

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 1, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Clyde Dethlefsen, with Randy Niles, 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 executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2(1) and pit agreements. 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 Studeny to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> and the special meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

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

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to authorize Highway Superintendent Vissia to attend the short course workshop in Deadwood on March 19-21, 2024. Motion carried all voting aye.

As per the agreement for the Markhardt Gravel Pit, the County has the right to access the stockpiles that were put up by the county until March 1, 2024. Highway Superintendent Vissia estimated that there is approximately 25,000 to 30,000 ton of gravel left in the stockpiles. He has talked with Mr. Markhardt about extending the contract, otherwise if the gravel is not removed by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, it reverts back to Markhardt. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to have Superintendent Vissia negotiate with Markhardt to extend the agreement, if negotiations fail, Vissia was directed to start moving the gravel out right away. Motion carried all voting aye. Commissioner Clark told Doug to contact Markhardt and negotiate with him as soon as possible so we are not scrambling to get the gravel out if we have to.

Commissioner Dethlefsen asked if there was a blade down as he had seen that it was sitting at Steve's Welding. The repairs were minor and Superintendent Vissia thought it was fixed by now. Dethlefsen noted the blades need to stop digging into the sod along the roads. Vissia said he has talked to all the blade operators about this.

It was noted the garage door at the White Lake Shop is being fixed and may possibly be replaced next year.

Discussion was held on winging the snow by the old White Lake School. Commissioner Hanten said he talked with blade operator Scott German to see if he has been doing it or was told to do it and Scott said no. Superintendent Vissia said he checked the road and saw that it was winged back. Hanten told Vissia that Josh Podzimek was doing it because Scott was not instructed to do so. This was talked about at the last Commission meeting that it needed to be winged back, said Hanten, it's a county road so we should be doing it.

Weight limits were discussed. The Commission directed the highway department to publish a notice for two weeks in the paper to notify people that the load limits will be put on all oil roads beginning February 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Commission asked Vissia if any straps were ordered to be put in the graders for towing purposes. Doug reported he has not ordered them yet.

It was noted the 4-wheeler has a blade on it now for clearing snow.

Commissioner Hanten asked the Board members about employees driving county vehicles to work instead of their own. It was noted if they use a county vehicle to and from work it is considered a benefit to the employee and they will be charged at the rate set at the January meeting.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to authorize Auditor Urban and Deputy Johnson to attend a hands-on election training in Pierre on February 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye. The auditor's office will be closed for a portion of the morning and all afternoon on the 28<sup>th</sup> and will reopen sometime in the afternoon on the 29<sup>th</sup>. A notice will be put in the paper about the closure and phone calls will be transferred to a cell number while the office is closed.

The Southeast Central District meeting will be held in Davison County on February 14, 2024. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark allow the department heads to go if they so choose. Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on the CO-2 pipeline.

Treasurer Andrea Pryor informed the Commission she had her last delinquent property owner come in and sign a contract for a payment schedule. Since this has been done, she will not have any property to take for tax deed.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to allow Veterans Service Officer Audrey Chapman to take the following days off and close her office on February 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting

aye. There will be a message on her answering machine and it will be posted on the VSO Facebook page and the office door.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to enter into executive session as per SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel at 10:24 AM. Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 11:11 AM with no action taken.

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

**Reports:** January Payroll: Social Security 5,677.66, Medicare 1,327.89; Wellmark 27,831.49, Retirement 5,923.06; Kansas City Life 92.37; Commissioners 4,269.25; Auditor 7.4; Treasurer 6,883.99; States Attorney 5,336.22; Courthouse 2,462.23; Director of Equalization 6,072.07; Register of Deeds 4,639.60; Veteran’s Service Officer 547.99; Sheriff 18,532.96; Extension 1,761.16; Weed 1,099.43; Zoning 775.83; Hwy 36,977.14; EM&D 1,756.51; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.50. Auditor’s Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,195.77; MMDA 2,056,289.75; CD’s 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: marriage license/certs 0.00; birth/death 35.00; preservation fund 99.00; driver’s license 138.00; copies 119.00; recording fees 825.00; transfer fees 2,617.50.

**CLAIMS:**

COMMISSIONERS		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	826.19
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		826.19 *
ELECTIONS		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	219.48
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		219.48 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
MAYA BRIDGE LLC	INTERPRETING SERVICES	720.00
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		720.00 *
AUDITOR		
P M B 0112	DECEMBER ACCESS FEES	69.25
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	49.35
		-----
		118.60 *
TREASURER		

STAPLES	ENVELOPES & TAPE	121.01
STAPLES	CANDY, ENVELOPES	59.51
		-----
		180.52 *
COURTHOUSE		
BROOKS OIL COMPANY	FUEL FOR COURTHOUSE	254.72
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	SUPPLIES FOR EM & D ROOM	32.92
TK ELEVATOR CORP	ANNUAL MAINT CONTRACT - GOLD	2388.45
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		2676.09 *
SHERIFF		
M O C I C	2024 MEMBERSHIP	100.00
V I S A	POSTAGE	19.42
V I S A	CAR WASH	18.00
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		137.42 *
AG BUILDING		
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	EXTENSION POLE	14.99
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		14.99 *
WEED		
SDSU EXTENSION	SPRAY RECERT - LARRY & JESSE	40.00
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		40.00 *
PLANNING & ZONING		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	JANUARY PUBLISHING	72.00
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		72.00 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
AUCA CHICAGO MC LOCKBOX	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	12.18
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	WING & GRADER REPAIRS	10.01
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	ROPE FOR SHOP DOOR	9.66
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC BILL - WL SHOP	51.75
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	GRADER BATTERIES & WINDOW RPR	678.20
S D A C H S	SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION	100.00
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	1835.54
STICKNEY WATER	WATER BILL STICKNEY SHOP	92.50
TOTAL OIL	FUEL	13601.77
TRANSOURCE	LOADER LEASE	3200.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	BACKUP FULL RENEWAL BALANCE	58.05
		-----
		19649.66 *
EM&D		
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	CANNED AIR & PHONE CABLE	15.94
SKYLER KEHN	COMMAND STRIPS	14.50
VIKOR	INSTALL LINE & ANTENNA ON TOWE	4358.43
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4388.87 \*

Total Checks: 29,043.82 \*

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

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Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman  
Aurora County Commission

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Urban, Auditor

(Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_)