

**April 15th, 2025**

**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 Oath for Equalization Board
- 9:40 Equalization

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**Minutes:**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES: The Hamlin County Board of Commissioners met on April 15, 2025 with the following members present: Rudebusch, Saathoff, Tulson, Buck and Popham. No one absent. Also present was John Delzer States Attorney and Donna Rhody Director of Equalization.

The Chairman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes: Motion by Buck seconded by Tulson to approve the minutes of April 3, 2025 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

The Board signed their Oath as an Equalization Board.

JOSHUA COKENS: Joshua Cokens met with the Board concerning Lots 3 and 4 Block 18 in Estelline City. House value 144,111 garage 12,672 and garage 14,447 Local Board had changed house to 122,495 garage to 10,771 and detached garage to 12,280. He felt the new flood plain map makes him get flood insurance at a cost of 500-1500 a year. He also thought it would affect sales. The Director of Equalization showed pictures of comparable properties and states it was being treated like comparable properties. Sales are not showing a decrease due to flood plain yet. Director of Equalization is recommending to stay with original amounts of house 144,111 garage 12,672 and detached garage 14,447. Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to accept the recommendation of the Director of Equalization. All members voting aye. Motion Carried.

BRIAN VOHLKEN: Brian Vohlken met with the Board concerning Lots 1 and 2 Block 18 in Estelline City. He felt now with the new flood plain map his structure is in a flood zone. He also feels he is being assessed way over value for taxes on an old house with an addition. House value was 335,017 Lot 12,672 Local Board had reduced this to House 284,765 lot 10,771 Director of Equalization is recommending house value 323,118 because they have not been inside the house and lot to stay at 12,672 Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to accept the recommendation of the Director of Equalization. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

DANIEL NEFZGER: Danile Nefzger met with the Board concerning Nefzger Windbreak Third Addition Lot 1 Section 16-113-52 Norden Township. Value was 87,780 His was platted. Another person has a corner lot for sale on the same corner for 69,000 and it has not sold. He had platted this out so a son could build on it. Local Board had made no change. Director of Equalization is recommending no change and to stay at 87,780 as property is being treated like similar properties with same front footage. Motion by Buck seconded by Popham to accept the recommendation of the Director of Equalization. All members voting aye. Motion Carried.

STEVEN SYVERSON: Steven Syverson met with the Board by phone concerning Lots 5 and 5A Runia & Rounds First Addition and Lots 4 and 4A Runia & Rounds First Addition Estelline Township Lake Poinsett. He had sent in three separate appraisals done in 2024 to settle his Mothers estate and neither value came close to our assessment. House value 695,013 Lot 345,611 and other lot 380,173 Director of Equalization stated to lower NA-C lot from 380,173 to 319,743 due to a calculation error from before of 34,562 and to lower NA-C lot 345,611 to 319,743 as similar lots and house from 695,013 to 556,619 due to revaluation. He agrees with this and it would be acceptable to him. Motion by Tulson seconded by Saathoff to accept the recommendation of the Director of Equalization. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

LILA GRAPE: Bob Grape POA for Lila Grape did not appear. He was requesting Lot 1 less Exc NW 21-113-52 in Norden Township that classification be changed from AG with a value of 11,043 to NA-C with a value of 98,462 He did not use for AG last year and is requesting the Classification change. Director of Equalization is accepting the change. Motion by Tulson seconded by Buck to allow the change from AG-C to NA-C with a value of 98,462 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

JOHN PANTZKE AND DAVID KNEIP: Director of Equalization is requesting a CORRECTION OF OWNERSHIP ON PARCEL 7657 from Robert and Pennie Lutz to John Pantzke and David Kneip on Lot 7 less N 50' in Estelline Township. Motion by Tulson seconded by Popham to accept the change recommendation from the Director of Equalization. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

OWNER OCCUPIED: Motion by Tulson seconded by Saathoff to approve the list of owner occupied due to late filing. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPT STATUS: Motion by Popham seconded by Buck to approve the 86 applications for tax exempt status. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

ELDERLY & DISABLED ASSESSMENT FREEZE APPLICATIONS: The Treasurer stated there were 40 approved applicatons and 4 denied applications. Motion by Tulson seconded by Buck to approve these applications. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

DISABLED VETERANS' EXEMPTIONS: There were 21 continuing applications and 1 new application and 1 application denied. Motion by Buck seconded by Popham to approve the applications presented. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

FLOODED FARM LAND APPLICATIONS: The Director of Equalization presented the applications that were approved and qualified for the flooded farm land applications. Motion by Tulson seconded by Scott to accept the recommendations of the Director of Equalization. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

RENEWABLE ENERGY: The Director of Equalization presented the list of two renewable resource property tax exemptions which were in their third year and one new one. This goes for four years. Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to approve the list presented. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

RIPARIAN BUFFER STRIP APPLICATIONS: The Director of Equalization presented 23 Riparian Buffer Strip Applications. Motion by Buck seconded by Saathoff to approve the presented applications. All members voting Aye Motoin Carried.

The Board adjourned as an Equalization Board and resumed as a Commissioners Board.

CLAIMS PAID:

AUDITOR: Registration 200.00 TREASURER Registration 200.00 REGISTER OF DEEDS Registration 200.00 COURTHOUSE

MAINT: Ottertail Power Util 599.66 Hamlin Co Treasurer title 26.70 SHERIFF: SDPAA Vehicle insurance 967.92 Hamlin Co Treasurer title 26.70 WEED: H-D Electric Util 214.62 ROAD: H-D Electric Util 450.21 ITC phone 146.76 AG BUILDING: Ottertail Power Util 75.50

DEPT OF REVENUE: Motor Vehicle license 169,731.16 Motor Vehicle license 73.59 Drivers License 586.00 Birth Fees 100.00

GENERAL 911 H-D Electric 911 towers elec. 110.40

PUBLIC HEALTH LAB: blood tests 255.00 M&P Fund SDACO Register of Deeds fees 210.00

UTILITY INSTALLATION: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to authorize the Chairman to sign the Utility Installation form for Popham Agronomics for 12" Yelomine PVC drainage for Jason Lamb boring under Mustang Ave Section 1-114N-55W All members voting aye. Motion Carried.

AG BUILDING HORSE ARENA: Abbi Steeke 4-H Advisor, met with the Board. Codington County residents have been using the horse arena here. There are signs presently there for not responsible for accidents. She wondered if signs should be there for not responsible for any sickness. John Delzer States Attorney was then present who will look into what should be on the sign.

FUEL QUOTES: April 10 in Hazel Diesel Hamlin Co Farmers Coop 2.76 Farmers Union 2.74 All quotes do not contain certain taxes.

The Auditor reported the cash on hand in the Treasurer's Office as of April 1, 2025

Checking Account	\$830,931.31
Money Markets	\$531,585.79
CD's	\$8,100,600.00
Cash on Hand	\$2,441.12
Checks on Hand	\$90,202.95
Credit Card Deposit on hand	\$288.00
Petty Cash	\$400.00
Total	\$9,556,449.17

Of this the following belongs to

General Fund	\$7,883,006.58
Special Revenue	\$661,856.85
Schools	\$526,847.50
Townships	\$173,245.43
Cities & Towns	\$102,180.11
Trust and Agency	\$209,312.70
Total	\$9,556,449.17

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Tulson seconded by Popham to go into executive session at 12:15 for personnel reasons SDCL 1-25-2 (1) All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. The Chairman declared them out at 12:35

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 until May 6, 2025 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners Room Courthouse at Hayti.

Randall Rudebusch  
Chairman of the Board

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.