

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

**February 20, 2025**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Input: Commissioner Niles reported that the railroad company dumped crushed rock over the tracks on Jackrabbit Road when the derailment happened several months ago and noted it has not been cleaned it up yet. He told the members of the Commission that he has received complaints about the sharp rocks puncturing tires. Niles recommended notifying the railroad company to have them clean it up or have the county clean it up and bill the railroad for it. Dethlefsen said the county should give the railroad an opportunity to clean it up first and he would like to have the highway department contact them.

The agenda was amended by adding revision of 2024 Emergency Relief Funding Agreement from SDDOT and funding requests from entities. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to approve the minutes from the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

Discussion was held on when to put load limits on oil roads in the County. Chairman Dethlefsen told Superintendent Vissia that he would like to give people a two week notice before putting them on. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to have the highway department run a two-week notice in the papers that the load limits will go in effect on March 17<sup>th</sup> with the possibility they could be put on a week earlier depending on the weather. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Vissia presented a quote for a new 4x4 pickup off the state bid from Wegner Auto. The base price for a Dodge Ram  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton 4x4 pickup with a crew cab and short box is \$47,286.00 There were 4 options that Vissia requested to be added on to the base price which brings the total to \$49,706.00. A motion was made by

Studeney, seconded by Clark to authorize the highway department to purchase a Dodge Ram ¾ ton off the state bid with options included from Wegner Auto for \$49,706.00. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Vissia presented two quotes to the Commission for a walk & roll packer/roller. The following quotes for a WR75 Series 3 Walk & Roll Packer/Roller with Heavy Duty Lift Assembly were received as follows:

1. Butler Machinery \$32,501.68
2. LyCox Enterprises, Inc. \$33,740.00

A motion was made by Niles, seconded by Studeney to authorize the highway department to purchase a walk & roll packer/roller from Butler Machinery for \$32,501.68. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion as made by Niles, seconded by Clark to purchase the newest version of the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Motion carried all voting aye.

The County was notified by SDDOT that the Emergency Relief Funding Agreement that was signed in November 2024 needed to be revised due to language that was not as clear as it should be. Revised agreements were sent out for approval. A motion was made by Studeney, seconded by Clark to authorize the Chairman to sign the revised Emergency Relief Funding Agreement between the SDDOT and Aurora County. Motion carried all voting aye.

Chairman Dethlefsen noted he has had people in his area let him know they are very happy with their blade operator, Clint Moore.

Superintendent Vissia informed and updated them on some legislation that he has been following during the legislative session in Pierre.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeney to authorize 4-H Program Assistant Brandi Shroyer to attend a conference in Mitchell on March 4<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 PM. Motion carried all voting aye.

Emergency Manager Kehn, Commissioners Studeney and Dethlefsen were appointed to attend the sponsorship meeting for the Firesteel Watershed Project in Mitchell on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

A quote from Light & Siren for equipment for the new emergency manager pickup was presented to the Commission. The total for the equipment is \$1,327.02, plus shipping. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to approve the equipment purchase from Light & Siren. Motion carried all voting aye.

No action was taken on the end of the 6-month probationary period for Director of Equalization Jessica Durrin at this time. The Commission would like to visit with her first before any consideration is made.

Discussion was held on the 4-H Community Building rental fees for non-profit organizations. In 2019 the Commission waived the rental fee for the Plankinton Fire & Ambulance Departments for their fundraiser but required a \$100 deposit. In 2020 some Commissioners had reservations about waiving the fee and felt it was setting a precedence. Since that time, the rental fee of \$200 has been paid when they hold their fundraiser. The Commission revisited the topic about whether to charge a non-profit organization the rental fee or have it waived. Commissioner Studeny stated non-profits are not out to make money. The Plankinton Fire and Ambulance Departments are holding a fundraiser for equipment and such, said Studeny, they are not raising money for profit. After discussing it further, a motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to waive the rental fee for a fundraiser by a non-profit, but still require the \$100 deposit. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to authorize the Auditor to refund the Plankinton Ambulance Association their \$200 rental fee for their fundraiser that will be held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to authorize VSO Audrey Chapman to attend a mini conference in May with the option of going to either Sioux Falls or Pierre, whichever works out best for her. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to give VSO Chapman permission to close her office on March 7<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, and April 25<sup>th</sup> for personal reasons. Motion carried all voting aye. The Commission directed Audrey to advertise and post a notice letting the public know her office will be closed on those dates.

Every year the county budgets money to several entities for support. Chairman Dethlefsen suggested having those entities meet with the Commission to request their funding and update or inform the Board as to what they do and what their plans are for the year. We have new members on the Commission that have no idea on what we are supporting and I think since it is paid for by taxpayer dollars, we need to be a little more informed. A motion was made by Niles, seconded by Studeny to have those entities that would like to continue to receive funding from the

county to meet with the Commission to request their amounts before any appropriations are made in the next budget cycle. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Nile, seconded by Clark to file reports and pay bills as listed below. Motion carried all voting aye.

**Reports:** Wheel Tax Paid: Cities \$1,425.10, Townships \$968.07.

**CLAIMS:**

GENERAL FUND		
PLANKINTON AMBULANCE	REFUND RENTAL FEE	200.00
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		200.00 *
COMMISSIONERS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	48.54
		-----
		48.54 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
FIRST CIRCUIT CASA PROGRAM	2025 SUPPORT	2500.00
CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIO	INTERPRETING SERVICES	99.00
DAILEY LAW OFFICE	CAA	828.50
THERESA MAULE ROSSOW	CAA	314.01
THERESA MAULE ROSSOW	CAA	644.51
S D A C C	1ST QTR CATASTROPHIC LEGAL	2677.00
		-----
		7063.02 *
AUDITOR		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	60.11
		-----
		60.11 *
TREASURER		
ANDREA PRYOR	CURTAINS FOR OFFICE	82.59
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	78.69
QUILL CORPORATION	PAPER SHREDDER	328.99
		-----
		490.27 *
COURTHOUSE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	43.58
KINYON ELECTRIC	CAMERA WIRE ON POLE IN FRONT	881.89
KINYON ELECTRIC	WIRING FOR LIGHT IN THE BACK	984.03
KINYON ELECTRIC	CONDUITS UNDER THE SIDEWALK	582.65
OLSON'S PEST TECHNICIANS	COURTHOUSE PEST CONTROL	90.00
RON'S MARKET INC	SUPPLIES	230.91
		-----
		2813.06 *

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	74.77 ----- 74.77 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	65.81 ----- 65.81 *
VA OFFICE GOLDEN WEST THE LUTHERAN JOURNAL TYLER	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET ADVERTISEMENT FOR VSO SERVICES VETRA SPEC FOR VSO	62.70 291.00 449.00 ----- 802.70 *
SHERIFF GOLDEN WEST GOLDEN WEST KINYON ELECTRIC SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION V I S A V I S A V I S A V I S A	PHONE & INTERNET PHONE WIRING FOR SHERIFF'S WIFI FUEL FOR VEHICLES POSTAGE HOOKS, FILE BOX STORAGE CREDIT FUEL	104.06 52.53 309.13 1086.63 16.90 85.50 -1.87 218.59 ----- 1871.47 *
JAIL DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF LEWIS FAMILY DRUG LLC V I S A	AUGUST JAIL HOUSING INMATE - MEDS FOOD FOR PRISONER	3780.00 622.86 4.15 ----- 4407.01 *
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE	MONTHLY SUPPORT	60.00 ----- 60.00 *
AG BUILDING GOLDEN WEST OLSON'S PEST TECHNICIANS	PHONE & INTERNET AG BUILDING PEST CONTROL	105.03 70.00 ----- 175.03 *
COUNTY EXTENSION GOLDEN WEST STATE 4-H OFFICE	PHONE & INTERNET LIVESTOCK TAPGS & DNA ENVELOPE	64.62 44.00 ----- 108.62 *

