

**February 17th, 2026**

**County Commissioners Meeting**

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

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

- 09:30 Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes
- 09:35 Transfer Cash from General to WIC & Emergency Management
- 09:40 Easement
- 09:45 Public Assurance Contract
- 09:50 Highway Department
- 10:00 Annual meeting with Township Boards at 4-H Building in Hayti

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**Minutes:**

UNAPPROVED MINUTES: The Hamlin County Board of Commissioners met on Feb.17,2026 with the following members present: Rudebusch, Saathoff, Tulson, Buck and Popham. No one absent. John Delzer States Attorney was also present. The Chairman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MINUTES: Motion by Tulson seconded by Saathoff to approve the minutes of Feb. 3,2026 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Buck seconded by Saathoff to go into Executive Session at 9:30 for personnel reasons (1-25-2) 1 All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. The Chairman declared them out at 9:35

ZONING MEETING: Three Commissioners will be present on Feb. 23 2026 for the Zoning meeting however only zoning will be discussed no county business will be discussed.

CASH TRANSFER: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Buck to approve a cash transfer from General Operating transfers cash of 3000(101-112-911) to the WIC transfer in(231-371) and cash of 40,000 (101-112-911) to the Emergency & Disaster cash in(226-371). All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT: Motion by Saathoff seconded by Popham to authorize the Chairman to sign the Right of Way Agreement and Permanent Easement with SD DOT for P-B-PT 0028(48) 346 Hamlin County PCN 06NG parcels 9B & 9C All members voting Aye. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY DEPT: Bryan Pedersen Hwy Supt met with the Board. He stated the engine is back in the motor grader and all injections had been fixed. The County has a \$5,000.00 credit from before so that can be used on this repair. He is still holding off on weight limits on roads. Still holding off on crack sealing also.

TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING: The Board, Hwy Supt, Hwy Bookkeeper and Auditor went to the 4-H Building to meet with all the township boards. The Highway Bookkeeper took the roll call with ten townships being present. She read the minutes of last year's meeting. Motion by Dustin Leiseth to approve the minutes with a second by Betty Skroch.

Bryan talked about the rates for equipment and labor for work done for townships. He talked about the State project of putting road signs throughout the county. The State hired the company and is paying for such. They started this in 2023 and still are not done. A lot of the signs are in wrong places and his department has had to correct such. Bryan stated that if any of the townships need some moved or the anchors taken out, please call his department.

Donna Rhody Director of Equalization stated people must appeal to the townships for their valuations by March 12 and the Boards will meet between March 16-20 as equalization boards. Books must be back to her by March 23. She went over the different percentage raises.

Dustin Leiseth Vice President of the State Township Assoc. went over pending bills in legislature which could affect the townships. He discussed the open meeting law which must be reviewed each year by townships. He talked about the townships updating their DUNS number which five of the townships have already done. This is necessary if there would become a need for FEMA. He stated the state township assoc. also gives three scholarships so encourage youth to apply. He also stated there is an app to put on phones which would also be needed for FEMA.

The Auditor handed out the packets to each township for their annual meeting coming up in March.

The Commissioners then went back to the courthouse to finish their meeting. The townships then held their annual meeting for just the township county assoc.

The Commissioners discussed the water project west on 188th Street. If anything is done it would have to be bid.

The Auditor reported the cash on hand in the Treasurer's Office as of Feb. 1, 2026

Checking Account	\$1,365,460.57
Money Markets	\$490,956.21
CD's	\$7,600,600.00
Cash on Hand	\$3,482.02
Checks on Hand	\$96,714.18
Credit Card Deposit on Hand	\$2,048.89
Petty Cash	\$400.00
Cash Items	\$1,068.10
Total	\$9,560,729.97

Of this the following belongs to

General Fund	\$8,144,675.19
Special Revenue	\$577,829.65
Schools	\$425,961.83
Townships	\$48,669.18
Cities & Towns	\$64,699.36
Trust and Agency funds	\$298,894.76
Total	\$9,560,729.97

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Tulson seconded by Popham to go into executive session at 11:45 for personnel reasons 1-25-2 (1) All members voting Aye. Motion Carried. The Chairman declared them out at 11:47

Meeting adjourned at noon until March 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.