

AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

July 16, 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. Dan Bosworth was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public input: Commissioner Studeny noted that he had board member from Hopper Township talk to him about the National Food Road and who is responsible for repairing it. Studeny said he was told the road is hardly usable, so now National Food is using other roads to get to National Foods and damaging township roads. This will be discussed with the highway superintendent when he meets with he Commission.

The agenda was amended by adding speed zone resolution and track skid loader lease. 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 regular meeting for July 2, 2026. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to authorize any member of the county weed board to sign documents pertaining to the weed department that need to be signed until there is a weed supervisor hired. Motion carried with Clark, Studeny, and Hanten voting aye. Dethlefsen abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize Emergency Manager Lawron Bohr to attend the 2026 SDEMA conference in Spearfish on September 16th & 17th. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize highway secretary Nancy Beckman and maintenance worker Steven Nussbaum to attend the SDACHS highway superintendent certification and highway office personnel workshop in Pierre on August 12th. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on purchasing gravel from Greg Kroupa. Chairman Dethlefsen asked if there was money in the budget for this and Vissia confirmed there was. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Clark to authorize

the highway department to purchase 25,000 ton of gravel from Kroupa at \$5.00/ton. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission told Superintendent Vissia to find out how long we would be able to keep a pile there.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve a change order from Nolz Dragline & Construction for Project BRF 6119(00)25-2, PCN 0A6Y on Structure #02-097-056 (Jackrabbit Bridge) to adjust and reconcile the actual quantities versus the original. The change order shows a decrease of \$9,458.25 from the original cost. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve payment to Nolz Dragline & Construction for Project BRF 6119(00)25-2, PCN 0A6Y on Structure #02-097-056 (Jackrabbit Bridge) in the amount of \$143,513.37. Motion carried all voting aye.

Earlier this year, the Commission discussed changing the speed zone by the White Lake School. States Attorney Mairose drafted a resolution for the Commission to consider. It was noted that Mairose had contacted the school about the proposed changes and Mr. Gottlob brought them to the school board meeting and they had no concerns with the change. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Studeny to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SPEED ZONES ON HIGHWAY 16 NEAR WHITE LAKE. Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Studeny, aye; Hanten, aye; Dethlefsen, aye. Motion carried.

AURORA COUNTY RESOLUTION
A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SPEED ZONES ON HIGHWAY 16 NEAR WHITE LAKE

WHEREAS, the Aurora County Commission may determine and establish speed zones upon all or any part of the highways under its jurisdiction, as authorized by SDCL 32-25-9.1, and

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interest of the residents of Aurora County to re-establish speed zones on Highway 16 on the east side of White Lake;

WHEREAS, the speed limit on Highway 16 on the east side of White Lake was previously set by resolution of this Board on June 21, 2018, to 30 miles per hour, and said zone was amended by resolution of this Board on October 6, 2022, to 20 miles per hour for a certain distance before increasing to 40 miles per hour before increasing again to 55 miles per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the speed limit on Highway 16 beginning at the intersection of Highway 16 and 374th Ave (Main Street of White Lake) heading east shall be 30 miles per hour for 2,350 feet, then shall increase to the speed of 45 miles per hour for the next 1,150 feet, then shall increase to the speed of 55 miles per hour until otherwise marked.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a sign shall be placed notifying west bound traffic on Highway 16 that the speed shall be reduced from 55 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour 1,050 feet before the 45 miles per hour zone commences.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the speed limits established herein shall be effective upon the posting of the speed limit signs by the County Highway Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the prior resolution dated June 21, 2018 and as amended October 6, 2022, shall be null and void upon adoption of this Resolution.

Motion made by: Roger Hanten

Seconded by: John Paul Studeny

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Dated this 16th day of July, 2026.

S/s Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairperson
Aurora County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Susan Urban, Auditor

Superintendent Vissia noted they have some big culvert projects to do and discussed leasing a track skid loader to use for these projects. He stated the skid loader he would like to lease is bigger than the skid loader the county has. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Studeny to authorize the highway department to lease a track skid loader at \$4,500/month for up to two months if needed. Motion carried all voting aye.

It was noted that Superintendent Vissia is doing the spot spraying since we do not currently have a weed supervisor.

Discussion was held on the National Food Road that was brought up by Commissioner Studeny during the public comment. Nancy said she found an agreement that was signed by National Food several years ago. It was questioned whether or not that agreement would still be in effect since has different owners. It was suggested to have States Attorney Mairose check into this and have Doug talk to the manager of National Foods as well.

Coleen Hoffman Executive Director of Safe Place of Eastern SD along with board member Tye Harris provided updates and information on the services they provide. Coleen noted the number of clients has increased and they have been pretty full at their new facility. Harris told the Commission they serve 9 counties and it is nice to have

board members outside of Mitchell so they can share the needs of their county. Hoffman informed the Commission that they provide training to local law enforcement agencies on domestic violence so they are prepared to handle domestic situations. She also noted that Aurora County had an officer attend the training. Hoffman told the Commission that funding from the state and federal level have been unstable over the past few years, but funding from the cities and counties has been very stable and she appreciates that. Safe Place of Eastern SD is requesting \$3,500 for support from the County in 2027. The Commission thanked Coleen and Tye for taking the time to meet with them.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to authorize Auditor Urban, Treasurer Pryor, Reg. of Deeds Koch, and Hwy. Superintendent Vissia to attend the SD Counties convention in Sioux Falls on September 15th & 16th. Motion carried all voting aye.

ROCS Dining Services Director Megan Hogle introduced herself as the new Director for the senior meals. She began her duties in May and is looking forward to working with Aurora County. ROCS is requesting support for the senior meals in White Lake and Stickney for 2027. White Lake dining services is projected to serve 418 meals per month and ROCS is asking \$3,260.40 from the county to support those meals. Stickney dining services is projected to serve 357 meals per month and ROCS is asking \$2,784.60 from the county for support in 2027. Chairman Dethlefsen asked Hogle what the plan was for Plankinton senior meals. She stated she is working on getting something started again. Hogle said she would like to get a volunteer to deliver meals to Plankinton and possibly pay them mileage and see how that goes first. If there is a good response and it goes well, ROCS will more than likely hire a part-time person for Plankinton. Commissioner Studeny stated that the seniors in Plankinton are losing out on the socialization part and said when meals are delivered here they are just being dropped off at their houses. Hogle said her goal is to build up the program so the seniors can enjoy a meal and socialize in one place. Chairman Dethlefsen said the benefits were pulled from the Stickney staff and it is going to be hard to keep someone to do this if there are no benefits. We need to work on building and increasing the meal count in order for that to happen, said Hogle. She also said she cannot speak for what has happened in the past, but she is here now and her goal is to get things going in the right direction. Hogle said she is going to work on building relationships back up with the senior program in Plankinton. It was noted by Chairman Dethlefsen that the County would like a representative at their monthly ROCS meetings so we

are kept in the loop. Hogle said the meetings are always held on the last Monday of the month and start at 10:00 AM at the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce.

ROCS Transit Director Andrea Irwin informed the Commission that the transit services received a 10% cut from the State of SD this year. She informed the Commission that there are more out of town rides so it was not feasible to keep the driver here. Irwin stated that Aurora County is now combined with Wessington Springs to serve individuals more effectively. Typically, when a transit driver leaves Wessington Springs they have to come south to the interstate anyway to go to Mitchell or Sioux Falls so they can stop in Plankinton to pick someone up. In addition, there are clients who come to Plankinton for services with the two clinics here. The average for Aurora County is 100 rides per month. Federal and State grants cover about ½ of the funds to support the transit program, said Irwin. ROCS Transit serves 5 counties, Aurora, Jerauld, Sanborn, Brule, and Davison. The transit program does not provide services inside the City of Mitchell because they have their own transportation services. There are four drivers based in Wessington Springs. ROCS Transit is requesting \$11,410 for 2027 compared to the \$7,000 for 2026. The Commission thanked both Andrea and Megan for taking the time to meet with them.

Health Nurse Lacey Wieczorek met with the Commission for her bi-annual update. She informed the Board that she will begin her duties as school health nurse beginning August 1st and will no longer be providing pregnancy care. Wieczorek stated the State will be hiring a nurse to cover Aurora County for clients that need the pregnancy care. She said she can still do immunizations here if she is available.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to pay vouchers as listed below. Motion carried all voting aye.

Reports: Wheel Tax: Cities \$1,383.33, Townships \$939.81

CLAIMS

COMMISSIONERS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	48.82

		48.82 *
ELECTIONS		
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	RUNOFF ELECTION BALLOT SETUP/P	657.74

		657.74	*
JUDICIAL SYSTEM			
S D A C C	3RD QTR CATASTROPHIC LEGAL	2044.00	
SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT OF HEALTH	B/A - (3)	150.00	

		2194.00	*
AUDITOR			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	85.72	
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	250.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	124.28	

		460.00	*
TREASURER			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	94.53	
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	250.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	187.92	

		532.45	*
STATE'S ATTORNEY			
MAIROSE AND STEELE	POSTAGE	45.24	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	SERVICES - TAX DEED SALE	300.00	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	OVERHEAD	2600.00	
MAIROSE AND STEELE	BOOKS	1745.01	
THOMSON * WEST	CRIMINAL & MOTOR VEHICLE LAW	576.00	

		5266.25	*
COURTHOUSE			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	43.88	
MIDWEST ALARM	DOOR STRIKE IN BACK OF CH	1289.79	
PLANKINTON CITY	HISTORICAL ELECTRICITY	158.81	
PLANKINTON CITY	COURTHOUSE ELECTRICITY	1576.39	
TRANE US INC	LEAK IN THE HEATING & COOLING	1281.12	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	61.00	

		4410.99	*
DIR. OF EQUALIZATION			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	67.97	
S D A A O	SCHOOL FOR CASEY	400.00	
S D A A O	SCHOOL FOR SAM	500.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	127.28	

		1095.25	*
REGISTER OF DEEDS			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	71.05	

S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	250.00	

		321.05	*
VA OFFICE			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	41.43	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	63.64	

		105.07	*
SHERIFF			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	142.65	
HILLMANS REPAIR	OIL CHANGE - LEWIS	50.92	
OVERWEG AUTO	TIRES (3) - LEWIS	771.75	
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	BATTERIES (2)	15.58	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	560.76	
VERIZON	CELL PHONE & HOPTSPOT USAGE	318.92	

		1860.58	*
JAIL			
DAVISON COUNTY SHERIFF	INMATE JAIL HOUSING - JUNE	8190.00	

		8190.00	*
PUBLIC WELFARE			
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	3.00	

		3.00	*
R.O.C.S.			
RURAL OFFICE OF COMM. SERVICE	WHITE LAKE DINING SERVICES	3132.00	
RURAL OFFICE OF COMM. SERVICE	STICKNEY DINING SERVICES	2268.00	

		5400.00	*
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED			
FOX LAW FIRM	MI ATTY	109.75	

		109.75	*
AG BUILDING			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	105.33	
PLANKINTON CITY	AG BLDG ELECTRICITY	351.34	

		456.67	*
COUNTY EXTENSION			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	59.78	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	124.28	

		184.06	*

WEED		
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	ELECTRICITY	70.00

		70.00 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
BROOKS OIL COMPANY	FUEL	3702.63
BROSZ ENGINEERING INC	JACK RABBIT BRIDGE ENGINEERING	4901.00
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	ELECTRIC BILL - AUR CTR & STOR	148.55
DOUG VISSIA	CELL PHONE STIPEND	50.00
FASTENAL COMPANY	FLAG MATERIAL	60.96
FIRESTEEL TOWNSHIP	RAIF FUND - CULVERT COST	13117.61
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	118.48
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM	WATER BILL - STORLA	34.00
NOLZ DRAGLINE & CONSTRUCTION	FINAL JACK RABBIT BRIDGE PMT	143513.37
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - PLANKINTON	360.93
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	BATTERIES	13.17
RON'S MARKET INC	REMOTE BATTERY	2.85
S D A C C	HIGHWAY PERSONNEL WORKSHOP	60.00
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	250.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	127.28
VERIZON	TABLET USAGE	20.02
WILLIAMS OFFICE EQUIP REPAIR	TONER	200.00

		166680.85 *
E 911 SERVICE		
MITCHELL REGIONAL 911	JULY E-911 CONTRACT SERVICES	3995.25
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 7-1 TO 7-31-26	200.00
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 7-1 TO 7-31-26	30.00

		4225.25 *
EM&D		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	39.38
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	63.64
VERIZON	TABLET & HOTSPOT USAGE	60.03

		163.05 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	395.00
P M B 0112	MICROFILM STORAGE	61.64
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	MONTHLY CONNECT CARE	184.92

		641.56 *

Total Checks: 203,076.39 *

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman
Aurora County Commission

Attest: _____
Susan Urban, Auditor

(Published once at the total approximate cost of _____)