

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

**August 17, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Vice Chairman Travis Clark, with Randy Niles, Roger Hanten, and John Paul Studeny present. Absent was Clyde Dethlefsen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There was no public input.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve the agenda. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to approve the minutes from the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Motion carried all voting aye.

Discussion was held on a highway employee taking a county vehicle home at night. It was noted that this is not allowed as per county policy. The only positions, other than the sheriff's department, that are allowed to take vehicles home are the Highway Superintendent and the Emergency Manager. As per federal regulations, this is considered a benefit, therefore the Commission charge the employee a rate of \$30 per month when they take a vehicle home. The Commission will talk to Doug about this.

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

It was noted the mower is broke down and the part should be coming today.

The two Tiger mowers that were not sold at the public auction last night will be offered for sale online through the government surplus site.

Commissioner Clark suggested that when the county gets a good-sized pile of used culverts, etc. at the landfill, we should surplus and sell it rather than accumulating it over a long period of time.

The Commission told Doug to have Derek get the Tiger tractor going when he has some free time.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to approve the certification for the County Highway 5-Year Road Plan. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Studeny to approve an approach permit for Cully Tobin on road # 37G in the SE ¼ SE ¼ 3-105-64 for an entrance to a hay yard at the county's expense. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Niles, seconded by Studeny to approve an operating transfer of \$455,000 from the General Fund to the Highway Fund. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Vissia informed the Commission he would like to get the Gjesdal Bridge fixed this year. He estimated the cost to be approximately \$65,000 with materials. The county would do the work and Doug stated he figured there would be enough in his budget this year to proceed with the project.

Commissioner Hanten asked Highway Superintendent Vissia why a highway employee took a county vehicle home. Doug stated that the employee brought the maintainer over to do some blade patching and he had nothing to drive home, so he let him use the county pickup to get home.

The Rake Bridge is closed and Highway Superintendent Vissia told the Commission he was asked if something could be done so people could get across. Vissia stated that if the bridge was to be replaced with culverts, it would no longer be considered a bridge and the responsibility of it would then fall on the township. I am not sure the township would go for that, said Vissia. Discussion was held on somehow anchoring the culverts in place. This would help the culverts from washing out and maybe help the township feel more at ease with it, said Commissioner Clark. Highway Superintendent Vissia said he will need to check with engineers to see what will work. It was asked if something was going to be done this year. Vissia said more than likely it will not be done until next year due to budget constraints.

The first regular meeting in September will be held on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM rather than Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> as per SDCL 7-21-8 for the provisional budget hearing.

Commissioner Hanten noted he has had some complaints about trucks not having a tarp when hauling manure. Commissioner Clark will talk with Zoning Administrator Tina Gerlach to see if there were any special conditions that added when they applied for the conditional use permit.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn to attend a Traffic Incident Management (TIM) responder training in Ft. Pierre on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried all voting aye.

Emergency Manager Kehn informed the Commission that he has accepted a position to help coach the Jr. High MVP football team. He stated that he will need to leave around 3:15 PM each day for practice. Kehn requested permission to allow him to use flex time during the jr. high football season. He would like to come in at 7:00 AM and

take off around 3:30 pm later in the day. Commissioner Clark stated the county does not allow flex time and he is not comfortable granting it to one individual and nobody else. Commissioner Niles agreed and said if we do it for one then we should do it for all. Kehn stated his position is different from others within the courthouse and his duties require him to work outside normal business hours at times. The Commission commended him for stepping up and helping with the football program, but said this is more of a personal time away than work time. Commissioner Studeny agreed and said choosing to take vacation time or leave with no pay is more of a preferable way of doing this. The request for flex time was denied.

Discussion was held on the letter that was recently sent to all the townships and their responsibilities for noxious weeds.

Auditor Urban informed the Commission the County can have another security assessment done by DSU through the Project Boundary Fence program. With the second assessment, they can determine the gains our county has made since our initial assessment and identify any new vulnerabilities that may have arisen. The Commission authorized the Auditor to schedule another assessment to be done.

The Commission reviewed the SD Dept of Health letter that was sent out recently regarding the upcoming changes with the services provided by the State.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to file reports and pay vouchers as listed below.

Motion carried all voting aye.

**Reports:** Wheel Tax Paid: Cities \$1,298.92; Townships \$881.76.

CLAIMS :

COMMISSIONERS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	46.93
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		46.93 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIO	INTERPRETING FEES	146.85
DOUGLAS N PAPENDICK	CAA	715.40
AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH	B/A (1)	137.00
S D A C C	2ND QTR CLERP PAYMENT	370.00
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		1369.25 *

AUDITOR		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	51.94
P M B 0112	JUNE NETWORK ACCESS FEES	52.75
QUILL CORPORATION	YELLOW PAPER	20.72
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	200.00
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	98.42
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		423.83 *
TREASURER		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	68.49
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	200.00
STAPLES	SUPPLIES	65.19
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	147.51
		-----
		481.19 *
COURTHOUSE		
GOLDEN WEST	INTERNET	9.17
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	41.96
KONECHNE HEATING AND COOLING	FILTERS FOR HEATING SYSTEM	387.48
PLANKINTON CITY	COURTHOUSE ELECTRICITY	1965.58
RON'S MARKET INC	TOLIET PAPER	26.70
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	49.17
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		2480.06 *
DIR. OF EQUALIZATION		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	66.77
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	98.34
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		165.11 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	58.18
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	200.00
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		258.18 *
VA OFFICE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	61.82
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	49.17
		-----
		110.99 *
SHERIFF		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	107.00
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	50.91
INTOXIMETERS	PBT TUBES	54.00
RON'S MARKET INC	CLOROX WIPES	4.99
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	1849.94
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	393.36
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		2460.20 *

JAIL			
BRULE COUNTY	JULY JAIL HOUSING	868.00	
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		868.00	*
PUBLIC WELFARE			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	45.74	
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	49.17	
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		94.91	*
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED			
AVERA MC KENNAN HOSPITAL	MI HOLD	746.00	
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE	MONTHLY SUPPORT	60.00	
LINCOLN COUNTY AUDITOR	MI	482.84	
		-----	
		1288.84	*
AG BUILDING			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, INTERNET	103.41	
		-----	
		103.41	*
COUNTY EXTENSION			
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	57.75	
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 4-H OFFICE	4-H ADVISORY SERVICES	300.00	
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	98.34	
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		456.09	*
WEED			
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	LANDFILL ELECTRICITY	62.00	
GOLDEN WEST	INTERNET	5.12	
ROADSIDE C - STORE	FUEL FOR 4-WHEELER	12.61	
		-----	
		79.73	*
R&B CONSTRUCTION			
AUCA CHICAGO MC LOCKBOX	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	71.56	
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	ELECTRICITY - AUR CTR & STORLA	123.69	
DAKOTA AGROW	ROUND UP FOR LANDFILL	141.90	
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	131.41	
M & L REPAIR	DEF	18.90	
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM	WATER BILL - STORLA SHOP	31.00	
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	TRAILER TIRE	162.74	
PLANKINTON CITY	HIGHWAY ELECTRICITY	307.16	
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	WEED SPRAYER 3 GALLON	54.99	
QUILL CORPORATION	PAPER, PENS, CLIPS, MARKERS	98.32	
ROADSIDE C - STORE	FUEL FOR GAS CANS	41.68	
RON'S MARKET INC	TRASH BAGS	10.38	
S D A C C	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	200.00	
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	896.15	
STAPLES	ADDING MACHINE & COLUMN PAPER	99.77	

TRANSOURCE	SEAT COVERS FOR TRUCK	95.17
TRUENORTH STEEL INC	CULVERT	8439.00
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	98.34
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		11022.16 *
E 911 SERVICE		
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 8-1 TO 8-31-23	53.42
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		53.42 *
EM&D		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	63.08
RON'S MARKET INC	WATER FOR MEETING	10.58
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL FOR VEHICLES	101.70
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	49.17
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		224.53 *
REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENT	275.00
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	JULY CONNECT CARE	147.51
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		422.51 *
	Total Checks:	22,409.34 *

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

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Travis Clark, Vice Chairman  
Aurora County Commission

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

Published once at the total approximate cost \_\_\_\_\_.