

April 8, 2025

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met for equalization on April 8, 2025, in the Miner County Courthouse Commission room. Members present: Joe Bechen, Kathy Faber, Tim Neises, Kari Jo Carlson and Mike Clary. Members absent: none. Director of Equalization Tami Severson was also present.

Chairman Bechen called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. It was moved by Faber, seconded by Neises, and carried to approve the agenda.

It was moved by Clary, seconded by Neises and carried to authorize the auditor to pay the following claims: Alliance \$150.00, Santel \$30.00 **911 CHARGES**; ICAP \$796.09 **COMMUNITY ACTION PMT**; HFCA \$1,270.47 **FUEL**; Safe Place of Eastern SD \$650.00 **GRANT**; Motorola Solutions \$412.32 **HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**; Stamp Fulfillment Services \$2,219.30 **POSTAGE**; Beadle Co Sheriff \$95.00 **PRISONER CARE**; Miner County Pioneer \$1,083.53 **PUBLISHING**; Microfilm Imaging \$470.00 **RENT**; Dakota Body Shop \$85.00, Howard Auto Clinic \$52.50, HFCA \$96.35, Two Trees Tech \$935.00 **REPAIRS**; Relx, Inc. \$188.00 **SUBSCRIPTION**; Amazon \$128.02, Dakota Data Shred \$108.07, Home Service Water \$40.60, HFCA \$3,094.00, Rusty's \$306.58, Shane's Hardware \$90.96 **SUPPLIES**; Alliance \$939.19 **TELEPHONE**; HFCA \$11.24, Cheryl Moore \$35.47, Kent Terwilliger \$40.00 **TRAVEL**; Central Electric \$75.66, City of Howard \$2,438.36 **UTILITIES**.

Commissioners received the following correspondence: Veterans Service Officer March Report.

The board members took their oaths of office serving as the Board of Equalization.

Treasurer Jessica Charles informed the board she has received 34 applications and approved 28 applications for the freeze on assessments of disabled and senior citizens and requested the board instruct the Director of Equalization to make those changes to the assessment roll. Motion by Faber, seconded by Clary and carried to authorize the director to make the changes for the applications submitted to and approved by the treasurer for 2025.

Director of Equalization Tami Severson presented information on applications for disabled veteran exemption; four were approved for 2025. Motion by Neises, seconded by Carlson, and carried to authorize the Director of Equalization to make changes on the assessment rolls to reflect the qualifying applications for the Disabled Veterans Exemption.

It was moved by Clary, seconded by Faber and carried to approve 38 annual applications for continued tax-exempt status (SDCL 10-4-19) for Miner County Historical Society, Fedora

Fire Department, Evangelical Good Samaritan Society, Horizon Health Care, Carthage Museum & Historical Society, Orville Redding American Legion Post #61, Nels Pederson American Legion Post #145, townships, churches, and cemeteries throughout Miner County.

Discretionary was 88 parcels with a taxable loss \$3,694,176. The 2025 factors were AG=.850 and NonAg=.908.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Faber and carried to authorize the Director of Equalization to make the following clerical adjustments on the assessment rolls:

#3420 Lots 5-6-7 & 8 Block 1 Carthage City-Windedahl's

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#3419 Lots 3 & 4 Block 1 Carthage City-Windedahl's

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#3430 Lot 19 of SW4 7-108-57 Carthage City-Outlots

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#3418 Lot 2 Block 1 Carthage City-Windedahl's

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#3304 Lots 5 & 6 Block 23 Carthage City-OP

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#1007 Lot 11 of NE4 11-106-56

➤ Change to Owner Occupied Classification

#3372 Lots 7-8 & 9 Block 3 Carthage City-Cooper's

➤ Change from Owner Occupied to NA

#1355 NE4 5-106-58

➤ Structure value should be \$15,834

➤ Change from Owner Occupied to NA

#4016 W 4 acres of Lot 26 2-106-56 Howard City-Acre Property

➤ Change from NA to AG

#4693 Lots 2 & 3 Block 2 Industrial Park-Howard City

➤ Owner & Director stipulated a change in valuation to \$413,963 (last year's assessed valuation was \$192,354 for the portion allowable for tax purposes)

Severson reported that there was one appeal at local boards. They could not get in contact with the appellant; the local board chose not to make any changes. No county appeals were filed. The board requested Tami return at the end of the meeting to go into more detail on the assessment information for 2025 to allow agenda items to begin on time.

Faber made a motion, seconded by Neises, to end equalization and adjourn as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Board of Commissioners. Motion passed. Director of 911 & Dispatch Services Cora Schwader came to the board with dispatch requests as the County has recently lost a dispatcher who worked a significant number of shifts. Schwader requested to create two full-time positions, alternating between 32 hours per week and 40 hours per week, for a 36-hour weekly average. Schwader requested these full-time dispatchers be paid hourly, keeping their holiday pay as it currently is. Auditor Mommaerts will prepare an estimation of the additional costs this would add to the County.

Schwader also made a request to change policy for level raises for dispatchers, asking to advance them to Level 3 upon completion of 911 dispatch training and certification. Dispatchers must be certified to continue working after 1 year of employment.

Commissioners may also need to consider the possibility of dissolving the intergovernmental agreement, and having dispatch run solely under the direction of Miner County.

Bechen questioned how many dispatchers would be needed if two were full-time; Schwader believed those remaining would be necessary to fill in for absences of the full-time employees and cover the remaining shifts.

Motion by Faber, second by Neises to go into executive session at 10:00am to discuss personnel performance pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1). The board came out of executive session at 10:20am.

Schwader stated the Commissioners will need to have a meeting with Sanborn County to determine the amount they will pay for 911 dispatching. Schwader suggested having an advisory council for dispatch if the intergovernmental agreement dissolves. The board instructed Auditor Mommaerts to put the dispatch request on the next agenda.

Severson returned to give an overview of 2025 assessment information.

Motion by Faber, seconded by Neises and carried to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for personnel matters at 11:05am. The board came out of executive session at 11:25am.

The meeting adjourned to April 15th. Dated this 8th day of April, 2025.

Joe Bechen, Chairman

Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor