

May 6, 2025

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 6, 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.

Chairman Bechen called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Faber, second by Carlson and carried to approve the agenda. The minutes of the April 8th and April 15th meetings were approved, with the correction of spelling from "Clarke" to "Clark" on the April 15th minutes. Faber reported on attending the ambulance board meeting, where future plans for the ambulance barn were discussed.

Auditor's account with the County Treasurer for April 30, 2025 was \$8,757,252.21 in all state, county, civil, school and trust accounts.

During public comment, Treasurer Jessica Charles reported on a Zoom call for Treasurers and Commissioners that took place on Monday regarding the 605Drive program, since the Commissioners were unable to attend. Charles wanted Commissioners to be aware that many of the treasurers' offices across the state are having issues with the program, which has greatly increased workloads. Some offices have changed office hours to allow more time to balance at the end of the day. The Miner County Treasurer's office has not changed office hours due the program update; Charles just stays late or comes in early to balance each day. Bechen asked if she would like to close earlier, but Charles does not believe it is necessary at this time. Charles also reported the Treasurer's office will be getting a scanner from the state to send documents electronically to speed up processes, but documents will still be mailed so the Treasurer's office isn't responsible for retaining the original documentation for the state.

Director of Equalization Tami Severson reported on a request from SD Dept. of Revenue for use of the county's GIS information at no charge. This request was denied last year. Commissioners again denied the request. Pictometry is done with the latest flyover; new images should come between mid-May and June. The images will provide the county any changes to parcels from the previous flyover.

Motion by Faber, second by Clary and carried to pay the following claims: Road & Bridge \$46,680.85, MERP Fund \$56,678.15, Reliance Standard \$1,351.52, Delta Dental \$500.64, Retirement \$7,411.07, OASI \$10,483.56, Commissioners \$4,795.75, Auditor \$7,829.00, Treasurer \$7,968.50, States Attorney \$6,238.00, Govt Building \$3,506.17, Director of Equalization \$9,203.90, Register of Deeds \$6,973.50, Vet Service \$610.00, Sheriff \$12,634.93, Contract Law \$4,324.00, Welfare \$379.04(includes Cheryl Moore @ \$21.40), Ambulance \$11,143.79, Extension \$1,408.21(includes Cheryl Moore @ \$21.40), Weed \$1,427.50, Dispatch \$14,839.77, Emergency Mgt \$2,651.00 **APRIL PAYROLL.**

Alliance \$150.00, Santel \$30.00, Triotel \$167.53 **911 CHARGES**; FJM \$129.34 **COLLECTION FEES**; ICAP \$796.09 **COMMUNITY ACTION PAYMENT**; SD DOT \$420.86 **CONTRACTED MAINTENANCE**; SD Office of Child & Family \$3,348.00 **COUNTY NURSE PMT TO STATE**; Horizon Health Care \$190.00 **DRUG TESTING**; Josh Esser \$90.00 **EVOC DRIVER**; HFCA \$8,880.75, Sturdevant's \$276.10 **FUEL**; Continental Western Group \$648.00 **INSURANCE**; Madison Hospital \$140.49 **MENTAL ILLNESS PATIENT CARE**; Christy McMullen \$640.00 **MOWING**; Lake Co Sheriff \$90.00 **PRISONER CARE**; Office Ally \$44.95 **PROCESSING FEE**; Miner County Pioneer \$511.10 **PUBLISHING**; Dust-Tex \$270.72, Microfilm Imaging \$470.00 **RENT**; Butler Machinery \$90.00, Cummins \$1,099.49, Dakota Fluid Power

\$1,032.60, HFCA \$106.10, J&P Roofing \$683.67, James Valley Landscape \$254.00, Klinkhammer Plumbing \$71.43, Shane's Hardware \$317.35, Sturdevant's \$36.05, Twotrees Tech \$1,996.35, Wahltek \$3,546.96 **REPAIRS**; Crafcro \$14,771.13, Homestead Building Supply \$263.58, Sturdevant's \$29.98 **ROAD MATERIALS**; Kristian Ellendorf \$900.00 **STATE'S ATTY OFFICE EXPENSE**; Relx, Inc. \$188.00 **SUBSCRIPTION**; Bright Arrow Tech \$315.00, Butler Machinery \$1,924.72, Crafcro \$437.34, Dust-Tex \$377.10, Homestead Building Supply \$14.99, HFCA \$15.15, Interstate Power Systems \$471.19, Kimball Midwest \$102.29, Office Peeps \$352.59, RDO Equipment \$511.64, Reisch Sales \$300.00, Tim Reisch \$455.19, Rockmount Research & Alloys \$668.45, Runnings \$351.47, Rusty's \$61.15, Industrial Retail Account \$89.30, Tami Severson \$20.00, Shane's Hardware \$91.87, SD Sheriffs Assoc \$75.40, Sturdevant's \$734.73, Twotrees Tech \$197.20, Two Way Solutions \$159.99, Vander Haag's \$120.00 **SUPPLIES**; Alliance \$997.21, AT&T \$428.14, Jessica Charles \$30.00, Erin Feldhaus \$30.00, Lori Kiehl \$30.00, Becki Mommaerts \$30.00, Tami Severson \$30.00, Molly Steeneck \$30.00, Verizon \$104.08, Danielle Werkmeister \$30.00 **TELEPHONE**; HFCA \$23.37, Ramkota Hotel Pierre \$1,128.00, SDAAO \$500.00 **TRAVEL**; City of Howard \$2,454.30, Northwestern Energy \$799.17, Xcel Energy \$24.55 **UTILITIES**.

Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence: Letters from the Dept. of Ag & Natural Resources to Shannon Hutterian Brethren, Inc. for dairy modifications as-built plans and specification review, and for manure management system amended permit coverage; new court schedule for Judge Shelton from the Clerk of Courts; and the April 2025 VSO report.

Highway Superintendent Krempges met with the board on highway matters. The bridge southeast of Carthage has been repaired. Due to a contractor schedule change, work on the bridge west of Carthage should begin on June 2nd. There is a preconstruction meeting at 1:00 at the courthouse for this. Krempges received easements for the bridge 2 ½ miles east of Carthage from Sam Schlim and Verlyn & Nell Button. Krempges reported on the stated conditions of these easements. Commissioners did not agree to some of the conditions; Schlim will need to complete a new easement for the project to move forward. The bridge replacement project for 227th Street will get bid out tomorrow; it was budgeted for this year, but it may be moved to next year. Krempges received quotes for the repair or replacement of the box culvert near Poppens from Hallway Construction: \$33,300 for the repair or \$74,000 for replacement with precast (labor and materials). Krempges believed the repair would be good enough. In order to abide by the agenda timeline, Carlson made a motion to table the highway discussion, seconded by Clary and carried.

The board considered issuance of malt beverage licenses to operate outside of a municipality for the 2025-2026 licensing period. It was moved by Faber, seconded by Carlson and carried unanimously to approve the Retail (on-off sale) malt beverage & SD farm wine license application for CC & F Retail Inc. (Jake's Corner) for Tract A of Bessman's First Addition the NW ¼ of S12, T106, R55, W of the 5th PM and Tract B of Bessman's Addition in the NW ¼ of S12, T106, R55, W of the 5th PM, Miner County, South Dakota.

Treasurer Jessica Charles reported to the board that she has filed a treasurer's tax deed on April 15th on the property described as Lots Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), and Six (6) in Block Forty-two (42) in the city of Vilas, Miner County, South Dakota, formerly owned by Randy & Julie Shumaker. The current amount of delinquent taxes on the property is \$5,008.41, including title search, publication and other fees. There was an individual living there who has been evicted. Quality Custom Meats was using the building for storage and contacted Randy Shumaker when instructed to remove their items, which is when he became aware of the tax deed proceedings.

Randy and Julie Shumaker met with the board to request reconveyance of the tax deed property. Randy Shumaker stated he was not aware of the situation; he has the cashier's check for full payment today, and he will have Julie start monthly \$350.00 payments if Commissioners approved reconveyance.

Motion by Faber, second by Clary to pass the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 25-10

RESOLUTION TO RECONVEY REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, a Tax Deed, having been procured by Miner County, State of South Dakota, pursuant to South Dakota Codified Laws Chapter 10-25, for the property herein described;

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2025, said Treasurer's Tax Deed was recorded conveying the following-described real property to Miner County, South Dakota, grantee:

Lots Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), and Six (6) in Block Forty-two (42) in the city of Vilas, Miner County, South Dakota, according to the recorded plat thereof;

WHEREAS, the record owner of the property, prior to taking the property by Tax Deed, was in the name of Randy and Julie Shumaker;

WHEREAS, the sum of \$5,008.41 represents the total principal, interest, and costs of all taxes represented in the tax deed and any other taxes and interest which are unpaid on the real property and which includes the title searches, publication, and mailing fees.

WHEREAS, the Miner County by and through its Treasurer, Jessica Charles, accepts regular payments made by Randy and/or Julie Shumaker pursuant to a monthly payment plan.

WHEREAS, upon payment of \$5,008.41, and property insurance premium, if any, and the effective time necessary for this Resolution, the County Commissioners for the County of Miner, State of South Dakota as the owner of real property described herein, and pursuant to SDCL §10-25-41, may authorize a reconveyance by Quit Claim Deed to the record owner or the record owner's assignees or successors, of any real property held by the County under a Tax Deed;

WHEREAS, the reconveyance shall be for a consideration of not less than the total principal, interest, and costs of all real property taxes represented in the tax deed, and any other real property taxes and interest which are unpaid on the subject real property at time of reconveyance plus the total costs related thereto;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Miner, State of South Dakota, hereby adopt and approve the reconveyance described herein and that Miner County shall quit claim the real property by Quit Claim Deed to Randy and Julie Shumaker, upon receipt of payment of \$5,008.41; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Miner County Treasurer, Jessica Charles, is hereby authorized, designated, and directed to execute and deliver a Quit Claim Deed to effectuate the transfer of said real property in the name of and on behalf of Miner County; the Miner County Auditor shall attest to the Quit Claim Deed under seal; and that the conveyance shall not be completed until twenty (20) days after the publication of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Randy and Julie Shumaker shall upon receipt of their 2025 tax assessment notice meet with Miner County Treasurer, Jessica Charles, no later than December 31, 2025, and each here thereafter, to determine a monthly payment plan, which shall be effective on January 1, 2026 for all real estate taxes due and payable in the year 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Failure to make payment as set for the above, and setting up a payment plan with the Miner County Treasurer by December 31, 2025, shall void this Resolution, and that at such time the Miner County Board of County Commissioners shall proceed with the sale of the property pursuant to SDCL §10-25-39.1.

Voting Aye: 5 Voting Nay: 0

Approved this 6th day of May, 2025.

Joe Bechen, Chair
Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor

Motion by Faber, second by Neises and carried to take highway matters off the table for discussion. Commissioners approved Krempges going forward with the repair to the box culvert near Poppens. Krempges gave estimates for replacement or lining of the culverts on Miner/Lake County line (241 St & 442 Ave Intersection). The cost of UV CIPP lining would be \$81,175, or \$40,587.50 per county. Culvert replacement cost would be \$26,099.99, or \$13,050 per county. Though initially more expensive, the liners have a longer life expectancy and would result in less traffic interruption. Because the company that would do the lining is currently working in the area, there would be price savings if the work order was requested this week. Commissioners gave approval for Krempges to move forward with the UV CIPP lining and gave him authority to sign for the work, if Lake County also approves. Lastly, Krempges reported city-wide cleanup in Carthage is done.

Ambulance Manager Cora Schwader met with the board to discuss the ambulance barn. The ambulance board met on the 28th to look at their budget for 2026. Because the scope of this project could be so large, she's requesting to create a small committee to look into the viability of building, repairing, or relocating the ambulance barn for the 2026 budget. The committee would consist of Mike Connor, two commissioners (Neises and Bechen volunteered), and Cora Schwader. Commissioners approved this request. Kari Jo Carlson is resigning from the ambulance board, so Schwader is looking for a new Canova area representative. Carlson was also the secretary, so that position needs to be filled as well.

Regarding the dispatch department, Deb Gibson was hired fulltime, with a 3-month probationary period. Schwader also requested for level raises for dispatchers. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Neises to approve the following level raises, retroactive to April 20th, 2025: Randy Schwader to level 10, Jen Bolden and Joni Jacobsen to level 8, Jennifer Hahn and Shannon Hoffman to level 5. Schwader reported she is still working on dispatch considerations from the dispatch board meeting.

Director of Equalization Tami Severson met with the board to request staying overnight for her upcoming conference in Mitchell in June, as the hotel is 0.4 miles short of what is allowed by the personnel policy. Commissioners approved this request. She also passed along a request from the conference that would result in the closure of the DOE office for one of the days of the conference; Commissioners denied this request.

Auditor Mommaerts gave an update on the planned memorial trees. James Valley Landscape presented two options, for a total cost (including labor) of \$1,077.72. Jointly, \$735.00 has been raised by donations, but memorial rocks will also need to be purchased yet. Commissioners approved moving forward with the planting the trees, with the general courthouse budget absorbing some of the cost since the trees will also be beautification of the courthouse grounds.

Todd Kays, Executive Director of First District Association of Local Governments, met with the board via Zoom to give an overview of zoning and zoning meeting procedures, including a question-and-answer session about zoning with the commissioners. Many residents of Miner County were in attendance during this call.

Sheriff Rob Eggert reported that the security grant for the new metal detector was approved on Friday; he is waiting for the official letter before placing the order. Commissioners approved Rob Eggert or Rebecca Mommaerts to sign the purchase paperwork. Eggert notified

the board that the grant does not cover manpower to monitor the metal detector, but it will cover the cost of the stanchions for traffic control.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until May 20th. Dated this 6th day of May, 2025.

Joe Bechen, Chairman
Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor