

**UNAPPROVED
LAKE COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
February 17, 2026**

The Board of Lake County Commissioners met in regular session on February 17, 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:

Commissioner Reinicke, representing herself, presented a South Dakota flag to the Buildings & Grounds department to be flown on the courthouse flagpole. The flag commemorates the state's 250-year anniversary.

AGENDA APPROVED:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the agenda for February 17, 2026. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Motion by Wollmann, second by Slaughter, to approve the unapproved minutes of February 3, 2026. Motion carried.

PAYROLL APPROVED:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Johnke, to approve payroll #4-February 20, 2026. Motion carried. The completed payroll report will be sent to the board via email.

Comm: \$3,879.25; Auditor: \$6,339.50; Treasurer: \$6,215.82; States Atty: \$9,377.09; Govt Bldg: \$5,823.57; DOE: \$6,038.35; ROD: \$4,429.84; VSO: \$1,242.28; Sheriff: \$18,350.55; Jail: \$14,871.64; Poor: \$87.21; Ext: \$829.37; Zoning: \$1,939.12; Rd-Br: \$10,593.05; 911: \$12,752.60; EMA: \$2,205.82; 24/7: \$518.21. Grand Total: \$105,493.27

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Motion by Slaughter, second by Johnke, to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$370,581.30. Motion carried.

2026.02.06 AP - General: Lake Co Treasurer, Withholdings, \$20,640.99, **Rd & Br:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholdings, \$2,132.81, **911:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholdings, \$3,006.67, **EMA:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholdings, \$503.09, **24/7:** Lake Co Treasurer, Withholdings, \$94.04. **Total: \$26,377.60**

2026.02.10 AP - General: SD DOR, Fees, \$850.00, SD DOR, MV, \$267,665.68, SDACO, Fees, \$266.00, **Commission:** Bankwest, Zoom, \$159.90, Midco, Util, \$77.95, **Auditor:** Midco, Util, \$90.67, **Treasurer:** First Bank, Busy Lights, \$71.97, Midco, Util, \$98.66, **St Atty:** Bankwest, Supplies, \$153.56, Midco, Util, \$77.60, **Bldg:** First Bank, Webcam, \$28.48, **DOE:** Midco, Util, \$99.72, **ROD:** Midco, Util, \$66.17, **VSO:** Midco, Util, \$32.07, **Sheriff:** First Bank, Dues, \$1,024.55, **Jail:** First Bank, Supplies, \$293.42, Midco, Util, \$260.61, **Coroner:** First Bank, Dues, \$350.46, **EMA:** Midco, Util, \$32.07, Verizon, Util, \$79.74, **911:** AT&T, Util, \$40.54, Interlakes Wireless, Serv, \$63.00, Lumen, Util, \$8.54, Triotel, Util, \$169.53, Verizon, Util, \$39.73, **Rd & Br:** Butler, Battery, \$579.04, Verizon, Util, \$40.01, **Poor:** First Bank, Busy Light, \$12.00, Midco, Util, \$17.44, **MI:** SD DOR, Serv, \$1,211.63, **Extension:** Bankwest, Dues, \$124.94, **Zoning:** First Bank, Busy Light, \$11.99, Midco, Util, \$17.45. **Total: \$274,115.12**

2026.02.17 AP - Commission: Chamber Of Commerce, Dues, \$200.00 Column, Notice, \$489.34, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$6.88, **Election:** Column, Notice, \$72.38, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$59.38, Quadient, Postage, \$32.85, **Judicial:** Computer Forensic, Serv, \$1,950.00, Daniel P Feldhaus, Transcript, \$72.25, Ribstein & Hogan Law, CAA, \$5,553.00, **Auditor:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.01, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$35.16, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$131.82, Quadient, Postage, \$277.49, SDACES, Dues, \$15.00, **Treasurer:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.01, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$26.34, Quadient, Postage, \$477.47, SDACES, Dues, \$15.00, **St Atty:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.01, Quadient, Postage, \$0.74, Relx, Serv, \$263.00, **Bldg:** Bud's Cleanup, Serv, \$218.92, City Of Madison, Util, \$2,435.55, Dakota Data

Shred, Serv, \$79.96, Hillyard, Supplies, \$601.44, Lake County Treasurer, 2017 Ram 2500 License, \$17.00, Menards, Supplies, \$110.17, Runnings, Supplies, \$205.74, Safe-N-Secure, Maint, \$2,208.00, **DOE:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.01, Quadient, Postage, \$1.48, **ROD:** Office Peeps, Supplies, \$128.01, Quadient, Postage, \$47.03, SDACES, Dues, \$15.00, **VSO:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.00, **Sheriff:** Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$70.34, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$27.03, Quadient, Postage, \$122.86, Steve's Tire, Serv, \$2,036.16, Sturdevant's, Battery, \$11.00, Talich, Sarina, Fuel Reimburse, \$40.50, **Jail:** Allegiant, Serv, \$8.01, City Of Madison, Util, \$1,870.54, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$17.00, Lewis Drug, Jan Meds, \$207.53, Rising Hope, Serv, \$375.00, Sunshine, Meals, \$7,930.24, **EMA:** Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$35.17, Sturdevant's, Fee, \$4.88, **911:** First District, Map Maint, \$4,000.00, SD Dept Of Public Safety, TTY Serv, \$5,400.00, **Dive:** Runnings, Supplies, \$253.95, **Rd & Br:** Avera Occupational, Annual Fee, \$109.80, Carquest, Oil, \$753.82, Dakota Fluid, Repair, \$321.93, DCI, Background Check, \$30.00, F & M, Oil, \$1,100.00, First Bank, CM, -928.24, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$35.17, Johnson Feed, Salt, \$3,137.80, Knife River, Asphalt, \$1,824.32, Office Peeps, Supplies, \$37.85, Quadient, Postage, \$34.75, Tire Motive, Repair, \$23.54, **MI:** Oftedal, Abby, Serv, \$305.00, Fox Law Firm, Serv, \$109.75, Katterhagen, Mark, Serv, \$36.00, Larson, Val, Serv, \$36.00, Lewno, Lucy, Serv, \$249.48, Lohr, Tyler, CAA, \$362.96, Nelson & Ericsson Law, Serv, \$244.00, **Extension:** City Of Madison, Util, \$770.64, Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$35.16, Hayford, Jennifer, Mlg, \$36.40, Office Peeps, Paper, \$54.80, SDSU Extension, Hayford, Jen/Mlg, \$40.48, SDSU Extension, 2026 Salary, \$23,050.00, Sunshine, Supplies, \$24.19, **Zoning:** Gordon Flesch, Maint, \$51.00, Quadient, Postage, \$5.33. **Total: \$ \$70,088.58**

PERSONNEL:

None

SDDOT 464TH AVE AGREEMENT W/MINNEHAHA COUNTY AND SDDOT:

Abby Oftedal, CAO, informed the board she had received a revised joint powers agreement between Lake County, Minnehaha County, and the SDDOT. Section 4 of the agreement, Counties Responsibilities, was updated. Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to approve the joint powers agreement between Lake County, Minnehaha County, and the SDDOT regarding the Chester Township curve on 464th Ave and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried.

SDPAA INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT UPDATE:

CAO Oftedal told the board that South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance has submitted an intergovernmental agreement update which adds language to clarify that no member shall have more than one representative serving on the board at one time and in Article IX, moving the notice rescinding paragraph to the top of the section. Motion by Slaughter, second by Wollmann, to approve the SDPAA Intergovernmental Agreement Update and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried.

REVISIT 4-H CENTER RENTAL AGREEMENT WITH SD FARMERS UNION:

Dave Hare, Buildings & Grounds Superintendent, submitted a revised rental application from SD Farmers Union for a youth educational camp for ages 6-12. The date for this event has been changed to June 1, 2026. Motion by Slaughter, second by Reinicke, to approve the SD Farmers Union application to rent the 4-H Center, June 1, 2026, for a youth educational camp contingent upon fees paid and proof of insurance. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LEMPG GRANT ADDITIONAL ARTICLES:

The board reviewed the Local Emergency Management Performance Grant agreement articles certification. The commission agreed that more information was needed before approval. Motion by Slaughter, second by Wollmann, to postpone the possible approval of the LEMPG agreement articles until the March 3, 2026, commission meeting. Motion carried.

BINGO RAFFLE NOTICE:

Auditor Barrick told the board that she had received a notice from VFW Post 2638 to host bingo events in 2026. Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to acknowledge the VFW bingo events. Motion carried.

CYBER PROTECTION:

Abby Oftedal, CAO, reported that she has had conversations with representatives from Infotech regarding Lake County's cyber security. There was discussion on the number of emails that were budgeted for in 2026. Also discussed was subscribing to either the Huntress Managed Identity

Threat Detection and/or Response (ITDR). Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the Huntress Managed Identity Threat Detection at \$3 per email/month for Lake County departments and to review the ITDR option at \$8 per email/month at a later date. Motion carried.

ACHIEVEMENT DAYS CAMPING:

Jen Hayford, 4-H Educator, and Kim Mathieu, Extension Office Manager, were present to discuss the 2026 4-H Achievement Days camping. CAO Oftedal stated that the agreement to camp on the 4-H grounds is the same as 2025 except the dates have been updated. Hayford informed the board that the deadline for applications to camp during Achievement Days will be June 30th and the applications will be presented to the commission on July 7th for their review. All board members agreed to use the updated application.

UTILITY OCCUPANCY 2026-04/SIOUX VALLEY ENERGY:

Cara Barnhart, Highway Operations Manager, presented Utility Occupancy 2026-04 for Sioux Valley Energy. Sioux Valley would like to convert an existing single phase overhead line to single phase primary underground distribution cable. The location for this update is 454th Ave. & 234th St. Motion by Slaughter, second by Reinicke, to approve Utility Occupancy 2026-04 for Sioux Valley Energy and authorize the chair to sign. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY OFFICE SOFTWARE UPDATE:

Highway Operations Manager Barnhart discussed with the board the highway office software known as PubWorks. Barnhart has been informed that PubWorks will no longer be supported, and that the replacement software offered by the company will be significantly more expensive. The board requested confirmation of the current contract's expiration date before proceeding with any changes.

2026 LAKE COUNTY HIGHWAY REHABILITATION ENGINEERING PROPOSAL:

Commissioner Slaughter presented the Banner Associates proposal for engineering services for Lake County highways. Slaughter stated that Banner will perform engineering services including: the proposed reconstruction of 0.25 miles of Lake County Highway 20 approximately 0.50 miles east of Ramona between 450th & 451st Ave; the rehabilitation of Lake County Highway 17 between 223rd & 234th St.; provide a hydraulic study for a culvert replacement crossing County Highway 17; and the development of a highway rehabilitation plan and budget estimates for future planning and sequencing of highway improvements. Motion by Wollmann, second by Johnke, to partner with Banner Associates for engineering services for highway rehabilitation not to exceed \$134,000. Motion carried.

RECESS AS COUNTY COMMISSION-CONVENE AS A JOINT PLANNING/COUNTY COMMISSION:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to recess as a County Commission and convene jointly as a Planning/County Commission. Motion carried.

JOINT PLANNING/COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVED AND ACKNOWLEDGE PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the joint Planning/County Commission agenda and acknowledge no public comments were received. Motion carried.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, RELATIONSHIP(S) TO APPLICANT(S); OR EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: None

CONSIDERATION/PRESENTATION ON PLATS:

Carrie Schiernbeck, Zoning Officer, gave a report on the following plats.

Plat of Tract 1 of Pitts Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 13, T107N, R54W of the 5th P.M. (15000-10754-13110 & 15000-10754-13115), Concord Township, Lake County, SD. The owners, Gary & Shelly Pitts Living Trust would like to replat existing parcels.

Plat of James W Hansen 2nd Addition in the SE1/4 of Section 11, T106N, R52W of the 5th P.M. (06000-10652-11410), Lakeview Township, Lake County, SD. The owner, Lori Hansen Living Trust, would like to subdivide an existing parcel.

Plat of Lot 1A and Lot 1B of Schmidt's Addition in the NW1/4 of Section 21, T105N, R52W of the 5th P.M. (05137-10552-21210), Franklin Township, Lake County, SD. The owners, Danial & Joyce Meehan and Nolan & Misty Ahrendt, would like to replat an existing parcel.

Plat of Tracts 4A and 5 of Mergen's Addition in Section 16, T106N, R51W of the 5th P.M. (02000-10651-16310, 02000-10651-16130, 02000-10651-16410, & 02000-10651-16420), Wentworth Township, Lake County, SD. The owners, Mark & Kyle Mergen and Jerry Amundson, would like to replat existing parcels.

Plat of Tract 6 of Mergen's Addition in the SW1/4 of Section 16, T106N, R51W of the 5th P.M. (02000-10651-16310), Wentworth Township, Lake County, SD. The owners, Mark & Kyle Mergen, would like to replat an existing parcel.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to recommend to the County Commission approval of all plats. Motion carried.

ACTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION:

Motion by Johnke, second by Reinicke, to acknowledge receipt of the Planning Commission's recommendations. Motion carried.

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the Plat of Tract 1 of Pitts Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 13, T107N, R54W of the 5th P.M. (15000-10754-13110 & 15000-10754-13115), Concord Township, Lake County, SD, as it meets all county regulations and taxes and fees have been paid in full. Motion carried.

Motion by Wollmann, second by Johnke, to approve the Plat of James W Hansen 2nd Addition in the SE1/4 of Section 11, T106N, R52W of the 5th P.M. (06000-10652-11410), Lakeview Township, Lake County, SD, as it meets county requirements and fees have been paid and contingent upon payment of taxes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnke, second by Wollmann, to approve the Plat of Lot 1A and Lot 1B of Schmidt's Addition in the NW1/4 of Section 21, T105N, R52W of the 5th P.M. (05137-10552-21210), Franklin Township, Lake County, SD, as it meets county requirements and taxes and fees have been paid in full. Motion carried.

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, to approve the Plat of Tracts 4A and 5 of Mergen's Addition in Section 16, T106N, R51W of the 5th P.M. (02000-10651-16310, 02000-10651-16130, 02000-10651-16410, & 02000-10651-16420), Wentworth Township, Lake County, SD, as it meets county requirements and fees have been paid and contingent upon payment of taxes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wollmann, second by Slaughter, to approve the Plat of Tract 6 of Mergen's Addition in the SW1/4 of Section 16, T106N, R51W of the 5th P.M. (02000-10651-16310), Wentworth Township, Lake County, SD, as it meets county requirements and fees have been paid and contingent upon payment of taxes. Motion carried.

ADJOURN AS A JOINT PLANNING/COUNTY COMMISSION AND RECONVENE AS A COUNTY COMMISSION:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to adjourn as a Joint Planning/County Commission and reconvene as a County Commission. Motion carried.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:

Motion by Reinicke second by Johnke, to recess as a County Commission and convene as a Board of Adjustment. Motion carried.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AGENDA/ACKNOWLEDGE PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Motion by Johnke, second by Reinicke, to approve the Board of Adjustment agenda and acknowledge no public comments were received. Motion carried.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, RELATIONSHIP(S) TO APPLICANT(S); OR EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Wollmann recused herself from the following conditional use application.

PUBLIC HEARING/CONSIDERATION OF CU#26-01:

Carrie Schiernbeck, Zoning Officer, presented a report on CU#26-01.

#26-01 Conditional Use application of James Goeman-Lot A Mundhenke's Tract 1 in the NE1/4 of Section 22, Lakeview Twp (parcel #06890-10652-02010). James Goeman, owner, was present to discuss his application. The applicant would like to build an oversized accessory building. Chair Leighton called for any proponents in the audience and on Zoom. Chair Leighton called for any opponents in the audience or on Zoom. Rod Goeman, spoke as an opponent, presented a letter and

pictures of the property in question. Motion by Reinicke, second by Slaughter, to postpone action on CU#26-01 until more information can be received regarding the lot lines. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wollmann returns to the meeting.

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

Commissioner Slaughter attended a LMDA meeting, legislative update, and an ICAP caucus.

Commissioner Leighton attended a LMDA meeting. Commissioner Reinicke attended a DVN board meeting, legislative update, and flag raising at Prostrollo's and Sunshine Foods. Commissioner Wollmann attended legislative update and capital watch.

REPORTS RECEIVED:

January 2026 fees collected: Sheriff - \$12,560.07; Register of Deeds - \$18,954.80

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion by Reinicke, second by Wollmann, at 10:28 a.m. to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be on March 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

/s/Paula Barrick

PAULA BARRICK

Lake County Auditor

/s/Adam Leighton

ADAM LEIGHTON

Lake County Commission Chair