

**UNAPPROVED  
LAKE COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES  
February 3, 2026**

The Board of Lake County Commissioners met in regular session on February 3, 2026, at 9 a.m. in the commission meeting room at the Lake County Courthouse. Adam Leighton, Lake County Commission chair, called the meeting to order. Paula Barrick, Lake County Auditor, called roll call: Commissioner Corey Johnke, Commissioner Adam Leighton, Commissioner Deb Reinicke, Commissioner Dennis Slaughter, and Commissioner Kelli Wollmann were all present. Abby Oftedal, Interim CAO, was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS: COUNTY COMMISSION, PLANNING COMMISSION, OR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:**

None

**AGENDA APPROVED:**

Motion by Slaughter, second by Johnke, to approve the agenda for February 3, 2026. Motion carried.

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

Motion by Wollmann, second by Slaughter, to approve the unapproved minutes of January 20, 2026. Motion carried.

**PAYROLL APPROVED:**

Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to approve payroll #3-February 6, 2026. Motion carried.

The completed payroll report will be sent to the board via email.

Comm: \$7,479.25; Auditor: \$6,656.21; Treasurer: \$6,215.82; States Atty: \$9,677.10; Govt Bldg: \$6,423.57; DOE: \$5,667.12; ROD: \$5,319.02; VSO: \$1,194.50; Sheriff: \$23,565.26; Jail: \$17,164.88; Poor: \$87.21; Ext: \$865.29; Zoning: \$2,239.12; Rd-Br: \$9,080.68; 911: \$14,321.97; EMA: \$2,229.95; 24/7: \$580.53. Grand Total: 118,767.48

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

Motion by Slaughter, second by Reinicke, to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$123,440.83. Motion carried.

**2026.01.23 AP - General:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholding, \$16,904.24, **Rd & Br:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholding, \$2,179.12, **911:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholding, \$3,173.62, **EMA:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholding, \$454.56, **24/7:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholding, \$122.37. **Total: \$22,833.91**

**2026.01.27 AP - General,** Aflac, Ded, \$2,088.82, Delta Dental, Ded, \$881.40, SD Retirement, Withholding, \$21,829.68, SD Supp Retirement, Withholding, \$3,431.00, Unum, Prem, \$220.74, VSP, Prem, \$533.33, Wellmark, Prem, \$23,811.41, **Comm:** Midco, Util, \$22.77, **Auditor:** Midco, Util, \$26.64, **Treasurer:** Midco, Util, \$6.75, **St Atty:** Midco, Util, \$29.52, **Bldg:** City Of Madison, Util, \$28.84, Northwestern, Util, \$14.12, Midco, Util, \$7.38, **DOE:** Midco, Util, \$34.02, **ROD:** Midco, Util, \$14.76, **VSO:** Midco, Util, \$7.39, **Sheriff:** Midco, Util, \$68.67, **Jail:** Northwestern, Util, \$562.57, Midco, Util, \$55.17, **EMA:** Aflac, Ded, \$119.41, City Of Madison, Util, \$381.21, Delta Dental, Ded, \$48.61, Midco, Util, \$7.38, Northwestern, Util, \$119.69, Office Peeps, Batteries, \$22.88, SD Retirement, Withholding, \$493.00, SD Supp Retirement, Withholding, \$23.38, Sioux Valley, Util, \$677.76, Unum, Prem, \$5.63, VSP, Prem, \$15.87, Wellmark, Prem, \$894.37, **911:** Aflac, Ded, \$694.22, Delta Dental, Ded, \$156.60, Interlakes Wireless, Serv, \$63.00, Midco, Util, \$10.26, SD Retirement, Withholding, \$4,004.16, SD Supp Retirement, Withholding, \$130.00, Unum, Prem, \$34.38, VSP, Prem, \$123.25, Wellmark, Prem, \$7,498.63, **Rd & Br:** Aflac, Ded, \$271.05, City Of Madison, Util, \$675.76, Delta Dental, Ded, \$158.49, Midco, Util, \$140.99, Northwestern, Util, \$683.75, SD Retirement, Withholding, \$2,175.74, SD Supp Retirement, Withholding, \$176.72, Unum, Prem, \$24.37, VSP, Prem, \$62.51, Wellmark, Prem, \$3,818.59, **Poor:** Midco, Util, \$7.38, **Extension:** Northwestern, Util, \$361.21, Daily Leader, Subscription, \$225.80, Midco, Util, \$111.00, **Weed:** Midco, Util, \$5.13, **Zoning:** Midco, Util, \$7.38. **Total: \$78,104.54**

**2026.02.03 AP - Commissioner:** Infotech, Serv, \$46.00, **Elections:** Infotech, Serv, \$99.00, **Judicial:** Dawson, Jacob, CAA, \$3,787.70, De Castro, Manuel, CAA, \$890.80, Deya Thorin, Interpret, \$249.20, Miller, Cody, CAA, \$924.50, Nelson & Ericsson Law, CAA, \$880.50, Nelson, Jennifer, CAA, \$1,697.40, **Auditor:** Infotech, Serv, \$144.00, **Treasurer:** A & B Business, Maint, \$173.32, Infotech, Serv, \$177.00, **St Atty:** Century Business, Maint, \$64.93, Infotech, Serv, \$274.00, **Bldg:** Infotech,

Serv, \$84.00, Kolorworks, Stain, \$20.99, Madison Ace, Supplies, \$7.99, **DOE**: Infotech, Serv, \$312.00, **ROD**: Century Business, Maint, \$46.06, Infotech, Serv, \$266.00, Jordahl, Megan, Mileage/USB Cord, \$69.20, **VSO**: Infotech, Serv, \$60.95, **IT**: Infotech, Serv, \$1,005.50, **Sheriff**: AT&T, Util, \$382.86, Infotech, Serv, \$766.68, MRHS, BL Test, \$624.00, **Jail**: A & B Business, Maint, \$68.21, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$26.32, Infotech, Serv, \$766.68, MRHS, Serv, \$339.31, Rising Hope, Serv, \$155.00, **Coroner**: Ellsworth Funeral Home, Transport, \$120.00, **EMA**: Infotech, Serv, \$48.00, SDEMA, Dues, \$50.00, **911**: Active 911, Licenses, \$116.70, Infotech, Serv, \$232.00, Quill, Supplies, \$565.45, Sioux Valley, Util, \$114.15, **Rd & Br**: EKOS, Software, \$2,148.00, Infotech, Serv, \$192.00, I-State Truck, Repairs, \$184.77, MidAmerican, Util, \$247.44, SD Dept Of Trans, 2025 Bridge Inspections, \$321.02, Sioux Valley, Util, \$166.50, Xcel, Util, \$42.24, **Poor**: Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$303.93, Infotech, Serv, \$39.00, **MI**: Community Counseling, Serv, \$2,170.00, Nelson & Ericsson Law, Serv, \$244.00, Yankton Co Sheriff's, Serv, \$50.00, **Extension**: Infotech, Serv, \$190.00, Madison Ace, Supplies, \$31.16, SDAE4-HP, Dues, \$80.00, **Zoning**, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$354.92, Infotech, Serv, \$81.00. **Total: \$22,502.38**

## PERSONNEL:

Auditor Barrick told the board she had received one personnel action. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the status change of Teagan Hanson, from part-time correctional officer to full-time correctional officer, at a rate of \$20/hr effective February 16, 2026. Motion carried.

## 2026 ANNUAL FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL:

Dave Hare, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, informed the board he has received the annual fire alarm maintenance proposal from Automatic Building Controls, Inc. Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to approve the proposal from Automatic Building Controls for 2026 services at the Courthouse in the amount of \$409 and at the Public Safety Building in the amount of \$483. Motion carried.

## 4-H CENTER RENTAL AGREEMENT/SD FARMERS UNION:

Superintendent Hare told the board he had received a rental agreement from the SD Farmers Union to rent the 4-H Center on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> for a youth day camp. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to request further information from Farmers Union, noting that the proposed date may conflict with the driver's exam and 4-H activities. Motion carried.

## **AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE TREASURER:**

Jill Olson, Deputy Auditor, presented the Auditor's Account with the Treasurer report as of December 31, 2025. She told the board that she and Tina Johnson, Deputy Auditor, have been working with David Weidler, Legislative Auditor, to reconcile the bank accounts and the general ledger. The variance since the middle of October has stayed at \$17,004.61. Legislative Audits will be coming back to Lake County to adjust the general ledger to balance with the bank. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to accept the December 31, 2025, Auditor's Account with the Treasurer. Motion carried.

## AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER

## 911 GRANT:

April Denholm, 911 Supervisor, and Jennifer Hahn, 911 Deputy Supervisor, appeared before the board to present information regarding a grant the 911 Board wishes to pursue. The proposed grant, totaling \$226,264.82, would assist in the consolidation of 911 services with Miner County and provide funding for a necessary full upgrade of the computer system. Miner County is also submitting a grant application. Commissioner Wollmann recused herself from consideration of this item. Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to approve authorizing Denholm and Hahn to apply for the state grant to support the consolidation effort with Miner County. Motion carried.

**JAIL/INTERNAL POSITION:**

Sarina Talich, Sheriff, met with the board to request the creation of an internal position within the jail department for a jail sergeant. She explained that the position would be filled internally and would assist with jail operations, personnel oversight and completing required paperwork. Motion by Reinicke, second by Johnke, to approve the establishment of the jail sergeant position and the status change of a current employee to this position. Motion carried.

**UTILITY OCCUPANCY/2026-02 & 2026-03:**

Cara Barnhart, Highway Office Manager, presented two utility occupancy applications from Sioux Valley Energy. Application 2026-02 proposes burying the northbound overhead conductor under 223<sup>rd</sup> St and 463<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollman, to approve Utility Occupancy 2026-02/Sioux Valley Energy and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried. Application 2026-03 proposes installing new underground primary cable along 451<sup>st</sup> Ave and across 241<sup>st</sup> St. Motion by Slaughter, second by Johnke, to approve Utility Occupancy 2026-03/Sioux Valley Energy and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2026-04/BRIDGE REINSPECTION PROGRAM:**

Cara Barnhart, Highway Office Manager, presented Resolution 2026-04/Bridge Reinspection Program. She noted that Banner Associates will perform inspections on all county bridges in Lake County. Chair Leighton read Resolution 2026-04. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve Resolution 2026-04/Bridge Reinspection Program Resolution For Use with SDDOT Retainer Contracts. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2026-04  
BRIDGE REINSPECTION PROGRAM RESOLUTION  
FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS**

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, Lake County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire Banner Associates, Inc. (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 3rd day of February 2026, at Madison, South Dakota.

/s/Adam Leighton

Adam Leighton, Lake County Commission Chair

ATTEST:

/s/Paula Barrick

Paula Barrick, Lake County Auditor

**MADISON AREA DEVELOPMENT CORP (MADC) UPDATE:**

Brooke Rollag, Executive Director, presented an update on the Madison Area Development Corp. Items included: the Industrial Park has been completed, the early learning center is near completion, the English language learning program was successful, and the low-income funding for businesses has been depleted. She further notified that the name of the Lake Area Improvement Corporation has been changed to the Madison Area Development Corporation (MADC).

**STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EMPLOYEE 4-H CENTER OFFICE SPACE:**

Jen Hayford, 4-H Educator, and Rosemarie Nold, South Dakota 4-H Interim Director, via Zoom, spoke to the board of the potential use of an office at the 4-H Center for the 4-H Livestock employee. This employee would share the Shiine Office and use the office two days a week. The board discussed what expenses the State may provide or assume responsibility for and if this individual should have their own office. Kelsey VanderWal, 4-H Livestock Program Manager, informed the board, via Zoom, that any distractions sharing the Shiine office that may arise at the 4-H Center, would not be a problem for her. Motion by Reinicke, second by Johnke, to authorize Abby Oftedal to work with Rosemarie Nold to develop a lease agreement for the 4-H Livestock employee's office space. Motion carried.

A short break was held.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE #26-01: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #06-44 ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE ZONING REGULATIONS FOR LAKE COUNTY, SD:**

Chair Leighton read the following prepared statement: "The Planning Commission and County Commission held a public hearing and the first reading on Ordinance #26-01 and #26-02 at 10:30 a.m. on January 20, 2026. At that meeting the Planning Commission and County Commission took public comments. The public hearing was closed, and the Planning Commission made a recommendation to the County Commission to approve #26-01 with an amendment to incorporate the language included in the proposed Ordinance #26-02 into #26-01. Being that the required noticed public hearing has taken place, today we will not be receiving any additional public comment. Today, we will be having board discussion on the proposed zoning ordinance that was amended on the 20<sup>th</sup>. In that discussion, if there are any additional amendments to #26-01 as amended, we will then have to suspend action on the ordinance and start over with a public hearing on the amendment after another 10-day public hearing notice." Motion by Slaughter, second by Reinicke, to approve Ordinance #26-01 with the January 20<sup>th</sup> amendment. Motion carried. Chair Leighton read the title: ORDINANCE #26-01/AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 26-44, AS AMENDED, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE ZONING REGULATIONS FOR LAKE COUNTY, SD, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT, AND AMENDMENT THEREOF, PURSUANT TO SDCL 11-2, 1967 AND FOR THE REPEAL OF ANY ORDINANCE OR REGULATION IN CONFLICT HEREWITH. Chair Leighton stated that a notice of adoption will be published in the February 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> editions of the Madison Daily Leader and will become effective on March 11, 2026.

**ACKNOWLEDGE 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER LEMPG PERFORMANCE GRANT:**

Kody Keefer, EM, was present to discuss his 1<sup>ST</sup> quarter LEMPG Performance Grant. Motion by Wollmann, second by Slaughter, to acknowledge the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter LEMPG Performance Grant. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2026-05/ESTABLISHING DESIGNEES FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES:**

Chair Leighton read Resolution #2026-05/Establishing Designees Authorized to Request Firefighting Resources on Behalf of the Lake County Board of Commissioners and Establishing a County Rural Fire Coordinator. Motion by Wollmann, second by Slaughter, to approve Resolution #2026-05/Establishing Designees Authorized to Request Firefighting Resources on Behalf of the Lake County Board of Commissioners and Establishing a County Rural Fire Coordinator and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2026-05**

**ESTABLISHING DESIGNEES AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND ESTABLISHING A COUNTY RURAL FIRE COORDINATOR**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the list of individuals set forth below, are hereby authorized to request rangeland fire assistance, on behalf of the County of Lake as specified in SDCL 41-20A-11. The authority to request assistance shall continue in full force and effect until terminated or modified by resolution of the County of Lake Board of Commissioners.

County Fire Assistance Authorization List  
Effective Date: 2/1/2026

Name of Individual	Position	Daytime Phone	Emergency (Cell of PSAP)
Adam Leighton	County Commissioner	605-270-0490	605-256-7620
Kody Keefer	Emergency Manager	605-256-7611	605-256-7620
Sarina Talich	Sheriff	605-256-7615	605-256-7620
Randy Minnaert	Madison Fire Dept Chief	605-256-7523	605-256-7620
Dan Hansen	Nunda Fire Dept Chief	605-586-4180	605-256-7620
Steven Heyn	Chester Fire Dept Chief	605-489-2241	605-256-7620
Brady Christiansen	Ramona Fire Dept Chief	605-270-0231	605-256-7620
Terry Reck	Wentworth Fire Dept Chief	605-270-6262	605-256-7620

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kody Keefer, Emergency Manager, is appointed County Rural Fire Coordinator for the County of Lake. The County Rural Fire Coordinator is hereby authorized to act as a single point of contact, on behalf of the County of Lake, in dealing with administrative matters such as burn bans, billings, or questions about the Rangeland Fire Agreement specific to the County. This authority shall continue in full force and effect until terminated or modified by resolution of the County of Lake Board of Commissioners.

Voting aye: Johnke, Leighton, Reinicke, Slaughter, Wollmann  
Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026 at Madison, South Dakota.

Voted nay: none

#### BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

/s/Adam Leighton

Adam Leighton, Lake County Commission Chair

/s/Paula Barrick

Paula Barrick, Lake County Auditor

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR SCANNER:

Shirley Ebsen, Register of Deeds, and Kody Keefer, EM, were present to discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> floor scanner. Ebsen would like to use the M&P funds to update the scanner as it is currently on Windows 8. Motion by Reinicke, second by Johnke, to move forward with updating the 4<sup>th</sup> floor scanner with M&P funds. Motion carried.

#### 2026 OPEN MEETINGS LAW REVIEW:

CAO Oftedal, in accordance with SDCL 1-25-13, reviewed with the board the Guide to South Dakota Open Meetings Laws, which was prepared by the SD Attorney General's Office.

#### MEETINGS ATTENDED:

Commissioner Slaughter attended two legislative updates, MADC planning meeting, 911 board meeting, and met with a representative from Banner Associates. Commissioner Leighton met with a representative from Banner Associates. Commissioner Reinicke viewed via Zoom the SD Counties Legislative updates. Commissioner Wollmann viewed, via Zoom, the SD legislative update, SD FIT, Capital Watch, attended a 911 board meeting, and participated in a puzzle competition at the Madison Public Library.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to enter into executive session. Motion carried.

#### REGULAR SESSION:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to return to regular session. Motion carried. Chair Leighton reported that one legal and two personnel matters had been discussed.

#### REPORTS RECEIVED:

December 2025 fees collected: Sheriff - \$11,005.30. January 2026 fees collected: Zoning - \$914.00.

#### ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Johnke, at 12:13 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be on February 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

/s/Paula Barrick  
PAULA BARRICK  
Lake County Auditor

/s/Adam Leighton  
ADAM LEIGHTON  
Lake County Commission Chair