

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 5, 2026

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve the agenda. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to approve the minutes from the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the Auditor to make a transfer of \$4,297.00 from the General Fund (101) into the Domestic Abuse Fund (229) for an operating transfer. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve Abatement #1059 in the amount of \$486.30 on the legal description of BAR in the SW ¼ of SE ¼ of 5-103-63. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the sheriff's office to purchase a new computer from Twotrees at a cost of \$1,692.10. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize Highway Superintendent Vissia to attend a short course in Deadwood on March 17-19. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Clark to set the annual bid letting date for March 5<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the Auditor to transfer \$314,306.01 out of the BIG reserves for the Jackrabbit Bridge project into the highway cash. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Auditor to make a transfer of \$150,000 from the General Fund (101) into the Highway Fund (201) for an operating transfer. Motion carried all voting aye.

Commissioner Hanten informed Superintendent Vissia that the patch mix must have broken out of the hole on Highway 16, so more asphalt mix is needed to be packed in it.

Commissioner Hanten thanked Vissia for blading the Lake Road and said it is much better now.

Commissioner Hanten stated that Road#7 needed to be bladed and said he was told that it had not been done for a while. It was noted that the highway report shows that the road was last bladed on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Hanten said he was passing on the information that had been given to him.

Discussion was held on replacing the mower in the highway department. It was recommended to get a new one and replace it every two years before the warranty runs out. Vissia said he is still waiting on some prices and once he gets all the quotes from everyone, he will present them to the Commission for consideration.

Chairman Dethlefsen told Vissia he thought the roads looked pretty good right now.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Auditor to sign the updated Intergovernmental Agreement with SDPAA. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve a Plat of Anderson's Addition in the SE ¼ of Section 2, T 105 N, R 63 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Aurora County, South Dakota. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve a Plat of Anderson's 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition in the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ and the SE ¼ of Section 2, T 105 N, R 63 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Aurora County, South Dakota. Motion carried all voting aye.

Magdalena Popek Hurst presented the County Commission with an Executive Proclamation that was signed by Governor Larry Rhoden recognizing First Responders. Many First Responders and City Officials from the communities in Aurora County were also in attendance for the presentation. Last fall, Popek Hurst met with the County Commission about hosting an event to raise awareness about safety and a way to show our appreciation to our First Responders. On November 6, 2025, the County Commission signed a Proclamation to declare the month of October as Aurora County First Responders Appreciation Month. Aurora County became the first county in South

Dakota to designate October as First Responders Appreciation Month. This inspired the entire state to recognize all First Responders as well. On January 21, 2026, Governor Larry Rhoden signed a new statewide Proclamation officially designating October 2026 as First Responders Appreciation Month across the State of SD. South Dakota now joins North Carolina and New Jersey in recognizing a full month dedicated to First Responders. The proclamation demonstrates gratitude for their sacrifice and service to our communities and a way to honor them. Magdalena informed the Commission that Aurora County will hold its first Safety Days in October 2026. It will be a two-day event and will include educational demonstrations focused on safety. Proceeds from the event will go to support our local first responders. The First Responders that were present were thanked for their sacrifice and service.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize 4-H Program Assistant Brandi Shroyer to close her office on March 16<sup>th</sup> for personal reasons. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve extra hours for Brandi Shroyer for a 4-H workshop on February 15<sup>th</sup> and a leader's meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

A workday is set for February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM to install the acoustic panels in the Community/4-H Building. An alternative date of February 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM was set just in case the first date does not work for everyone.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session at 10:28 AM as per SDCL 1-25-2(1) to interview applicants for the vacancy of Commissioner District 1. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Board out of executive session at 11:56 AM. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Studeny to appoint Daniel Bosworth to fill the vacancy of Commissioner District 1 effective February 19<sup>th</sup> until December 31, 2026. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session at 11:59 AM as per SDCL 1-25-2(6a). Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Board out of executive session at 12:10 PM with no action taken.

Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn discussed upgrading the phone system within the courthouse. He told the Commission that Golden West offers hosted phones and the package includes voicemail, call forwarding, and caller ID. The long distant calls will be billed at a rate of .05 per minute rather than the .11 per minute that we are currently

being charged. It could potentially save the county \$150 per month according to Kehn. If the county went this route it would do away with the antiquated phone system we currently have and the new system would be internet-based. Concerns were raised about issues with losing internet at times. Commissioner Studeny agreed with the concerns about the internet going down but also noted that it will only be a matter of time before we have to replace what we have and the cost could potentially be a lot higher. The Commission directed Skyer to visit with each office and get their input on the proposed system.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize Emergency Manager Kehn to proceed with applying for a homeland security grant for a project to add access control for each office. Motion carried all voting aye. The project for this grant will be to get away from key locks for each office and use a key FOB. He noted that due to the cost and availability of the grant, he would more than likely do a floor at a time. The grant will pay 100% of the project, said Kehn.

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

**Reports:** January Payroll: Social Security 5,879.19; Medicare 1,374.97; Wellmark 27,719.00, Retirement 6,206.21; Kansas City Life 89.24; Commissioners 3,683.44; Auditor 8,298.61; Treasurer 6,911.03; States Attorney 5,684.35; Courthouse 240.37; Director of Equalization 3,289.46; Register of Deeds 4,897.22; Veteran’s Service Officer 515.13; Sheriff 20,548.31; Welfare 856.27; Extension 2,901.69; Weed 1,317.76; Zoning 822.37; Hwy 38,146.97; EM&D 2,166.56; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.35. Auditor’s Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,889.24; MMDA 1,904,863.36; CD’s 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: Marriage Lic/Certs 70.00; Birth/Death Certs 55.00; Preservation Fund 135.00; Driver’s License 336.00; Copies 81.00; Other 0.00; Recording Fees 1,125.00; Transfer Fees 3,343.50.

**CLAIMS:**

COMMISSIONERS		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	1368.61
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		1368.61 *

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

GRAND JURY	JURY FEES & MILEAGE	377.20
DEVY ALVIZURES	INTERPRETING SERVICES	87.50
STEVE MEYER	CAA	624.00
STEVE MEYER	CAA	670.65
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		1759.35 *

AUDITOR

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	DARK BLUE BINDERS	151.68
P M B 0112	ACCESS FEES FOR DECEMBER	66.25
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	124.28
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		342.21 *

TREASURER

TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	187.92
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		187.92 *

COURTHOUSE

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	CLIPS FOR FLAGS & FLAGS	71.21
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	BATTERY	9.48
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	WHITE BOARD	27.99
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	VACUUM CLEANER & BATTERY	237.98
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	61.00
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		407.66 *

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION

CASEY SCHMIDT	BOOKS	625.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	127.28
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		752.28 *

VA OFFICE

TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	63.64
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		63.64 *

SHERIFF

HILLMANS REPAIR	OIL CHANGES - LEWIS & BRIGGS	114.58
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	910.23
TWO WAY SOLUTIONS INC	RADIO PROGRAMMING	35.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	560.76
V I S A	CABLE FOR COMPUTER	10.37
V I S A	TRANSPORT MEALS	21.53
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	318.96
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		1971.43 *

JAIL

DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF	NOVEMBER JAIL BILL	3990.00
LEWIS FAMILY DRUG LLC	INMATE MEDS (1)	120.45
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		4110.45 *
PUBLIC WELFARE		
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	3.00
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		3.00 *
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED		
YOUNGBERG LAW PROF	MI ATTY - JUVENILE	252.00
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		252.00 *
COUNTY EXTENSION		
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	124.28
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		124.28 *
WEED		
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL SERVI	WEED LICENSE RENEWAL	70.00
RUNNINGS	WINTERIZE TRUCK & FITTINGS	85.74
SDSU EXTENSION	ONLINE COURSE - FALK	30.00
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		185.74 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
BROOKS OIL COMPANY	PROPANE	300.00
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	ELECTRIC - AUR CTR & STORLA	213.52
FLEETPRIDE	TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIRS	467.31
FLEETPRIDE	STROBE LIGHTS, CABLE TIES	1185.55
HYDRAULIC WORLD INC	TRAILER REPAIRS	791.44
LYLE SIGNS	SIGNS	756.12
NAPA CENTRAL	PICKUP REPAIRS	325.61
NAPA CENTRAL	CLEANER, FLUID, FILTERS, OIL	1251.89
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC BILL - WL & STK	143.66
OVERWEG AUTO	TRUCK, ROAD GROOM & PICKUP REP	636.60
OVERWEG AUTO	FILTERS	163.64
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRIC & WATER PLANK SHOP	464.64
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	TRUCK REPAIRS	5.99
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	LUMBER, FOAM SEALANT, FLUID	421.14
RON'S MARKET INC	GARBAGE BAGS, GLUE, BAGGIES	23.59
RUNNINGS	RAIN SUIT	29.99
RUNNINGS	NATHAN'S SAFETY SEATSHIRT	84.99
S D A C H S	SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION	200.00
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	117.00
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	758.50
STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR	SKID LOADER REPAIR	326.58
STICKNEY WATER	WATER - STICKNEY SHOP	98.75
TRANSOURCE	TRUCK REPAIRS	283.15
TRANSOURCE	SEAT COVERS	133.07

TRANSOURCE	REPAIRS, SEAT COVERS, LEASE	3200.00
TWO WAY SOLUTIONS INC	RADIO REPAIR	58.99
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	BACK UP PROGRAM	149.95
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	127.28
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	20.02
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	PRINTER TONER	200.00
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		12938.97 *

E 911 SERVICE		
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 2-1 TO 2-28-26	200.00
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 2-1 TO 2-28-26	357.44
MITCHELL REGIONAL 911	TRAFFIC STOPS & CAPITAL FEES	9796.98
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 2-1 TO 2-28-26	30.00
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		10384.42 *

EM&D		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	WHITE BOARD	29.99
TWO WAY SOLUTIONS INC	RADIO MICROPHONE FOR EM & D	99.99
TWO WAY SOLUTIONS INC	RADIO FOR EM TRANSFER FOR SHFF	389.96
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	63.64
VERIZON BUSINESS	CELL PHONE USAGE	60.03
		-----
		643.61 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	395.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE	184.92
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		579.92 *

Total Checks: 36,075.49 \*

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 \_\_\_\_\_)