

June 17, 2025

The Miner County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 17, 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 Neises, seconded by Faber and carried to approve the agenda. The minutes from the June 3, 2025 meeting were approved with clerical corrections to the claims listing ("Aflac" and "Rustand") as well as an adjustment to the Findings to be made by the Planning & Zoning Board acting as the Board of Adjustment.

Neises and Carlson reported on a telephone conference with Todd Kays on Friday, June 13th regarding the recent CAFO hearing. During this phone call, Kays also updated Neises and Carlson regarding the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in Iowa recently ruling against Iowa Counties in a case involving Summit Carbon Solutions' proposed CO2 pipeline.

Motion by Faber, seconded by Neises, and carried to recess as the Board of Commissioners and convene as the Board of Adjustment. Carlson took the position of Chair. Motion by Bechen, seconded by Clary and unanimously passed to add "(in reference to Section 1101.08 of the Miner County Zoning Ordinance)" after "established residences" in Section X of the Findings for the Conditional Use application by Hord Family Farms, LLC on June 3rd. Motion by Faber, second by Neises, and carried to adjourn as the Board of Adjustment and reconvene as Board of Commissioners. Bechen resumed the position of Chair.

No one appeared for public comment.

Motion by Clary, second by Carlson and carried to pay the following claims: Alliance \$150.00 **911 CHARGES**; SD DOR \$1,498.83 **ANIMAL CONTROL**; ICAP \$796.09 **COMMUNITY ACTION PAYMENT**; Garrett Electronics \$4,008.66 **EQUIPMENT**; Elan Financial \$157.25, HFCA \$10,632.94, Sturdevant's \$43.96 **FUEL**; Continental Western Group \$353.00 **INSURANCE**; Minnehaha County \$189.74 **MENTAL ILLNESS HEARING EXPENSE**; Christy McMullen \$640.00 **MOWING**; Elan Financial \$451.75 **POSTAGE**; Office Ally \$44.95 **PROCESSING FEE**; Garrett Electronics \$200.00 **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**; Dust-Tex \$180.48, Microfilm Imaging \$1,130.00, USPS \$120.00 **RENT**; HFCA \$247.36, Office Peeps \$71.50, Shane's Hardware \$339.89, TwoTrees Tech \$1,781.65, Two Way Solutions \$224.00 **REPAIRS**; Shane's Hardware \$84.89 **ROAD MATERIALS**; Amazon \$442.57, Butler Machinery \$104.98, C&R Supply \$29.56, Corner Pantry \$84.95, Dakota Data Shred \$86.18, Fleetpride \$14.47, Home Service Water \$29.40, HFCA \$1,493.38, K&M Tire \$1,153.28, Lori Kiehl \$68.91, North Central Int'l \$265.97, Office Peeps \$1,666.53, Runnings \$61.27, Rusty's \$113.28, Shane's Hardware \$502.69, SD Federal Property Agency \$832.00, Sturdevant's \$970.74, Thomson Reuters \$239.68, TwoTrees Tech \$197.20, Two Way Solutions \$71.96, USPS \$668.00 **SUPPLIES**; Joe Bechen \$33.50, Comfort Inn & Suites \$978.00, Barb Esser \$72.00, Kathy Faber \$56.28, HFCA \$53.27, Tim Neises \$8.04, Tami Severson \$72.00 **TRAVEL**; Central Electric Coop \$75.79, Xcel Energy \$15.63 **UTILITIES**; Factor360 \$650.00 **WEBSITE**.

Highway Superintendent Kremppges informed the board of a vehicular accident of one of the highway employees. Though there was extensive damage to the vehicle, the county employee was wearing his seat belt and luckily only sustained minor injuries. Repair or replacement of the damaged vehicle was discussed; Kremppges is having the vehicle analyzed for any mechanical malfunction. The Mack truck has been received back after being taken to Sioux Falls for power issues. Xcel got the powerline moved so work can progress on the bridge in Carthage. Highway employees are graveling now and will be mowing and will soon begin asphalt patching and work on the Carthage Oil. A load of tack oil is coming tomorrow. The asphalt work will begin Monday. Kremppges reported that his 7-year plan is completed and is getting compiled; the DOT 5-year plan for BIG Projects is due in the middle of July. He is also working on the equipment list.

Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence: VSO May Report; SD DANR letters regarding Shannon Hutterian Brethren Inc. Poultry Operation As-built Plans & Spec Review and Manure Management System Amended Permit Coverage; Miner Conservation District April minutes, NRCS report & treasurer report for March & April.

It was moved by Faber, seconded by Carlson, and carried to make an operating transfer, as provided for in the 2025 budget, of \$29,000 from the General Fund to the Dispatch Fund in the amount of \$20,000 and to the Emergency Management Fund in the amount of \$9,000.

Maria Schwader of Legislative Audit reviewed the 2022-2023 audit of Miner County finances and operations. No written comments were presented to the board, though an item for discussion was the delinquent tax property of the former Carthage school, which has not been taken on tax deed by the county; this will be discussed later in the meeting. Motion to sign by Carlson, second by Neises to authorize the Chair to sign the acknowledgement of audit results.

The SD Department of Revenue submitted a formal request to the Commissioners for use of the county's GIS data, which was denied by the Commissioners when the request was received in the DOE office previously. Severson does not believe Miner County is the only county that has not submitted GIS data. Carlson made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Clary and passed unanimously.

The Clark Plat will need to be postponed to a later meeting as the necessary information has not yet been received by the Zoning Administrator.

The surplus ambulance is listed in an online auction through Dean/Edwards & Associates, which ends in 6 days. The bid at the time of the meeting was \$1,024. Commissioners chose to accept the high bid at the end of the auction.

Treasurer Jessica Charles met with the board to discuss the delinquent Carthage School property. After many attempts, the owner cannot be found, and it is uncertain whether he is still living. Charles informed the board of the Brownsfield program which offers grants to help with asbestos removal, but an exempt entity would have to be the owner first, and the tax deed process will be lengthy. Charles explained the process to the board. Deputy State's Attorney Greg Protsch would like to discuss options more in depth with the Commissioners on July 1st

before any decisions are made. Commissioners agreed to wait until they've had the opportunity to discuss options with legal counsel.

Options for the future of the ambulance barn were discussed. An appraisal would be advisable if a new building is acquired by bidding in an auction, which is one of the potential options; Bechen and Carlson will research the cost of such an appraisal.

The budget for 2026 was discussed. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Faber, and carried to enter executive session at 11:13am pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for salary considerations. Board returned to regular session at 11:27am.

Auditor Mommaerts passed along a request from a representative of Family Heritage to meet with all county employees to offer them various insurance coverages. Commissioners chose to leave it up to the individuals to seek out Family Heritage plans.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned until July 1st. Dated this 17th day of June, 2025.

Joe Bechen, Chairman

Miner County Board of Commissioners

Attest: Rebecca Mommaerts, Miner County Auditor