 For Hamlin County he has 16 working claims , 9 pending action and 21 completed. Monthly compensation for veterans or their dependents will increase .Total retro-payments to bring a claim current is 264,392 for a veteran in the County. The County had signed the agreement with the State last meeting .

ORDINANCE 2025-05: Second reading of Ordinance 2025-05 changing seed sales and grain storage, fertilizer and chemical storage and sales from Conditional uses Section 3.05.03 to Section 3.04.04 Conditional Uses. No comment was received. Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to approve such Ordinance. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. Effective date Feb. 17,2026

PUBLIC COMMENT: Randall Taschner was present. He was wondering about 188<sup>th</sup> St west of Hayti. He stated he still had the paperwork for pumping of the water off the road. The County still has this closed off.

TOWNSHIP MEETING: The Board set Feb. 17, 2026 at 10:00 am at the 4-H Building for the annual meeting with the township boards.

OPEN MEETING LAWS: Motion by Tulson seconded by Saathoff that they acknowledged that the Board had reviewed and completed the open meeting laws as published by the Attorney General. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

ABATEMENTS: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to approve the following abatements: Parcel 6847 Estelline City late filing of elderly freeze abated 276.06 Parcel 4612 filing of veterans exemption Hayti Town abated 2686.80 Parcel 3639

Veterans Exemption Castlewood City abated 2217.76 Parcel 6849 Opdahl Twp Mobile Home moved paid in advance in 2025 abate 349.66 Parcel 6848 Estelline Twp moved from NA to OO abate 1875.92 Parcel 7268 Lake Norden City double assessed abate 463.66 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

NEW HIRE: The Board approved the hiring of Caleb Rhody as part time in the Director of Equalization office at 19.00 per hr.

FIRE SUPPRESSION: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Tulson to appoint Brett Schutt as Hamlin County designee for fire suppression assistance through the SD Dept of Public Safety from Jan. 1,2026-Dec. 31,2026. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

CLAIMS PAID:

COMMISSIONERS: Asure Operations 751.90

AUDITOR : PMB state access 29.26 TREASURER: PMB state access 29.23

POSTAGE: Office Peeps copy machine maint 73.80 two year supply of copy paper 1848.00 Quadient Postage 4000.00 Postage meter rental quarterly 170.60

COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY: Timothy Cummings 2096.94

COURTHOUSE MAINT: Culligan water 99.25 Hamlin Bld Center supp 22.99 Menards supp 132.61 Ottertail Power Util 789.13 Trane furnace repairs 903.00 Hayti Town Util 59.00 Total Courthouse Maint expense 2005.98

DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION: Office Peeps supp 34.95

REGISTER OF DEEDS :PMB state access 29.26

SHERIFF: Amazon supp 262.30 Axess gas 245.54 Farmers Union gas 80.13 Galls supp 112.86 Hamlin Co Coop gas 121.26

MOCIC Dues 100.00 SD DOT gas 1003.11 Total Sheriffs expense 2025.31

JAIL: Brookings County jail 3622.50 Codington County Jail 520.00 SD Public Lab blood tests 200.00

LIEAP: Interlakes Worker 444.92 Senior Citizens meals yearly 2000.00

WEED: H-D Electric Util 299.89 Glacial Lakes yearly payment 575.00 GENERAL 911: H-D Electric 911 towers elect 132.79

ROAD: DSR Repairs 33,527.81 H-D Electric Util 461.13 911: Watertown City fees from State 7954.68 Ag Building: Ottertail Power Util 105.68 Hayti Town Util 94.00

M&P Fund SDACO part of Register of Deeds fees 280.00

SD Dept of Revenue: Motor Vehicle License 185,544.98 Drivers License 810.00 Birth Fees 80.00 Death Fees 10.00 Total to State 186,444.98

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Buck seconded by Popham to enter into Executive Session at 11:00 for personnel reasons. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. The Chairman declared them out at 12:30

SALARY SCHEDULE: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to approve the following salary schedule for 2026:

Monthly Salaries:

Donna Rhody	\$7,800.00
Amber Raasch	\$6,200.00
Jessica Delzer	\$6,200.00
Dixie Opdahl	\$6,200.00
John Delzer	\$6,043.00
Bryan Pedersen	\$6,454.00
Chad Schlotterbeck	\$6,720.00
John Michalski	\$5,387.00
Brett Schutt	\$5,387.00
Cheslie Gustafson	\$4,400.00
Randall Rudebusch	\$1,700.00
Larry Saathoff	\$1,700.00
Burt Tulson	\$1,700.00
Riley Buck	\$1,700.00
Scott Popham	\$1,700.00

Hourly Rates:

Renee Platz	\$25.40
Don Guthmiller	\$21.40
Teresa Petersen	\$21.40
Tristin Molitor	\$31.50
Tayt Alexander	\$33.00
Zach Vidmar	\$30.00
Taylor Shantz	\$30.00
Jamison Ries	\$28.50
Felicia Lowe	\$26.50

Cathy Popham	\$26.90
Donna Prouty	\$23.40
Chantel Sprang	\$23.15
Summer Weed Help	\$23.00
Extension Help	\$19.00
Janitor Help	\$19.00
Coroner	\$300.00 fee
Kelly Olsen	\$19.00

Zoning Board	\$200.00 per meeting
Weed Board	\$150.00 per meeting or Weed all day meeting \$200.00
Extension Judges	\$20.00
Angela Kranz	\$28.46
Abbi Rogness	\$24.40
Cynthia Wagner	\$15.20
Jennifer Somero	\$16.00
Rodney Anderson	\$26.90
Alan Gallisath	\$26.90

Jay Kasdorf	\$26.90
Travis Klug	\$26.90
Ron Moore	\$26.90
Dan Platz	\$26.90
Stanley Singrey	\$26.90
Eric Solsaa	\$26.90
Jeff Shepherd	\$26.90

All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

Commissioners Tulson and Saathoff did the semi-annual count of cash in the Treasurer's office

The Auditor reported the cash on hand in the Treasurer office as of Jan. 1,2026

Checking Account	\$1,068,087.44
Money Markets	\$490,169.39
CD's	\$7,600,600.00
Cash on Hand	\$2,457.80
Checks on Hand	\$10,146.36
Credit Card Deposit on Hand	\$201.13
Petty Cash	\$400.00
Total	\$9,172,062.12

Of this the following belongs to

General Fund	\$8,189,415.69
Special Revenue	\$536,625.36
Schools	\$152,811.41
Townships	\$43,306.60
Cities & Towns	\$31,135.73
Trust & Agency Funds	\$218,767.33
Total	\$9,172,062.12

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 until Feb. 3, 2026 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners Room County Courthouse at Hayti.

Randall Rudebusch,  
Chairman

ATTEST:  
Dixie Opdahl  
Hamlin County Auditor

It is the policy of Hamlin County SD not to discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of service.