

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

December 5, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM by Chairman Clyde Dethlefsen, with John Paul Studeny, Roger Hanten, Travis Clark, and Randy Niles present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda was amended by adding resignation, county property in White Lake City, Tri-County Landfill report. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried all voting aye.

A correction was made to the minutes of the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. It should have stated in the motion to hire Nathan Wolbrink at \$19.21 per hour minus .50 less for the first 6 months during his probationary period. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission met with county employees for their bi-annual employee meeting.

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

Fuel quotes were reviewed as follows:

	MONTHLY QUOTE (Dec 5 thru Jan 2)			4 MONTH QUOTE (Dec 5 thru April 3)		
	#1 Diesel	#2 Diesel	Propane	#1 Diesel	#2 Diesel	Propane
Brooks Oil:	2.775	2.475	1.15	2.875	2.575	1.15
Total Oil:	2.64	2.42	-----	2.65	2.43	-----
Agtegra:	2.90	2.58	1.499	2.90	2.58	1.499
Vollan Oil:	2.642	2.374	-----	2.577	2.3174	-----

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to accept the 4-month diesel quotes from Vollan Oil and the 4-month propane quote from Brooks Oil. Motion carried all voting aye.

At the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting the Commission agreed to have Greg Kroupa gravel approximately 7 miles of road with gravel from his pit at \$6.00 / ton with no charge for hauling or labor. Highway Superintendent Vissia reported

that Kroupa does not have a scale on his loader for tonnage slips. Commissioner Hanten suggested Kroupa use the county's loader since we have a scale on ours. Secretary Beckman reminded the Commission that it is the county's policy that no one is allowed to operate a county vehicle other than an employee. Chairman Dethlefsen asked how long it would take to gravel the 7 miles because the county agreed to have a blade up there right away to level it off when he spreads it. If it is going to be sporadically, we may have to leave a grader up there so one is nearby and ready. Commissioner Clark said the county really needs tonnage slips from a scale so we know how much gravel is being put on the road and being charged to the county. Commissioner Studeny suggested having a highway employee go up to the area for a day or so with our loader so we would have an estimate or average of what a load would weigh. Dethlefsen said it was not ideal to gravel in the winter. Highway Superintendent Vissia said he would talk to Kroupa to see if he would wait until spring. Commissioner Niles said he understood it was going to be done right away after Kroupa talked with the Commissioners at the first meeting in October because the red aggregate rock was ruining tires. It's getting too late to do it now, said Niles. Chairman Dethlefsen questioned what the County would gain by having it graveled now. It will just be pushed into the ditch when we do snow removal this winter, said Dethlefsen.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to approve an approach permit for Lynn Anderson for feedlot access on road #47 in the SE ¼ SE ¼ of 2-105-63 at the landowner's expense. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to accept the resignation from highway employee Rick Pryor effective December 31<sup>st</sup> and the Commission would like to thank him for his nearly 5 years of service to the county. Motion carried all voting aye.

Superintendent Vissia informed the Commission that he spoke with the individual who had done the striping on the oil road south of White Lake. Vissia said he is willing to work with us to make it right and wanted to know what the county wants him to do. Superintendent Vissia told the Commission he will mark the spots where it needs to be blacked out and re-striped. Once Vissia measures out what is good and doesn't need to be fixed, the county can determine what we want to pay him now and then pay the balance when the rest of it is fixed.

Christian Hammond from Brosz Engineering went over the 2024 bridge inspection reports on 5 structures and noted the significant findings on each one. Mr. Hammond told the Commission that Aurora County is making headway on our structures and that we are being very proactive.

Jamie VanZee from Brosz Engineering informed the Commission that BX Civil & Construction will be suspending work for the winter on the Erickson Bridge and will finish the project up in the spring and seed in the grass.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve payment #5 to BX Civil & Construction in the amount of \$59,725.50 for project BRO 8002(00)22-5, PCN 08WV for structure # 02-213-070 (Erickson Bridge). Motion carried all voting aye. Mr. VanZee noted this project is 96% complete.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to approve a final change order for structure # 02-021-260 for erosion control. Motion carried all voting aye. VanZee noted the change order decreased the total cost of the project by \$2,595.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve a pay request to BX Civil & Construction in the amount of \$74,797.88 for project BRO 8002(00)22-4, PCN 08WT for Structure 02-021-260 (Breukelman Bridge). Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve an agreement for a voluntary right-of-way donation for project # BRF6119(00)22-1, PCN 08RW (Jackrabbit Bridge). Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve a right-of-way certificate for project # BRF 6119(00)22-1, PCN 08RW. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Niles to approve a utilities certificate that would affect Midstate Communications for project # BRF 6119(00)22-1, PCN 08RW. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following resolution. Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Studeny, aye; Hanten, aye; Niles, aye; Dethlefsen, aye. Motion carried

2025 BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS, Aurora County wishes to submit an application for consideration of award for the Bridge Improvement Grant Program:

STRUCTURE # AND LOCATION:

Str. No. 02-097-056 – Aurora County  
8.5 miles north and 4.7 miles east of White Lake, SD  
On 378<sup>th</sup> Avenue over West Firesteel Creek

and WHEREAS, Aurora County certifies that the project is listed in the county's Five-Year County Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan;

and WHEREAS, Aurora County agrees to pay the 20% match on the Bridge Improvement Grant funds and 100% of ineligible expenses;

and WHEREAS, Aurora County hereby authorizes the Bridge Improvement Grant application and any required funding commitments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the South Dakota Department of Transportation be and hereby is requested to accept the attached Bridge Improvement Grant application.

Vote of Commissioners: Yes 5 No 0

Dated at Plankinton, SD this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

ATTEST: Susan Urban, County Auditor

Chairman, Clyde Dethlefsen

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to remove the burn ban in the county effective immediately.

Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Niles, aye; Hanten, aye; Dethlefsen, aye; Studeny, nay. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to accept the resignation from director of assessments Tina Gerlach effective December 20<sup>th</sup> and want to thank her for her 7 ½ year of service to the county and for going the extra mile in her help with training the new assessor. Motion carried all voting aye.

The Commission reviewed the lease that was drafted for the rental of the community/4-H building for wrestling practices. It will be sent to the school for their approval and signature.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to approve the 2025 Davison County Jail Contract for \$105 per prisoner day. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize the Chairman to sign letters for commitment as a participating jurisdiction and to provide a local funding match for the Aurora County Hazard Mitigation Plan update as well as a technical assistance agreement with District III who will be assisting with the updates. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to approve the following resolution. Roll Call Vote: Clark, aye; Studeny, aye; Hanten, aye; Niles, aye; Dethlefsen, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF APPLICANT AGENT  
FOR THE HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS Aurora County is submitting a Hazard Mitigation Assistance application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS Aurora County is required to appoint an Applicant Agent for the purpose of signing documents and assuring the completion of all application documents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Aurora County appoints Skyler Kehn as the authorized Applicant Agent.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

Appointing Authority  
Clyde Dethlefsen, Aurora County Commission Chairman

Appointed Agent  
Skyler Kehn, Aurora County Emergency Management Director

Discussion was held on the small triangular piece of property the county owns in the City of White Lake alongside Highway 16. The .7 acres of the property are past the right-of way. The Auditor was directed to get the legal description of the property and have it declared surplus at our next meeting so we can sell it in the near future.

Commissioner Studeny gave the Commission an update on the recent Tri-County Landfill year end business meeting. Studeny noted that there will be a small increase in the tipping fees and they will be giving their employees a 5% raise.

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

**Reports:** November Payroll: Social Security 5,892.11; Medicare 1,378.02; Wellmark 27,420.96, Retirement 6,386.07; Kansas City Life 110.87; Commissioners 4,269.45; Auditor 8,081.81; Treasurer 6,878.61; States Attorney 5,289.29; Courthouse 2,936.01; Director of Equalization 7,373.41; Register of Deeds 4,540.73; Veteran's Service Officer 908.20; Sheriff 19,516.04; Welfare 786.93; Extension 3,026.00; Weed 1,382.95; Zoning 1,048.23; Hwy 37,728.68; EM&D 2,044.34; Payroll Direct Deposit Cost 8.40. Auditor's Account with Treasurer: Cash on Hand 1,392.73; MMDA 2,084,420.57; CD's 942,140.00. Register of Deeds Fees: Marriage Lic/Certs 85.00; Birth/Death Certs 50.00; Preservation Fund 99.00; Drivers License 246.00; Copies 64.00; Other 0.00; Recording Fees 775.00; Transfer Fees 272.00.

**CLAIMS**

COMMISSIONERS			
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	NOVEMBER PUBLISHING	937.69	
		-----	
		937.69	*
ELECTIONS			
POSTMASTER	ELECTIONS POSTAGE REIMB	200.00	
		-----	
		200.00	*
JUDICIAL SYSTEM			
CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIO	INTERPRETING SERVICES	89.10	
DAILEY LAW OFFICE	CAA	632.80	
S D A C C	CLERP SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	1370.00	
		-----	
		2091.90	*
AUDITOR			
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT	38.00	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	129.84	
		-----	
		167.84	*
TREASURER			
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT	38.00	
QUILL CORPORATION	INK FOR PRINTER	552.95	
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	196.26	
		-----	
		787.21	*
STATE'S ATTORNEY			
THOMSON * WEST	STATE ATTY LAW BOOK SUBSCRIPT	107.20	

		-----	
			107.20 *
COURTHOUSE			
BENDER SEWER & DRAIN	SERVICE CALL PLUGGED DRAIN		177.50
FINK PLUMBING	FIX THE SINK ON SECOND FLOOR		181.39
MIDWEST ALARM	3 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION ACCESS		5412.00
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - COURTHOUSE		1906.45
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT		38.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS		113.10
		-----	
			7828.44 *
DIR. OF EQUALIZATION			
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT		38.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS		132.84
		-----	
			170.84 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS			
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT		38.00
		-----	
			38.00 *
VA OFFICE			
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT		38.00
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	NOVEMBER PUBLISHING		118.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS		66.42
		-----	
			222.42 *
SHERIFF			
KYLE NESS	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE REIMB		15.62
MAKE IT MINE DESIGNS	MALCOLM VEHICLE DECALS		1193.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS		522.68
V I S A	POSTAGE		5.50
V I S A	SHERIFF APPT BOOKS, FOLDERS		217.12
V I S A	LATE FEES		10.00
V I S A	CREDIT FINANCE CHARGE		-0.02
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE		514.26
VERIZON	OCTOBER VERIZON REVEAL CONNECT		75.03
VERIZON	AUG & SEPT VERIZON REVEAL CONN		84.40
VERIZON	NOVEMBER VERIZON REVEAL CONNEC		73.36
		-----	
			2710.95 *
JAIL			
LEWIS FAMILY DRUG LLC	INMATES MEDS		703.88
		-----	
			703.88 *
CORONER			

DIANA SPINAR	MILEAGE CORONER TRAINING	175.54
ROMAN BRIGGS	CORONER CALLS (4)	400.00
		-----
		575.54 *
PUBLIC WELFARE		
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT	19.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	3.00
		-----
		22.00 *
NURSES OFFICE		
LACEY WIECZOREK	SUPPLIES SCHOOL HEALTH ED	41.41
POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT	19.00
		-----
		60.41 *
AG BUILDING		
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - AG BUILDING	565.89
		-----
		565.89 *
COUNTY EXTENSION		
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	NOVEMBER PUBLISHING	33.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	126.84
		-----
		159.84 *
WEED		
C & R SUPPLY	WINTERIZE & NEW TANK	6669.62
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	ANTIFREEZE FOR PICKUP TANK	47.73
ROADSIDE C - STORE	FUEL FOR WEED TRUCK PUMPS	36.49
VERIZON	OCTOBER VERIZON REVEAL CONNECT	18.76
VERIZON	AUG & SEPT VERIZON REVEAL CONN	21.10
VERIZON	NOVEMBER VERIZON REVEAL CONNEC	18.35
		-----
		6812.05 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	GRADER REPAIRS	301.62
BX CIVIL & CONSTRUCTION INC	REPLACE - BREUK & ERICK BRIDGE	134523.38
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	ELECTRICITY - AUR CTR & STORLA	26.32
CLUBHOUSE HOTEL & SUITES	SAFETY CONFERENCE LODGING	235.12
DOUG VISSIA	SAFETY CONFERENCE LUNCH	14.00
FLEETPRIDE	TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIRS	260.44
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	BATTERIES	8.99
LOCATORS & SUPPLIES INC	SAFETY CLOTHING	185.63
NANCY BECKMAN	LUNCH - SAFETY CONFERENCE	35.97
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC BILL - AUR CTR - STK	87.30
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	PICKUP TIRES	833.96
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - PLANKINTON SHOP	384.24
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	BATTERIES, CASTER WHEELS	62.88



POSTMASTER	YEARLY POST OFFICE BOX RENT	154.00
RUNNINGS	BATTERY	299.99
RUNNINGS	SAFETY CLOTHING - STEVEN	59.99
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	NOVEMBER PUBLISHING	150.00
STICKNEY WATER	WATER BILL - STICKNEY SHOP	94.00
TIM MATLOCK CONTRUCTION	RESET CULVERTS	8375.00
TOTAL OIL	FUEL	2742.32
TRANSOURCE	TRUCK REPAIRS	640.12
TRANSOURCE	LOADER LEASE	3200.00
TRUENORTH STEEL INC	CULVERTS (2) & BAND	38787.90
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	132.84
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE	104.91
VESTIS	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	12.18
WHITE LAKE PLUMBING	FURNACE & INSTALLATION - WL SH	1765.00
		-----
		193478.10 *

E 911 SERVICE		
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 12-1 TO 12-31	203.00
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 12-1 TO 12-31	357.44
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 12-1 TO 12-31	30.00
		-----
		590.44 *

EM&D		
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	66.42
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE	114.81
		-----
		181.23 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENTAL	330.00
TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES	CONNECT CARE & EMAILS	193.26
		-----
		523.26 *

Total Checks: 218,935.13 \*

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman  
Aurora County Commission

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

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