

AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

April 2, 2026

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

The agenda was amended by adding senior meals, re-designate Commissioner to ROCS Board, and remove Emergency Manager Kehn from the agenda. 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 March 19th meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

Commissioners Dethlefsen and Clark reported on the ROCS meeting that was held in Stickney last week with the senior citizens. It was reported by ROCS meals coordinator Kaylene Goehring and Director Angela Waldner that the Stickney Center is currently running in the red. It was stated that Stickney would need to come up with \$19,000 to make up the shortfall. Commissioner Dethlefsen said he asked ROCS why this was not caught sooner and was told that it was due to the previous Director. Commissioner Clark said there should be checks and balances so this type of thing does not happen. Dethlefsen and Clark also asked ROCS if Douglas County was contributing any money to the senior center in Stickney since Corsica is getting meals delivered there. No answer was given to that question, said Dethlefsen. They also asked where the money that had been paid last year for the Plankinton Senior Center went and were told that it was split evenly between the centers in White Lake and Stickney. Dethlefsen said they were not given an answer when it was asked what is going to happen to the center if Stickney does not come up with the shortfall. It was noted that there is a need for the seniors to come together and socialize, not just to eat a meal. Discussion was held on getting someone from Plankinton to pick up the meals and deliver them to the senior center in Plankinton so they can eat together and spend time socializing, etc..

Due to the time and day of the ROCS Board meetings, Commissioner Studeny asked to be removed as the County liaison and designate someone else to be the representative for Aurora County. A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to appoint Commissioner Clark as the county liaison for the ROCS Board. Motion carried all voting aye. The meetings are held on the last Monday of the Month at 10:00 AM in Mitchell.

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

Discussion was held on load limits. It was noted that most of the surrounding counties have removed their load limits and Brule County would be discussing theirs at the Commission meeting today. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Bosworth to authorize the highway department to take off the 6-ton load limit on county roads. Motion was carried all voting aye. The 80,000 lb. limit will still be in effect on all oil roads.

Superintendent Vissia told the Commission he had been approached by the Plankinton elevator and a contractor in the Kimball area to accept their contaminated soil at the Aurora County landfill site. Vissia stated the County currently charges \$25/ton for contaminated soil. The Commission told Doug to check how much the elevator would have and then see if there would be enough room to accept the soil from Kimball.

Fuel quotes were received as follows:

	MONTHLY QUOTE (4-2-26 to 5-7-26)			4 MONTH QUOTE (4-2-26 to 8-6-26)		
	#1 Diesel	#2 Diesel	Propane	#1 Diesel	#2 Diesel	Propane
Brooks Oil:	-----	\$4.051	\$1.30	-----	\$3.8975	\$1.30
Total Oil:	-----	\$4.10	-----	-----	\$4.15	-----

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark, to approve the 4-month quotes from Brooks Oil @ \$3.8975/gal for #2 Diesel, and propane at \$1.30. Motion carried all voting aye.

States Attorney Rachel Mairose and Treasurer Andrea Pryor informed the Commission that the Tax Deed property in Stickney has IRS liens on them and the IRS will not release them. It was noted that nobody would purchase it with those liens attached. Rachel and Andrea agreed and questioned if it should be sold knowing that the liens would not be written off. Andrea also asked how to proceed with notifying the public of this. Chairman Dethlefsen asked why this was being caught now. Andrea said she notified the IRS of the auction and did everything according to the law. Rachel said she was not aware the property was subject to the liens until recently. It was

suggested to put something in the paper notifying the public that the Stickney property would be pulled from the Auction that will be held on April 16th. Discussion was held on how to handle the property since it will not sell if IRS liens are attached to it. Rachel said the liens can be written off if the sale is done by a judicial auction and she knows what the process is to do this. The Commission agreed to have something put in the papers notifying the public that the Stickney property will be pulled from the sale and directed States Attorney Mairose to work on getting the IRS liens cleared up.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize extra hours for 4-H Program Assistant Brandi Shroyer to attend the leaders meeting on June 10th. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Bosworth to authorize 4-H Program Assistant Shroyer to attend a training on April 13th in Mitchell. Motion carried all voting aye.

In February, Veterans Officer Chapman invited the veterans of Aurora County to the courthouse for soup and sandwiches and presented information and answered questions after the meal. Chapman told the Commission she had a very good turnout and had received phone calls from the claims office letting her know that it was great to see a nice turnout for Aurora County and we had a better turnout than the Minnehaha County event.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Studeny to authorize VSO Chapman to attend a mini-conference on April 16th in Sioux Falls. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to allow time off and close the VSO office on the following dates: April 22nd, May 6th & 7th, June 25th (1/2 day), and the entire month of July. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize Director of Equalization Sam Simkins and Deputy Casey Schmidt attend a training on May 17th in Winner. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission all agreed to leave the current burn ban in place.

Plankinton School Superintendent Lezlie Larsen discussed the road right-of-way along Highway 16 by the old DJ's Drive In property that the school recently purchased. Larsen said that they were given the wrong information on the GIS maps obtained from District III. The school did not realize until after they purchased it that there was an extended right-of-way. Larsen told the Commission that the extended right-of-way is limiting the school on what they

might want to do with it and asked what options the school had in order to get some of that right-of-way. Register of Deeds Arlene Koch was also present and said typically the standard right-of-way is 66 ft., but this a 75 ft right-of-way. Koch thought the County could deed the extra right-of-way to the school but would have to check with the States Attorney. The Commission directed the Register of Deeds to check with the States Attorney about deeding or selling a portion of the right-of-way to the Plankinton School District.

Auditor Urban informed the Commission that the Opioid Settlement Fund has approximately \$12,000 in it. Originally the County had planned to have someone come in and speak to the students in the schools about drug addiction and its consequences, but before the county had enough funding to support that, a school district within the county had a speaker booked. States Attorney Mairose applied for the settlement funds and now it is time to decide how to spend it since there seems to be no feedback about getting a speaker according to Mairose. Urban suggested using the money to pay for the dues for the James Valley Drug Task Force that we belong to as that can be used for staff training or networking programs since it involves other counties. Also, the County supports Stepping Stones and Dakota Counseling and those programs would fall under intervention. It was noted that maybe the DARE program that is done by the Sheriff would qualify as an acceptable expense as well. A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Auditor to pay for these items with Opioid Funds as long as they qualify. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

REPORTS: March Payroll: Social Security 5,896.33, Medicare 1,378.97; Wellmark 30,045.90, Retirement 6,032.56, Kansas City Life 93.07; Commissioners 4,918.81; Auditor 7,863.47; Treasurer 6,626.04; States Attorney 5,487.17; Courthouse 907.49; Director of Equalization 5,687.19; Register of Deeds 4,562.10; Veteran's Service Officer 826.93; Sheriff 2,268.45; Public Welfare 759.13; Extension 2,869.24; Weed 693.74; Zoning 895.42; Hwy 35,513.28; EM&D 1,919.02; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.65. Auditor's Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 2,218.31, MMDA 1,563,613.59; CD's 942,140.00; Reg of Deeds Fees: Marriage Licenses/Certificates 15.00, Birth/Death Certificates 15.00, Preservation Fund 159.00, Driver's License 426.00, Copies 104.00, Other 0.00, Recording Fees 1,385.00; Transfer Fees 2,686.50.

CLAIMS:

COMMISSIONERS			
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	MARCH PUBLISHING	1585.72	

		1585.72	*
JUDICIAL SYSTEM			
STEVE MEYER	CAA	725.10	

		725.10	*
AUDITOR			
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	BINDERS	32.99	
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	LASER CHECKS	295.00	
P M B 0112	FEBRUARY ACCESS FEES	66.25	

		394.24	*
TREASURER			
QUILL CORPORATION	PRINTER CART & BINDER PAPER	636.81	
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	MARCH PUBLISHING	114.00	

		750.81	*
STATE'S ATTORNEY			
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - DEC, JAN, FEB & MAR	14.62	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - DEC, JAN, FEB & MAR	158.13	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - DEC, JAN, FEB & MAR	1950.00	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	REIMB - DEC, JAN, FEB & MAR	1231.77	

		3354.52	*
COURTHOUSE			
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	UNDER CABINET LIGHT FIXTURE	27.99	
MORRIS ELECTRIC LLC	LIGHTS IN BASEMENT	2333.50	

		2361.49	*
DIR. OF EQUALIZATION			
S D A A O	2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES	150.00	
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	MARCH PUBLISHING	144.00	

		294.00	*
SHERIFF			
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	LIGHT FIXTURE & BINDERS	15.51	
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PRINTER TONER	322.89	
CREATIVE PRODUCT SOURCING INC	TSHIRTS, CUPS & PINS	698.15	
HILLMANS REPAIR	OIL CHANGE - ROMAN	50.92	
M O C I C	MEMBERSHIP DUES - 2026	100.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MALCOLM COMPUTER	1199.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MILEAGE TO INSTALL COMPUTER	297.10	
V I S A	STAMPS	80.75	

V I S A	CLOROX WIPES	99.18

		2863.50 *
JAIL		
LEWIS FAMILY DRUG LLC	INMATE MEDS (2)	56.37

		56.37 *
R.O.C.S.		
RURAL OFFICE OF COMM SERVICE	ROCS BUS - 2026 SUPPORT	7000.00

		7000.00 *
AG BUILDING		
WHITE LAKE AMBULANCE	BATTERY & PADS FOR AED MACHINE	322.34

		322.34 *
PLANNING & ZONING		
CASEY SCHMIDT	ZIP TIES	6.97
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	MARCH PUBLISHING	84.00

		90.97 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
BROOKS OIL COMPANY	PROPANE	3935.54
DOUG VISSIA	PICKUP GAS	90.00
FASTENAL COMPANY	BOLTS, NUTS & WASHERS	113.63
LOCATORS & SUPPLIES INC	CLINT'S SAFETY JACKET	50.88
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC - WL & STK	157.76
PUTHOFF SALES & SERVICE INC	MOWER	15000.00
STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR	ROAD GROOM REPAIRS	451.79
STICKNEY WATER	WATER BILL - STICKNEY SHOP	98.75
VESTIS	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	51.03

		19949.38 *
E 911 SERVICE		
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 4-1 TO 4-30-26	357.44

		357.44 *
EM&D		
SKYLER KEHN	TABLET MOUNT FOR PICKUP	247.07

		247.07 *
	Total Checks:	40,352.95 *

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman
Aurora County Commission

Attest: _____
Susan Urban, Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost _____.