

## AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 6, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Clyde Dethlefsen, with John Paul Studeny, Roger Hanten, and Travis Clark present. Randy Niles was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

The agenda was amended by adding EM&D training and manure spillage. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve the minutes from the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve a seasonal overweight permit for Central Electric. The permit is to be used in emergency situations only. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Vissia and Secretary Beckman were present for the highway report.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize highway superintendent Doug Vissia to attend the short course in Deadwood on March 18-20. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to sign a pit option agreement with Dina Shefner at \$2.00/ton for screened gravel. Motion carried all voting aye. This agreement will be effective for 5 years.

Discussion was held on load limits. No action was taken to put them on at this time and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cole Christian from Randall Community Water District updated the Commission on the regional water transmission line project in Aurora County. In September of 2024, Aurora County passed a resolution to allow Randall Community Water to occupy the public right-of-way for the project. Mr. Christian thanked the County for supporting their project and noted they have 100% of the easements signed and were successful in land acquisition. Now that the easements are done, they will hand off the project for the next phase, which is the construction portion.

Hausmann Construction and other entities will be in contact with the County to start the construction part of the project. The water transmission line pipe delivery and groundbreaking are anticipated to begin this Spring in 2025, and the overall completion is expected to be done by the summer of 2027.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve A Plat of Tracts C, D, and E in the W ½ of Section 14, T102N, R65W, of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM, Aurora County, South Dakota. Motion carried all voting aye.

The county's annual bid letting will be held on March 6, 2025.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve tax abatement #1042 in the amount of \$330.25. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize department heads to attend the Southeast Central District meeting in McCook County on February 11th if they wish to do so. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Chairman to sign the 2025 contract law agreement with the City of Plankinton for law enforcement services and pay the county bi-annually \$38,050. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Studeny to authorize the auditor to do an operating transfer from the General Fund (101) to the Domestic Abuse Fund (229) in the amount of \$4,297.00. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on the reduction of hours at the request of custodian Dan Beckmann. Chairman Dethlefsen noted that he received a phone call from Beckmann requesting to reduce his hours from full-time to 32 hours per week. He would like to be able to come in later in the morning while he is calving. The Board agreed with reducing his hours as long as when a snow event occurs, the snow removal is taken care of before the courthouse opens. The commission set the custodian hours from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Fridays. The reduction of hours will be addressed again at the first meeting in April.

Treasurer Andrea Pryor requested to move deputy treasurer Sue Faulhaber to full-time status for the month of February due to the new Cars Program that will be launched soon. Andrea said she is not sure how things will go with this new program and there will more than likely be several glitches that they will need to work through. A motion

was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to allow Sue to be moved to a full-time status for the month of February.

Motion carried all voting aye.

Treasurer Pryor spoke with the commission about investing CD's and said as the treasurer, it is her decision and duty to invest the county's money. She informed the Board that she recently found that American Bank & Trust in Stickney does not allow the county to take part in specials on interest rates because it is the policy of the bank that no public funds are eligible for such specials. Andrea said that the Farmers & Merchants State Bank allows us to take advantage of such specials. Currently we have \$230,000 in CD's at American Bank & Trust, said Pryor, and she would like to be able to invest at a higher rate if possible when specials come up. Commission Clark suggested to speak with the Stickney Bank to see if they will work with us and allow us to take advantage of the special rates. As far as the county goes, we need to look at the best return for the county and go with whoever can give us the best deal, said Clark. It was noted that this is not a Stickney policy, but rather a policy of American Bank & Trust. Commissioner Clark said he will talk with Allen Teel in Stickney to see if they can do something for us.

It was noted that some windows in the courthouse are leaking cold air and someone came to check it out a while back, but nothing has been done. The commission will check with Custodian Beckmann at the next meeting to see where things are at with this.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize Emergency Manager Kehn to attend an emergency manager training in Pierre on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

It was noted that there was a manure spill in the county that was reported to the sheriff's department. The deputy sheriff filled out a complaint form and gave it to States Attorney Mairose.

Discussion was held on becoming a sponsor for the Firesteel Watershed Project. Commissioner Studeny stated that he has talked with several individuals as well as the Plankinton Development Board and said that under the conditions that the county has established, he has not heard as much after their concerns were addressed. Emergency Manager Kehn noted only the county is agreeing to this study and there is no financial responsibility to the county for this. The projects that are identified after the study is completed shall be entered into voluntarily and nobody will be forced to do something they do not want to do. Commissioner Studeny said this could also help with the mitigation

project we are working on for Skunk Creek. Chairman Dethlefsen stated that the Skunk Creek study did not go all the way down in the southern part of the county. This study would allow us to get more information on this area, said Dethlefsen. After much discussion, a motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve being a sponsor of the Lower Firesteel Watershed Project study and authorize the chairman to sign a letter stating Aurora County would act as a partnering sponsoring local organization. Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Studeny, aye; Hanten, aye; and Dethlefsen, aye. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager Kehn informed the commission that he has been taking classes for flood plain manager to get up to speed on some of the things associated with being a flood plain manager.

The commission asked if the county has heard anything back on the Skunk Creek project. Emergency Manager Kehn told the Board he is still waiting to hear back from FEMA. The State has been contacted as well, said Kehn.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session with Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn as per SDCL 1-25-2(6a) at 10:51 AM. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Board out of executive session at 11:07 AM with no official action taken.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Clark to file reports and pay voucher as listed below. Motion carried with Dethlefsen, Hanten and Clark voting aye. Studeny abstained from the vote.

**Reports:** January Payroll: Social Security 6,073.65; Medicare 1,420.45; Wellmark 27,683.04, Retirement 6,330.68; Kansas City Life 108.39; Commissioners 4,438.35; Auditor 7,869.11; Treasurer 6,875.02; States Attorney 5,348.85; Courthouse 2,851.85; Director of Equalization 6,448.87; Register of Deeds 4,680.48; Veteran's Service Officer 692.30; Sheriff 19,216.78; Welfare 749.67; Extension 2,808.04; Weed 695.47; Zoning 850.69; Hwy 38.456.04; EM&D 2,573.61; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.40. Auditor's Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,441.63; MMDA 2,054,858.04; CD's 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: Marriage Lic/Certs 0.00; Birth/Death Certs 75.00; Preservation Fund 279.00; Driver's License 282.00; Copies 124.00; Other 0.00; Recording Fees 1,935.00; Transfer Fees 659.50.

**CLAIM:**

COMMISSIONERS		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	761.12
STANDARD PUBLISHING	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	781.02
STANDARD PUBLISHING ARGUS	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	781.02
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		2323.16 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
GRAND JURY FEES		532.84
CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIO	COURT INTERPRETOR FEES	11.55
MAYA BRIDGE LLC	INTERPRETING SERVICES	430.00
MEYER LAW INC	CAA	449.50
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		1423.89 *
AUDITOR		
AURORA COUNY TREASURER	POSTAGE	43.15
P M B 0112	DECEMBER ACCESS FEES	57.25
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	129.84
		-----
		230.24 *
TREASURER		
AURORA COUNY TREASURER	POSTAGE	154.76
J SCOTT ANDERSON	TAX DEED SERVICE	60.00
QUILL CORPORATION	GENERAL OFFICE SUPPLIES	71.69
QUILL CORPORATION	ENVELOPES & STAPLES	30.99
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	574.77
STANDARD PUBLISHING	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	77.00
STANDARD PUBLISHING ARGUS	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	77.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	196.26
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		1242.47 *
STATE'S ATTORNEY		
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - JAN & FEB	5.25
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - JAN & FEB	1300.00
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - JAN & FEB	2.50
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - JAN & FEB	168.00
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - JAN & FEB	782.09
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		2257.84 *
COURTHOUSE		
MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL	AIR FRESHNERS	136.75
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY & WATER	3216.82
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	113.10
VESTIS	SERVICES - MATS	67.08
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		3533.75 *

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION		
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	132.84
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		132.84 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS		
AURORA COUNY TREASURER	POSTAGE	8.40
QUILL CORPORATION	OFFICE SUPPLIES	94.11
STANDARD PUBLISHING	2025 SUBSCRIPTION	43.00
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		145.51 *
VA OFFICE		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	81.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	66.42
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		147.42 *
SHERIFF		
HILLMANS REPAIR	OIL CHANGE & TIRE REPAIR	70.91
KYLE LEWIS	MEAL REIMB FOR TRAINING IN SF	44.80
KYLE LEWIS	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	231.43
KYLE NESS	WINDSHIELD WIPERS FOR TAHOE	14.27
KYLE NESS	MEAL REIMB FOR TRAINING IN SF	47.53
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	2954.79
STANDARD PUBLISHING	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	68.00
STANDARD PUBLISHING ARGUS	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	68.00
TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS	COMPUTER ANNUAL SOFTWARE SUB	3135.63
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	522.68
VERIZON	DECEMBER VERIZON REVEAL	63.80
VERIZON	JANUARY VERIZON REVEAL	63.80
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	514.63
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		7800.27 *
JAIL		
BRULE COUNTY	JANUARY JAIL HOUSING	148.00
DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF	JANUARY JAIL HOUSING	4725.00
AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH	INMATE MEDICAL	3459.00
AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH	INMATE MEDICAL	352.00
		-----
		8684.00 *
PUBLIC WELFARE		
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	3.00
		-----
		3.00 *
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED		
LIFE QUEST	2025 SUPPORT	2750.00
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		2750.00 *

AG BUILDING		
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY & WATER	1328.00
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		1328.00 *
COUNTY EXTENSION		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	2025 SUBSCRIPTION	52.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	126.84
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		178.84 *
WEED		
ASSN OF SD COUNTY WEED & PEST	WEED CONFERENCE & DUES	550.00
SDSU 3C6B04	COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR COURSE	90.00
STANDARD PUBLISHING	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	170.00
STANDARD PUBLISHING ARGUS	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	170.00
VERIZON	DECEMBER VERIZON REVEAL	15.95
VERIZON	JANUARY VERIZON REVEAL	15.95
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		1011.90 *
PLANNING & ZONING		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	54.00
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		54.00 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	GRADER REPAIRS	964.90
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	BLADES	28556.40
FASTENAL COMPANY	BAND SAW BLADES	78.21
SD FEDERAL PROPERTY AGENCY	TOOLS	210.00
FLEETPRIDE	PICKUP REPAIRS	133.17
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	GRADER REPAIRS	4.32
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	LADDER, SHOP SUPPLIES	128.77
LOCATORS & SUPPLIES INC	GLOVES	24.47
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM	WATER STORLA SHOP	32.00
NAPA CENTRAL	OIL & FILTERS	123.14
NORTHERN SAFETY CO INC	GLOVES	76.72
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC - WL & STK	92.87
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	PICK UP & TREE PULLER REPAIRS	7079.26
PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES	SAFETY CLOTHING	252.76
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - WATER & ELECTRIC	600.16
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	GRADER, WING & AIR COMP REPRS	48.92
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	SHOP SUPPLIES	1739.46
RUNNINGS	ELECTRICAL WIRE	123.99
RUNNINGS	NATHAN'S ORIGINAL BOOTS	200.00
S D A C H S	SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION	150.00
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	2025 SUBSCRIPTION	52.00
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	1144.26
STANDARD PUBLISHING ARGUS	2025 SUBSCRIPTION	43.00
STICKNEY WATER	WATER STICKNEY SHOP	94.00

TIM MATLOCK CONTRUCTION	INSTALL CULVERT	55030.61
TRANSOURCE	FILTERS	236.39
TRANSOURCE	LOADER LEASE	3200.00
TRUENORTH STEEL INC	CULVERT ENDS	7275.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	132.84
VERIZON	DECEMBER VERIZON REVEAL	41.47
VERIZON	JANUARY VERIZON REVEAL	45.88
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	104.92
VESTIS	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	12.18
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		108032.07 *

R&B CONSTRUCTION		
TIM MATLOCK CONTRUCTION	ROCK & HAULING	11000.00
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		11000.00 *

E 911 SERVICE		
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICE 2-1 TO 2-28-25	203.00
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 2-1 TO 2-28-25	357.44
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICE 2-1 TO 2-28-25	30.00
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		590.44 *

EM&D		
NAPA CENTRAL	TRAILER LICENSE PLATE ADAPTERS	6.30
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	PORTABLE GENERATOR BATTERIES	323.20
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	122.94
STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR	METAL TO HANG LIGHTS IN TRAILER	8.00
TRI-STATE EMERGENCY MGMT	2025 DUES	20.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	66.42
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	114.89
		-----
		661.75 *

DOMESTIC ABUSE		
SAFE PLACE OF EASTERN SD	2025 SUPPORT - BALANCE DUE	1000.00
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		1000.00 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	330.00
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	330.00
P M B 0112	STORAGE	72.36
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	193.26
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		925.62 *

Total Checks: 155,457.01 \*



Meeting adjourned subject to call.

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Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman  
Aurora County Commission

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Urban, Auditor

(Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_)