

AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

October 16, 2025

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

The agenda was amended by adding senior citizen meals and executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2(1). 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 Hanten to approve the minutes of the October 2nd meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Board of County Commissioners set the date for the next biannual county employee meeting for Thursday, November 6th at 7:30 AM.

Chairman Dethlefsen reminded the Commission that Aurora County will be holding the South East Central District meeting on November 12th at 1:15 PM.

Chairman Dethlefsen asked Commissioner Niles if he has been attending the ROCS meetings every month. Randy said yes and that there is one coming up very soon. Dethlefsen asked Niles to get more clarification on what the senior meals cost. He noted the report the Commission received a while back does not add up and the charge per meal is extremely high. Dethlefsen also reported he has been told that the Stickney Senior Center will not be making meals on Fridays in order to cut expenses. He said the Friday meals will be prepared on Thursday and will be delivered on Thursday as well. Commissioner Niles will report back to the Board at the next regular commission meeting.

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

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the highway department employees to attend a 2-hour defensive driving training on October 23rd in Mitchell that is sponsored by Safety Benefits. Motion carried all

voting aye. Nancy stated that they are offering two sessions that day, so half the employees will attend a course at 9:00 AM and the second group at 1:00 PM.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to authorize Highway Secretary Nancy Beckman to attend the annual safety & loss control conference in Pierre on November 12th & 13th, which is sponsored by Safety Benefits. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Niles, seconded by Hanten to surplus the 2013 John Deere scarifier. Motion carried all voting aye. Discussion was held on whether to sell it online through the government surplus site, by sealed bids or offer it to other governmental entities. Highway Superintendent Vissia and Auditor Urban will go over the options and review the bid laws.

At the last meeting, Highway Superintendent Vissia informed the Commission that Greg Kroupa was not going to be able to honor his commitment on the motion/agreement that was made back in October of 2024. The motion that was made was to have Kroupa haul gravel from his own pit at \$6.00/ton with no charge for hauling or labor. The work was to be done on 7 miles of road in Patten Township. Since Kroupa is unable to supply the hauling and labor, the Commission talked about some other options to explore. One option is to pay \$5.00/ton since the county did the hauling and labor. Highway Secretary Beckman reported that the highway department hauled 106 loads in two days. Another option was to pay Kroupa the \$6.00/ton and have Kroupa compensate the county for the hauling and labor. The Commission directed Highway Superintendent Vissia to talk with Kroupa to see what he would be willing to do.

Discussion was held on getting rock from Gerrit Overweg that was paid for in 2021. Chairman Dethlefsen said we need to figure out how many truckloads of rock we have there and see if maybe we need to hire someone to haul it. Secretary Beckman confirmed that there is approximately 2,000 tons left to get. Superintendent Vissia said Gerrit calls us when he has some ready, but we just have not been able to get down there to get it as we have been busy hauling gravel in Patten Twp. Commissioner Hanten said we need to get the rock hauled as soon as possible. Even if we need to hold off on hauling gravel in Patten Township for a few days, said Hanten, just get it done, The Commission directed Superintendent Vissia to call Gerrit Overweg and check when he is available to get it loaded for the county.

Superintendent Vissia reported on the pre-construction meeting held last week for the replacement of the Jackrabbit Road Bridge. He said that work may start within the next couple of weeks. Vissia said once they start on it, the bridge and road will be closed until all the work is complete. Which means it will be closed this winter, said Vissia. Chairman Dethlefsen directed the highway department to put something in the papers to notify residents of when it will be closed.

Auditor Urban informed the Commission that the National Association of Counties (NACo) has asked counties throughout the United States to participate in Operation Green Light. She explained that Operation Green Light is a way to show support for our veterans by shining a green light on government buildings such as the county courthouse. This year is the 5th Anniversary of Operation Green Light, said Urban. In the past we have had one green light displayed in front of the courthouse, stated Urban. This year we would like to expand that by adding more green lights to shine on our beautiful memorial in front of the courthouse and pass a proclamation for Operation Green Light. I think this is the least we can do to show support for our veterans, stated Urban. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to approve the Proclamation for Operation Green Light. Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Studeny, aye; Hanten, aye; Niles, aye; Dethlefsen, aye. Motion carried.

OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the residents of Aurora County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Aurora County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers to help fellow former service members access federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Aurora County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Aurora County hereby declares November 4-11, 2025, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of those transitioning from active service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Aurora County will honor our Veterans by shining a green light on our veterans memorial; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Aurora County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4-11, 2025.

Dated this 16th Day of October 2025.

s/s Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman

ATTEST: Susan Urban, Auditor

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to approve the retail (on-sale) liquor license for Fish Lake Country Club, Inc. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Clark to approve the retail (on-off sale) Wine & Cider License for CC&F Retail, Inc. (Coffee Cup). Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve the retail (on-sale) liquor license for Firesteel Creek Hunting Lodge, Inc. Motion carried all voting aye.

Commissioner Studeny reported on the Tri-County Landfill meeting that was held by teleconference on October 7th. Studeny said they went over the recent audit findings report, a 4% raise in salaries, and a 4% rate increase for the haulers. He noted that the life expectancy for the current landfill holes is 20 plus years. Studeny reported the tonnage was down from a year ago, but the expenses were also down, so it was basically a wash.

A motion was made by Niles, seconded by Studeny to enter into executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel at 10:32 AM. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 11:07 AM with no official action taken.

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

CLAIMS:

COMMISSIONERS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	48.74

		48.74 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
THERESA MAULE ROSSOW	CAA	1125.82
THERESA MAULE ROSSOW	CAA	315.32
THERESA MAULE ROSSOW	CAA	882.13
AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH	B/A - (2)	274.00
SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF HEALTH	B/A - (6)	500.00

		3097.27 *
AUDITOR		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	57.88
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	TIMECLOCK	385.00

		442.88 *
TREASURER		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	75.06
QUILL CORPORATION	MISC RECEIPT BOOK	259.35
QUILL CORPORATION	MISC RECEIPT BOOKS	172.90

		507.31 *
STATE'S ATTORNEY		
MAIROSE AND STEELE	POSTAGE - AUG, SEPT & OCT	35.63
MAIROSE AND STEELE	OVERHEAD CHARGES - SEPT & OCT	1300.00
MAIROSE AND STEELE	FLASH DRIVES	40.00
MAIROSE AND STEELE	LAW BOOKS - SEPT & OCT	821.18

		2196.81 *
COURTHOUSE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	43.80
J & D CONTRACTING LLC	MOWING 8-7 & 9-27-25	450.00
J & D CONTRACTING LLC	RESEEDING TOP LAYER OF LAWN	1225.00
OLSON'S PEST TECHNICIANS	COURTHOUSE PEST CONTROL	90.00
PLANKINTON CITY	COURTHOUSE ELECTRICITY	1579.78
PLANKINTON CITY	HISTORICAL SOCIETY ELECTRICITY	241.75
SUSAN URBAN	EXTENSION CORD & LIGHTS	41.40
TRANE US INC	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE	6026.00
US BANK	COURTHOUSE CERT & INT PAYMENT	298540.00

		308237.73 *

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	82.97
JESSICA DURRIN	SD CARD READER FOR CAMERA	19.97
SAM SIMKINS	BASICS IN PIERRE - LODGING/FOO	660.74
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	INK FOR PRINTERS	373.00

		1136.68 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS		
GOLDEN WEST	TOLLS & INTERNET	80.26
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	ENVELOPES & RECIPE CARDS	60.99

		141.25 *
VA OFFICE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	62.21

		62.21 *
SHERIFF		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	117.34
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	53.28
HILLMANS REPAIR	OIL CHANGE - LEWIS	127.32
ROBERT T HENNRICH	EQUIP FOR NEW VEHICLE - NESS	3997.94
TK DESIGNS	DECALS FOR NEW SHERIFF VEHICLE	1150.00
TRI M TUNES	INSTALL EQUIP & RADIO FOR VEH	3935.20

		9381.08 *
JAIL		
BRULE COUNTY	AUGUST JAIL HOUSING	666.00
DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF	SEPTEMBER JAIL HOUSING	4305.00

		4971.00 *
NURSES OFFICE		
LACEY WIECZOREK	SUPPLIES	52.05

		52.05 *
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED		
DAKOTA COUNSELING INSTITUTE	OCT, NOV & DEC 2025 SUPPORT	762.50

		762.50 *
DRUG & ALCOHOL		
DAKOTA COUNSELING INSTITUTE	OCT, NOV & DEC 2025 SUPPORT	300.00

		300.00 *
AG BUILDING		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	105.25
OLSON'S PEST TECHNICIANS	AG BUILDING PEST CONTROL	70.00
PLANKINTON CITY	AG BLDG ELECTRICITY	195.43

			370.68 *
COUNTY EXTENSION			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	62.63	

			62.63 *
WEED			
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	LANDFILL ELECTRICITY	65.00	
GOLDEN WEST	INTERNET	4.94	
RUNNINGS	SPRAYER	449.99	
SKYLER KEHN	CELL PHONE STIPEND	20.00	

			539.93 *
PLANNING & ZONING			
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	INK FOR PRINTERS	373.00	

			373.00 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION			
A-OX WELDING	CUTTING TIPS	55.51	
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	GRADER REPAIRS	194.85	
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	FILTERS	251.70	
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	AUR CTR & STK ELECTRICITY	142.22	
DEPT OF AG & NATURAL RESOURCES	JACK RABBIT BRIDGE PERMIT	100.00	
DIAMOND MOWERS	MOWER BELT & BLADES	437.26	
DOUG VISSIA	CELL PHONE STIPHEND	50.00	
FLEETPRIDE	TRUCK REPAIRS	84.90	
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	118.44	
GRAHAM TIRE - SIOUX FALLS	TRUCK TIRES	1088.00	
MEYERINK FARM SERVICE	TRACTOR TIRES	52.10	
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM	STORLA WATER BILL	33.00	
NAPA CENTRAL	BULBS	54.56	
NAPA CENTRAL	WORK LIGHT, IMPACT WRENCH	358.38	
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	WHITE LAKE & STICKNEY ELECTRIC	73.73	
PLANKINTON CITY	HIGHWAY ELECTRICITY	168.21	
RUNNINGS	BINDER CHAIN	174.99	
RUNNINGS	FLAG	35.99	
SAFETY BENEFITS	SAFETY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	75.00	
STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR	REFILL OXYGEN CYLINDER	27.00	
TOTAL OIL	FUEL	7340.80	
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	COPIER REPAIR	80.00	
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	TONER	80.00	

			11076.64 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION			
SIR LINES-A-LOT TRAFFIC CONTRO STRIPING		4200.00	

			4200.00 *
E 911 SERVICE			

GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 10-1 TO 10-31	203.00
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 10-1 TO 10-31	357.44
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 10-1 TO 10-31	30.00

		590.44 *

EM&D		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	63.98
SKYLER KEHN	CELL PHONE STIPEND	30.00

		93.98 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
P M B 0112	MICROFILM STORAGE	72.36

		72.36 *

Total Checks: 34,8717.17 *

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman
Aurora County Commission

Attest: _____
Susan Urban, Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost _____.