

**February 18th, 2025**

**County Commissioners Meeting**

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

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

**Agenda:**

- 09:30 Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes
- 09:35 Weed Supervisor
- 09:40 Transfer cash General Fund to Ag Building & Emergency and Disaster
- 09:45 Agreement First District for Highway Department
- 09:50 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Agreement
- 09:55 Highway Department
- 10:00 Annual Meeting with Township Boards at 4-H Building

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**Minutes:**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES: The Hamlin County Board of Commissioners met on Feb. 18, 2025 with the following members present: Randall Rudbusch, Larry Saathoff, Burt Tulson, Riley Buck and Scott Popham. No one absent. Also present John Delzer States Attorney.

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 Popham to approve the minutes of Feb. 4, 2025 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

WEED DEPT: John Michalski, Weed Supervisor stated he would like to hire Casper Niemann for part time summer help for the weed dept. The Board approved him at \$22.00 per hour. Shaun Peckenpaugh will also help again this summer however he can not work as many hours as last year. Casper and Abbi Steeke 4-H Advisor met with the Board and asked permission for John to do some repairs at the 4-H Building through the winter months. Probably painting the cupboards and replacing counter top. He stated the one wall in the kitchen looked like it was crooked and someone had put in wood boards to hold such. Maybe need to have someone else also look at that. The Board approved all the repairs needed.

HIGHWAY DEPT: Bryan Pedersen Hwy Supt met with the Board. He went over the new rates for work being done for the townships. He requested permission to surplus and destroy an old box tv. Motion by Tulson seconded by Saathoff to declare such surplus and to destroy such. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. The rest of the Ag grant application was completed and sent to Pierre. Pierre had not sent all needed pages to sign before.

TRANSFER CASH: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to transfer cash from General fund of \$20,000 to Ag Building Fund and \$40,000.00 to Emergency & Disaster Fund as allowed in the budget. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT: Motion by Popham seconded by Buck to authorize the Chairman to sign the Letter of Agreement with First District Assoc. for Jan. 1 2025 - Dec. 31 2025 to perform work activities of a web map for county road, additional data on bridges & culverts for the Hamlin County Hwy Dept for the yearly payment of \$250.00. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN: The pre disaster mitigation plan was discussed. Will call First District after the township meeting concerning questions on this.

CLAIMS PAID:

ROAD: Auto Value supp 210.97 Brownlee Construction gravel crushing 88,509.60 Bryant City Util 21.76 Butler supp 63.60 parts 13.10 Axxess Coop LP 813.23 H-D Electric Util 478.22 Hamlin County Coop Supp 101.38 LP 977.55 Menards supp 35.97 W.W. Tire repairs 210.00 parts 3180.00 Total Road expense 94,615.38

AG BULDING: Basin Construction repairs 39,595.96

ZONING BOARD: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to appoint Alex Holzwarth to the District 2 position on the Zoning Board. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

The Board then convened at 10:00 am to the 4-H Building to hold their annual meeting with the township boards.

Commissioners, Weed Supervisor, Director of Equalization, Auditor, Hwy Supt introduced themselves. Roll call was taken with all thirteen townships being represented. Bryan read the minutes from last year's meeting. Motion by Brad Jongeling seconded by Melissa Roe to approve the minutes. All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

Bryan went over the new rates that will be charged for work due to increased costs of certain things. He stated the gravel and work order were in the packet you will receive today. Get that back to the Highway Dept. Discussion was held on the small structure (culvert) program for the townships. Three structures have been approved in Hamlin County to be done in 2025 with what money is left. At this point the State has not budgeted to fund any more. The County wrote a letter to the SDCCO and to legislators to rein-state the money for this project for the whole state. This helps the townships. Five townships from Hamlin County will have used this project. Bryan went over the State's signage program. This has not gone well. The company the State hired has not done the work and is presently being fined for being late. This is a State Project and the County has nothing to do with it. Townships stated a lot of the signs are wrong, going the wrong way or stating things that are not right. Bryan stated their department has pulled a lot of them. This company puts the base in but does not put the pole in. This makes it hard to mow road ditches.

The Weed Supervisor stated this year the rate of \$40.00 per hour for man and labor plus chemical cost for weed spraying. Start spraying in May – July and do late spraying in August - September Let him know if any haying needs to be done first and also if they want spot spraying or full spraying. Sheet in their packet to fill out for him.

Donna Rhody Director of Equalization went over the changes for property valuations. The new values will go out March 1 The Boards stated they would like these figures and land sales by townships. She will get this to all of them. Question was asked about productivity for land. Dustin Leiseth Vice President of the Towns and Townships Assoc. discussed the different bills going through legislature this year. Senate bill 95 is the money for the culvert program. The State Budget is tight this year. House Bill 1251 to try and change the right of ways for companies to use go through the counties instead of townships. He stated the township boards will meet Feb. 25. The annual meeting will be in Huron on December 4-5. The township assoc. also has scholarships available for students. The Commissioners then left to go back in session at the courthouse. The local township assoc. then held their meeting to elect officers.

PRE DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN: Brett Schutt Emergency & Disaster Director met with the Board. He explained what a pre disaster mitigation plan is for four years and helps electrical companies, water companies and schools obtain grants for equipment. Commissioner Tulson was concerned about the flood plain for flood insurance. Luke Muller and Todd Kays of First District met with the Board by phone and explained how people can try to contest their property if the bank states they are in a flood plain. The Board found there was a date wrong in the agreement so First District will change that and send it back to the County.

The Auditor reported the cash on hand in the Treasurer's office as of Feb. 1, 2025:

Checking Account	\$1,296,150.39
Money Markets	\$529,826.37
CD's	\$8,100,600.00
Cash on Hand	\$4,496.47
Checks on Hand	\$40,190.40
Credit Card Deposit on Hand	\$4,943.11
Petty Cash	\$400.00
Total	\$9,976,606.74

Of this the following belongs to:

General Fund	\$7,966,366.78
Special Revenue	\$1,157,849.74
Schools	\$413,954.86
Townships	\$78,748.49
Cities & Towns	\$64,909.71
Trust and Agency Funds	\$294,777.16
Total	\$9,976,606.74

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 until March 4, 2025 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners Room County Courthouse at Hayti.

Randall Rudebusch  
Chairman

ATTEST:  
Dixie Opdahl  
Hamlin County Auditor

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