

AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

August 7, 2025

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

The agenda was amended by adding indigent burial and Skyler (emergency calls). 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 Hanten, seconded by Niles to approve the minutes of the July 17th meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on the burn ban. Due to the recent moisture the county has received, no action was taken to implement a ban at this time.

Auditor Urban informed the Commission that Counties in South Dakota were directed by Legislative Audit to create a new fund for the opioid settlement money that we are receiving. Urban noted that it is unsure at this time how much more will be received and should be in a separate fund as it is only to be spent on drug awareness and/or abuse. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny, to authorize the Auditor to make an operating transfer of \$11,124.24 from the General Fund to the newly created Opioid Settlement Fund. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

Fuel quotes were reviewed as follows:

| | MONTHLY QUOTE (Aug. 7 – Sept. 2) | | | 4 MONTH QUOTE (Aug. 7 – Dec. 4) | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| | #1 Diesel | #2 Diesel | Propane | #1 Diesel | #2 Diesel | Propane |
| Brooks Oil: | N/A | 2.57 | 1.10 | N/A | 2.65 | 1.20 |
| Total Oil: | N/A | 2.57 | ----- | N/A | 2.56 | ----- |
| Vollan Oil: | N/A | 2.832 | 1.34 | N/A | 2.72 | 1.34 |

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles, to approve the 4-month propane quote from Brooks Oil @ 1.20 and the 4-month quote from Total Oil for the fuel @ 2.56. Motion carried all voting aye.

Secretary Beckman informed the Board the highway department was contacted by Braeden Anderson about using a different highway software program called I Worqs. The cost for the new software program is \$3,000 a year and the software program the highway department is currently utilizing from Twotrees is \$2,085 per year. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to stay with our current software vendor Twotrees. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten, to approve the following expense budget adjustments. Motion carried all voting aye.

Make adjustments to decrease the following budget line items:

1. Expense budget line 201-311-411 (Hwy Salary) \$8,492.64
2. Expense budget 201-311-428.2 (Hwy Fuel) \$345.95

Make adjustments to increase the following budget line items:

1. Expense budget line 101-615-411 (Weed Salary) \$8,492.64
2. Expense budget line 101-615-428.2 (Weed Fuel) \$345.95

Commissioner Clark asked Superintendent Vissia if some areas in the county needed to be mowed again and noted some areas where the ditches were getting tall. Vissia said not all areas in the county have been mowed yet. It was noted Hwy 16 could use another cut.

The Commission reviewed quotes from Butler Machinery for an extended warranty on the 2019 grader. The highway department had originally planned to purchase a grader in 2026. In order to get some road maintenance work done, cuts needed to be made in the highway budget for 2026. The Commission had Superintendent Vissia check into purchasing a 1-year warranty for the 2019 grader instead of getting a new one. This would free up some of the budget in order to get some of the contracted maintenance work done. After much discussion and consideration, a motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to purchase a 12-month 1,500-hour warranty from Butler Machinery for the 2019 grader in the amount of \$10,340 rather than purchasing a new grader. Motion carried all voting aye. The extended warranty will be purchased next year before the old warranty expires. Superintendent Vissia noted that if anything goes bad with the wiring, it will not be covered by the extended warranty.

Jamie VanZee from Brosz Engineering presented the Commission with an agreement with Nolz Dragline & Construction, Inc. for the Jackrabbit Bridge replacement project. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles, to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement with Nolz Dragline & Construction, Inc. for project BRF 6119(00) 25-2, PCN 0A6Y (Structure #02-097-056 – Jackrabbit Bridge). Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to authorize the Chairman to approve a work order from Brosz Engineering for construction engineering for project BRF 6119(00)25-2, PCN 06AY (Structure #02-097-056 – Jackrabbit Bridge). Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve a proposal from Brosz Engineering for a non-NBIS bridge inspection on 249th St. (Road #18) in the amount of \$2,600. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on taking core samples from the oil road north of White Lake. Superintendent Vissia said this will tell us a lot about the road before we do anything with it in the future. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Niles to accept the proposal from Brosz Engineering to take core samples on the White Lake Oil north for the amount of \$22,325. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on extending the Markhardt gravel agreement for another year. Superintendent Vissia said he spoke with Markhardt and said he is willing to negotiate an extension for another year.

It was noted that Commercial Asphalt was awarded the bid for patch mix earlier this year, but they were unable to provide any patch mix when the highway department needed some. Therefore, the highway department purchased hot mix from Knife River from Sioux Falls.

Highway Superintendent Vissia presented the Commission with an estimated cost to repair the spare 140H Grader. He stated the transmission was sent to Butler. Vissia told the Board that Butler made a list of everything that they recommended be repaired on the grader and said they did not believe anything was wrong with the engine. The cost to fix just the transmission is going to be \$72,000. Vissia said he would like to visit with them and go over the list to see what the highway can fix and get a firmer quote.

ROCS Dining Services Coordinator Kaylene Goehring and ROCS CEO Angela Waldner met with the Commission to answer questions and clarify things since their last meeting with the Commission. Also present was

Lois McCord representing the White Lake Senior Citizens and Becky Farber from Stickney arrived a short time later. It was noted that no meals are being provided in Plankinton right now because there is no one to provide meals and ROCS cannot find a volunteer to deliver the meals from Stickney. Chairman Dethlefsen asked Goehring if Stickney was able to prepare the meals for Plankinton along with Stickney and Corsica because it sounded like the cook in Stickney would not be able to handle meals for all three communities. Goehring said that is not true. The cook in Stickney, Becky Faber, has an assistant to help her, said Goehring. We need volunteers from Plankinton to pick up the meals in Stickney and deliver them back to Plankinton. Goehring said she talked with all the meal providers in Plankinton and said Roadside was not able to provide the service of preparing the meals. Commissioner Studeny asked if she spoke with the Plank Inn or the Roadhouse. Goehring said she did not. Commissioner Studeny suggested asking those two establishments to see if they would be able to provide the meals for Plankinton. Studeny also asked why Plankinton does not have a cook at their senior citizen site to prepare the meals. Goehring and Waldner said they do not have the money to start a site and hire a cook. Goehring said that every site is operating in the red. Waldner said what we need is support from the community and volunteers. The \$5 charge for each meal is only a suggested donation. Goehring said we cannot make them pay for the meal if they choose not to as it is considered a donation. We only get .40 on the dollar, said Goehring. Chairman Dethlefsen said the senior centers do fundraisers to help with the upkeep of their centers but the Commissioners were told by the senior citizens at the last meeting that ROCS told them they needed to do a fundraiser and send the money to help support ROCS. Goehring said ROCS has never asked the senior citizens to send money from their fundraisers to them, nor are they required to do so. They probably knew ROCS is struggling financially as well, so they chose to send the money to help support us, said Goehring. Lois McCord read a letter from the cook in White Lake. The letter stated all the money they make from their fundraisers goes into the account for the White Lake senior citizens and that ROCS has never asked for any of the money they made from their fundraisers. Commissioner Clark said they were told that an ad for volunteers to deliver meals for Plankinton was placed only in the Stickney paper. Clark thought it should have been in the Plankinton newspaper since it was the seniors in Plankinton that needed the meals delivered. Goehring stated that it was supposed to go in all newspapers, and she thought that it had been sent to all of them. The article written in the Plankinton paper did not

help, said Goehring, there was misinformation in the article. She said there are no commodities received by the centers nor is there any waste of food. Walder also noted that the senior centers cannot use any commodities and that the US Foods truck delivers items to each center and they utilize the local grocery stores if they can match what we get off the food truck. If there was such a waste of food, said Waldner, we would need to have a talk with the cook. Auditor Urban noted that Aurora County provides support for dining services for each center in the county and for 2026 ROCS has requested a total of \$7,290 with \$1,890 for the meals for the Plankinton seniors. What happens to the amount that was designated for Plankinton if we do not have any meals being served in Plankinton. Goehring said that she did not say ROCS was not going to serve meals in Plankinton, we just need to find volunteers to deliver them. Urban asked what happens to Plankinton's portion that the county pays if you do not find a volunteer. Waldner said the meals cost way more than what the county gives, so even though there are currently no meals in Plankinton, it won't take long to use that money up once they start up again. It was noted that a few senior citizens from Plankinton come to Stickney a couple times a week for meals. Commissioner Studeny asked how a senior citizen from Plankinton would know that they could go to Stickney for meals. Goehring said she sent out letters to individuals letting them know what the situation was in Plankinton since the Commerce Grill & Bar would no longer be providing meals. Studeny said he has eaten senior meals and never received a letter. Goehring said she handed them out to those who were present. The Commission said it would be great if we could get the meals from Stickney and have someone to deliver the meals to the Plankinton senior center. Chairman Dethlefsen said the County Commission appoints a county representative to sit on the ROCS Board and our representative, Commissioner Randy Niles, has never been invited to a meeting. Waldner said there has never been someone from Aurora County that has been on the ROCS board. Auditor Urban disagreed and told her there have been past Commissioners who have attended the ROCS board meetings every month and would often report back on what was happening. Waldner said their next meeting will be held on August 25th at 10:00 AM at the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce building and the representative from Aurora County is more than welcome to attend. The Commission thanked everyone for coming in and said we need to keep the lines of communication open.

4-H Program Assistant Brandi Shroyer met with the Commission to go over the proposals received from Joe Larsen regarding acoustic panels for the community/4-H building. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles, to accept the quote of \$6,658.52. Motion carried all voting aye. This option was recommended by Mr. Larsen. The acoustic tiles will cover 792 square ft., which will have full coverage in the building and a savings in the cost as well.

Welfare Director Susie Hanson presented the Commission with an indigent burial claim. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve the indigent burial claim #25001B and pay the flat burial fee of \$2,000. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Auditor, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, and Highway Superintendent to attend the annual county convention on September 8th & 9th in Pierre. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to authorize department heads to attend the quarterly Southeast Central District meeting in Sanborn County on August 13th if they wish to do so. Motion carried all voting aye.

As per SDCL 1-2513, the Commission reviewed the open meeting laws of this state as published by the Attorney General.

The Commission addressed some complaints regarding a recent disaster call/response with Emergency Manager Kehn.

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

Reports: July Payroll: Social Security 5,870.38; Medicare 1,372.85; Wellmark 27,914.12, Retirement 6,039.03; Kansas City Life 89.24; Commissioners 4,438.20; Auditor 7,777.81; Treasurer 6,591.78; States Attorney 5,387.71; Courthouse 2,485.56; Director of Equalization 6,292.12; Register of Deeds 5,060.48; Veteran's Service Officer 0.00; Sheriff 20,215.78; Welfare 768.81; Extension 2,951.10; Weed 1,312.54; Zoning 870.86; Hwy 34,515.68; EM&D 1,976.65; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.40. Auditor's Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,476.15; MMDA 1,718,159.22; CD's 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: Marriage Lic/Certs 0.00; Birth/Death Certs 40.00;

Preservation Fund 177.00; Driver's License 402.00; Copies 97.00; Other 0.00; Recording Fees 1,435.00; Transfer Fees 1,278.50.

CLAIMS:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| COMMISSIONERS | | |
| J & D CONTRACTING LLC | MOWING 7/28/2025 | 225.00 |
| S.D. MAIL OFFICE | JULY PUBLISHING | 404.90 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 629.90 * |
| JUDICIAL SYSTEM | | |
| DOUGLAS N PAPENDICK | CAA | 4374.50 |
| AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH | B/A (3) | 411.00 |
| REID KINER | CAA | 8816.50 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF HEALTH | EXPERT TESTIMONY | 400.00 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF HEALTH | B/A (2) | 165.00 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF HEALTH | BA (4) | 295.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 14462.00 * |
| AUDITOR | | |
| INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE | TAX DEPOSIT PENALTY | 853.90 |
| P M B 0112 | JUNE 2025 NETWORK ACCESS | 64.25 |
| S D A C C | CONVENTION IN PIERRE | 220.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 129.84 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | 25 - 26 SUPPORT AGREEMENT | 5325.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | 25 - 26 SUPPORT AGREEMENT | 420.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | MILEAGE INSTALLING OF COMPUTER | 112.90 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 6271.99 * |
| TREASURER | | |
| S D A C C | CONVENTION IN PIERRE | 220.00 |
| STAPLES | SUPPLIES - POWER STRIPS | 7.99 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 196.26 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | 25 - 26 SUPPORT AGREEMENT | 3180.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 3604.25 * |
| STATE'S ATTORNEY | | |
| MAIROSE AND STEELE | POSTAGE | 17.66 |
| MAIROSE AND STEELE | OVERHEAD CHARGE | 1300.00 |
| MAIROSE AND STEELE | REIMBURSEMENT | 5.00 |
| MAIROSE AND STEELE | LAW BOOKS | 821.18 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 2143.84 * |
| COURTHOUSE | | |
| PLANKINTON CITY | ELECTRICITY - COURTHOUSE | 1646.90 |
| PLANKINTON CITY | ELECTRICITY - HIST SOCIETY | 281.88 |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | GENERAL MAINT | 36.94 | |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | SUPPLIES | 50.13 | |
| ROADSIDE C - STORE | FUEL FOR LAWN MOWER | 31.32 | |
| SUSAN URBAN | AIR FRESHNERS - COURTHOUSE | 24.52 | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 113.10 | |
| VESTIS | SERVICES - MATS | 22.36 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 2207.15 | * |
| | | | |
| DIR. OF EQUALIZATION | | | |
| MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL | COPY PAPER | 48.99 | |
| S D A A O | BASICS COURSE - SAM | 400.00 | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 132.84 | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | 25 - 26 SUPPORT AGREEMENT | 4850.00 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 5431.83 | * |
| | | | |
| REGISTER OF DEEDS | | | |
| S D A C C | CONVENTION IN PIERRE | 220.00 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 220.00 | * |
| | | | |
| VA OFFICE | | | |
| S.D. MAIL OFFICE | JULY PUBLISHING | 54.00 | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 66.42 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 120.42 | * |
| | | | |
| SHERIFF | | | |
| AURORA COUNTY TREAS | TITLE & REG FOR 2025 FORD F150 | 17.00 | |
| HILLMANS REPAIR | OIL CHANGE IN ALL SHERIFF'S VE | 648.58 | |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | BATTERY | 5.29 | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 522.68 | |
| V I S A | POSTAGE TO MAIL EVIDENCE | 11.15 | |
| VERIZON | JUNE VERIZON FLEET | 63.80 | |
| VERIZON | JULY VERIZON FLEET | 63.80 | |
| VERIZON BUSINESS | CELL PHONE USAGE | 330.96 | |
| VERIZON BUSINESS | CELL PHONE PURCHASE & USAGE | 267.47 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 1930.73 | * |
| | | | |
| JAIL | | | |
| DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF | JULY JAIL HOUSING | 2310.00 | |
| MINNEHAHA COUNTY REGIONAL | JUNE JAIL HOUSING | 995.60 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 3305.60 | * |
| | | | |
| PUBLIC WELFARE | | | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 3.00 | |
| | | ----- | |
| | | 3.00 | * |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| MENTALLY HANDICAPPED | | |
| CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE | MONTHLY SUPPORT | 60.00 |
| DAKOTA COUNSELING INSTITUTE | JUL, AUG & SEPT - 3RD QTR 2025 | 762.50 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 822.50 * |
| DRUG & ALCOHOL | | |
| DAKOTA COUNSELING INSTITUTE | JUL, AUG & SEPT - 3RD QTR 2025 | 300.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 300.00 * |
| AG BUILDING | | |
| PLANKINTON CITY | ELECTRICITY - AG BLDG | 368.74 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 368.74 * |
| COUNTY EXTENSION | | |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 126.84 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 126.84 * |
| WEED | | |
| PLANKINTON CITY | WATER FOR SPRAYING COUNTY ROAD | 281.49 |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | OIL & GENERAL MAINT | 58.98 |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | SUPPLIES | 250.07 |
| ROADSIDE C - STORE | FUEL FOR WEED TRUCK | 154.80 |
| STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR | MATERIAL TO BUILD RACK | 90.00 |
| VERIZON | JUNE VERIZON FLEET | 24.91 |
| VERIZON | JULY VERIZON FLEET | 25.90 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 886.15 * |
| PLANNING & ZONING | | |
| MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL | COPY PAPER | 48.99 |
| S.D. MAIL OFFICE | JULY PUBLISHING | 78.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 126.99 * |
| R&B CONSTRUCTION | | |
| AVERA OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE | DRUG TEST - GERMAN | 49.00 |
| BROSZ ENGINEERING INC | ERICKSON BRIDGE ENGINEERING | 205.00 |
| BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY | GRADER REPAIRS | 770.64 |
| CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC | ELECTRIC - AURORA CTR & STORLA | 137.02 |
| DIAMOND MOWERS | MOWER REPAIRS | 113.35 |
| DOUG VISSIA | PATCH MIX | 4250.38 |
| FLEETPRIDE | TRAILER REPAIRS | 168.09 |
| GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY | FENCE POST & LIGHT BALLAST | 66.98 |
| HOMETOWN FAMILY HEALTH | DRUG TEST | 57.00 |
| INDEPENDENT VIKING GLASS INC | EXCAVATOR WINDOW | 240.00 |
| MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM | WATER - STORLA | 33.00 |
| NAPA CENTRAL | TRUCK REPAIRS | 58.95 |
| NAPA CENTRAL | LUBRICANT | 170.04 |

| | | |
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| NORTHWESTERN ENERGY | ELECTRIC - STICK & WL | 73.05 |
| PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES | SAFETY CLOTHING | 306.39 |
| PLANKINTON CITY | ELECTRICITY - HIGHWAY | 299.88 |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | MOWER, TRACTOR & TRUCK REPRS | 132.90 |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | LIGHT BULBS & DOOR HANDLE | 253.69 |
| RUNNINGS | CHAIN SAW REPAIRS | 23.99 |
| RUNNINGS | TOOLS | 34.28 |
| RUNNINGS | SAFETY CLOTHING | 50.99 |
| S D A C C | CONVENTION IN PIERRE | 220.00 |
| SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION | RIES BRIDGE ENGINEERING | 727.59 |
| STICKNEY WATER | WATER - STICKNEY | 98.75 |
| TOTAL OIL | DEF | 265.00 |
| TRANSOURCE | TRUCK REPAIRS | 184.06 |
| TRANSOURCE | LOADER LEASE | 6400.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | 25 - 26 SUPPORT AGREEMENT | 2085.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 132.84 |
| VERIZON | JUNE VERIZON FLEET | 65.88 |
| VERIZON | JULY VERIZON FLEET | 65.88 |
| VERIZON BUSINESS | CELL PHONE USAGE | 20.02 |
| VESTIS | SERVICES - MATS & RAGS | 12.53 |
| VOLLAN OIL | FUEL | 11306.55 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 29078.72 * |

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| E 911 SERVICE | | |
| GOLDEN WEST | E-911 SERVICES 8-1 TO 8-31-25 | 200.00 |
| MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO. | E-911 SERVICES 8-1 TO 8-31-25 | 357.44 |
| SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS | E-911 SERVICES 8-1 TO 8-31-25 | 30.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 587.44 * |

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|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| EM&D | | |
| PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY | SUPPLIES | 1078.08 |
| S.D. MAIL OFFICE | JULY PUBLISHING | 218.40 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 66.42 |
| VERIZON BUSINESS | CELL PHONE USAGE | 60.03 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 1422.93 * |

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| REGISTER OF DEEDS | | |
| MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL | 2 BOOKS - MORTGAGE & DEED | 1128.60 |
| MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS | MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL | 395.00 |
| TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES | CONNECT CARE | 193.26 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 1716.86 * |

| | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------|
| LAW LIBRARY | | |
| FORTE | COURTROOM AV UPGRADE | 5315.00 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 5315.00 * |

Total Checks: 81,936.78

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman
Aurora County Commission

Attest: _____
Susan Urban, Auditor

(Published once at the total approximate cost of _____)