AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

October 1, 2026

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

The agenda was amended by adding ROCS report. 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 Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to approve the minutes of the September 17th meeting. Motion carried all voting aye.

Commissioner Bosworth reported on the ROCS meeting that he attended on Monday in Mitchell. He stated that each Senior Citizen Center has to contribute 18%. Bosworth was told that sometimes a Center does not have enough funds to contribute the 18% due to various reasons. If that happens, said Bosworth, then ROCS has to pull from somewhere else to make that up. He noted that income is not always steady and the Center does not reach the 18% due to serving fewer meals or not collecting enough for the meals. It's never a steady number, said Dan. Chairman Dethlefsen asked if they were making any progress in getting senior meals set up for Plankinton. Bosworth stated that they are working on it, but nothing as of yet. Commissioner Studeny stated that Plankinton needs to find meals from somewhere and noted that the Plank Inn was serving meals for the senior citizens in Plankinton on their own, but they are now closed. Chairman Dethlefsen stated that the best solution right now would be to find someone to transport the meals from either the Stickney or White Lake Centers and deliver them back to the Plankinton Senior Center until a cook can be found. Commissioner Bosworth will check to see if mileage will be paid if someone is willing to deliver.

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

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize Vissia and Beckman to attend the Annual Safety Loss & Control Conference in Pierre on November 4th & 5th. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission considered an opportunity of buying a new payloader with a lease to purchase option. Prices for this option were received from RDO, Butler, and Volvo. Vissia stated there is a lot of information to look over regarding a payment program, warranty, etc., so he asked the Commission to take it home to read through each proposal before deciding. Discussion was held on possibly downgrading to a different model to make it cheaper. Chairman Dethlefsen stated if we do that we will need to see what we are not getting or losing, but it may be worth looking into. It was also suggested to purchase a leased machine at a lesser price instead of getting a brand new one. Vissia will check into these options.

A haul road template was distributed to the Commission to review before a haul road agreement comes into play for the Basin Electric wind tower upgrade project. Vissia said he wanted the Commission to look it over to see if there is anything that the county needs to add such as aggregate, having a more rounded rock than a sharper rock that would puncture tires. Vissia also said he would like to have a consultant, such as Brosz Engineering, to drive the road and check it out. This cost would be at Basin Electric's expense because they want to use our road, said Vissia. Having a consultant would help make sure the road is put back to the way we want it. Chairman Dethlefsen said the Commission will read through it and discuss it at the next meeting. He also asked Vissia to call Brosz Engineering to see what it would cost for them to be the consultant for the potential haul road.

Commissioner Hanten informed Vissia that the holes North of White Lake need to be filled in. Hanten also stated he is not very happy with the mastic repair done on the White Lake Oil. Hanten said it was not put on very smooth.

Discussion was held on weed spraying this fall. Chairman Dethlefsen will contact Austin Shroyer to see when he plans to start.

Commissioner Bosworth addressed Old Hwy 16 and stated that something needs to be done with it to make it so it's not so rough.

Discussion was held on caulking the courthouse windows and re-seeding the front lawn. Bosworth stated the lift is here whenever we are ready to caulk the windows. As for the lawn, Clark said he will let Doug know when the manure pile has dried out some so the highway department can start hauling it for the re-seeding project.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Bosworth to enter into executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for personnel at 10:00 AM. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 10:09 AM with no official action taken.

Director of Assessments Sam Simkins presented a Plat for approval. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve a Plat of Lot A of Anderson's Addition in the SE ¼ of Section 2, T 105 N, R 63 W of the 5th P.M., Aurora County, SD. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on setting a fee for Plats. Zoning Director Simkins told the Commission she has checked with surrounding counties to see if they charge anything for Plats. Brule Co charges $100, Jerauld Co charges $150, Davison Co charges $100, and Douglas Co charges $250. After comparing what other counties charge, a motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Zoning Board to charge $150 per plat. The effective date will be upon approval of the Zoning Board. Motion carried all voting aye.

Assessor Sam Simkins informed the Commission there is a District 4 meeting on October 14th in Mitchell. She stated that after seeing the agenda, the only thing she would be interested in is the new laws that have recently passed and would like to know how other counties are handling them. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Bosworth to authorize Sam and Casey to attend the district meeting if they choose to go. Motion carried all voting aye.

Sam informed the Commission that Casey Schmidt passed her CAA test, so she is now certified.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Studeny to enter into executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for personnel at 10:26 AM. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 10:43 AM with no official action taken.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session to conduct interviews for Weed Supervisor as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 10:43 AM. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 11:07 AM. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to offer the Weed Supervisor position to Jason Wolbrink at $19.00/hour. Motion carried all voting aye. There will be a probation period of 6 months if he accepts.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session at 11:12 AM as per SDCL 1-25-2 (3). Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 11:35 AM with no official action taken.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Bosworth to enter into executive session at 11:36 AM as per SDCL 1-25-2 (3). Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 12:00 PM with no official action taken.

A motion was made by Bosworth, seconded by Studeny to approve an operating transfer of $41,568 from the General Fund into the Emergency Management Fund. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission discussed setting dates to caulk the courthouse windows, re-seed the lawn, and fix the sound panels at the ag building. Commissioner Clark said the highway department will need to incorporate some good dirt into the manure. He will let Doug know when the manure pile dries up. It was noted the windows should be caulked first before any dirt work is one on the lawn. Clark said he stopped at Great Plains Lumber and inquired about getting caulk from them and will have some available when we are ready to start the window project. Chairman Dethlefsen noted that he would like to get the panels fixed at the Community/4-H Building before Safety Days next weekend. The date for fixing the sound panels is October 4th at approximately 4:00 PM.

Discussion was held on the trade in values from Lamb Motor for the sheriff's vehicles. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Bosworth to authorize Sheriff Briggs to trade in the 2023 Ford F 150 ($12,000) and the 2021 Chevy Tahoe ($11,000) to Lamb Motor when the new patrol vehicle gets here. Motion carried all voting aye.

As per new reimbursement rates set by the State of SD, a motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to increase the lodging rate from $110/night plus tax to $113/night plus tax as well as the mileage reimbursement rate from .70/mile to .76/mile. The mileage rates will only be paid if an employee has to use their own vehicle to travel when no county vehicle is available and permission to use personal vehicle is approve by Commission in advance of travel. The new rates are effective October 1, 2026. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

Reports: September Payroll: Social Security 5,893.00; Medicare 1,378.19; Wellmark 29,601.56, Retirement 6,198.62; Kansas City Life 108.39; Commissioners 4,591.80; Auditor 8,033.47; Treasurer 6,775.19; States Attorney 5,564.23; Courthouse 3,122.50; Director of Equalization 5,803.34; Register of Deeds 4,463.60; Veteran's Service Officer 764.98; Sheriff 20,414.63; Welfare 797.09; Extension 1,310.48; Zoning 856.53; Hwy 37,471.54; EM&D 1,811.03; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.55. Auditor's Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,458.62; MMDA 1,339,140.31; CD's 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: Marriage Lic/Certs 175.00; Birth/Death Certs 35.00; Preservation Fund 117.00; Driver's License 378.00; Copies 595.00; Other 100.00; Recording Fees 975.00; Transfer Fees 348.00.

CLAIMS:

COMMISSIONERS			
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	SEPTEMBER PUBLISHING	478.37	
		478.37	*
JUDICIAL SYSTEM			
GRAND JURY		71.00	
AVERA PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVIC	B/A - (1)	137.00	
		208.00	*
AUDITOR			
BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA	LODGE FOR CONVENTION IN SF	55.00	
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	CALENDAR & CALENDAR REFILL	20.97	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	127.28	
V I S A	MONTHLY PAYMENT - CONNECT TEAM	238.00	
		441.25	*
TREASURER			
BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA	LODGE FOR CONVENTION IN SF	110.00	
QUILL CORPORATION	TONER	83.36	
QUILL CORPORATION	TONER	173.12	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	187.92	
		554.40	*
COURTHOUSE			
FINK PLUMBING	FIX FAUCETS IN THE COURTHOUSE	1338.57	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	61.00	
		1399.57	*

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION			
CASEY SCHMIDT	MEALS - SCHOOL	108.00	
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	SEPTEMBER PUBLISHING	66.00	
SAM SIMKINS	MILEAGE TO SCHOOL	184.80	
SAM SIMKINS	MEALS AT SCHOOL	108.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	130.28	
		597.08	*
REGISTER OF DEEDS			
BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA	LODGE FOR CONVENTION IN SF	55.00	
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	CALENDAR	6.99	
		61.99	*
VA OFFICE			
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	2027 CALENDAR	6.99	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	63.64	
		70.63	*
SHERIFF			
SD DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	TELETYPE RENTAL 7-1 TO 12-31	2340.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	563.76	
		2903.76	*
JAIL			
BRULE COUNTY	AUGUST JAIL HOUSING	304.00	
DENTAL CARE CENTER	MEDICAL - (1)	125.00	
		429.00	*
PUBLIC WELFARE			
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	3.00	
		3.00	*
COUNTY EXTENSION			
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	124.28	
		124.28	*
WEED			
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	LANDFILL ELECTRICITY	70.00	
		70.00	*
PLANNING & ZONING			
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	SEPTEMBER PUBLISHING	72.00	
		72.00	*
R&B CONSTRUCTION			

BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA	LODGE FOR CONVENTION IN SF	110.00	
DOUG VISSIA	STARTER FOR STKY LAWN MOWER	55.08	
FASTENAL COMPANY	NUTS, BOLTS, WASHER, CABLE TIE	114.00	
SD FEDERAL PROPERTY AGENCY	TOOLS	71.50	
GRAHAM TIRE - SIOUX FALLS	TRUCK & TRAILER TIRES	1463.10	
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	NUTS, WASHERS LANDFILL DOOR	18.21	
LYLE SIGNS	CULVERT MARKERS	1672.89	
PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES	SAFETY CLOTHING	301.57	
RON'S MARKET INC	BATTERIES	6.79	
RUNNINGS	ZERKS, SWITCH	132.97	
RUNNINGS	DOUG'S STEEL TOED BOOTS	124.99	
SAFETY BENEFITS	SAFETY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	150.00	
STICKNEY WATER	WATER BILL - STICKNEY SHOP	98.75	
TOTAL OIL	FUEL	6468.61	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	127.28	
		10915.74	*
E 911 SERVICE			
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 9-1 TO 9-30-26	200.00	
MITCHELL REGIONAL 911	SEPTEMBER SURCHARGE PAYMENT	3938.50	
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 9-1 TO 9-30-26	30.00	
		4168.50	*
EM&D			
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	CALENDAR	6.99	
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	SEPTEMBER PUBLISHING	109.20	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	63.64	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	VIDEO & BODY CAM STORAGE DEVIC	728.00	
		907.83	*
REGISTER OF DEEDS			
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	395.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	SEPTEMBER CONNECT CARE	184.92	
		579.92	*
	Total Checks:	24037.72	*

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

_____
Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman
Aurora County Commission

Attest: _____
Susan Urban, Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost _____.