

**Mercer County Commission Minutes
May 7, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Gene Wolf. Present were Commissioners Jamee Folk, Mark Pierce, Rick Bauman, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed, and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Others present during the meeting were Sheriff Terry Ternes, Tax Director Jen Neumiller, States Attorney Todd Schwarz, Deputy Treasurer Michelle Garrett, Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt, Building Supervisor Jim Albers, HR/EM Director Alice Grinstein via phone, Michelle Sailer, City of Beulah Economic Development Director Beaver Brinkman, Beulah Chamber of Commerce Representatives Deanne Gierke and Erin Laverdure, Shiloh Morast, Donovan & Kaffar, PLLP Attorney Jennifer Gooss, Tom Weigel, and Michelle Renner.

Pledge of allegiance was said.

Bauman moved to approve the amended agenda. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Pierce moved to approve the April 16, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Tax Director Jen Neumiller presented the following Zoning cases:

- Zoning Case #25-04-01 Allan & Shana Gerving - NonFarm Residence located in the E ½, NE ¼ of Section 16, TWSP 146 North, Range 87 W. Folk moved to approve zoning case #25-04-01 as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.
- Temp Use Permit #655 (Renewal) Bechtold Paving-Temporary Asphalt Plant. Folk moved to approve Temporary Use Permit #655 as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Donovan & Kaffar, PLLP Attorney Jennifer Gooss reviewed the scope of work and recommended revisions regarding the Planning & Zoning Ordinance Re-write. Deputy Treasurer Michelle Garrett presented a list of Trust and/or Mobile Home Abatements received from the State Tax Commissioner.

Tom Weigel with Moore engineering presented the Moore Engineering agreement that was reviewed and approved by the States Attorney. Folk moved to approve the agreement as presented. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bauman presented three Utility permits for a bore project for Roughrider Electric and WRT, that have been approved by the Highway Superintendent Elroy Opp. Folk moved to approve Roughrider Utility Permit #1768, WRT Utility Permit #1769 and Roughrider Utility Permit #1770 as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the March Recorder Revenues of \$5,033.20. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the Dakota Waters Resort Liquor License application. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the Hazen Golf Course gaming site authorization. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteinner via phone presented a Mercer-Oliver Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan update that would help reduce redundancy, streamline mitigation efforts, improve regional coordination and result in long-term savings for both counties. Voigt moved to approve the updating of multi-jurisdictional plan with Nexus as presented. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Grinsteinner discussed the vacation/sick leave policies and changes that are needed in order to work with the new Tyler software. This item was put on the next agenda. Also discussed how the Tyler Time and Attendance will move our payroll process from paper to a more efficient digital form. This item was also put on the next agenda.

Grinsteinner gave an update on the HR side of what she is working on within the Tyler software.

Recessed at 9:55 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

Deputy Treasurer Michelle Garrett presented the Trust and Mobile Home Abatements list that was recently received from the State Tax Commissioner. Voigt moved to approve only persons on this list that qualify for the Trust and Mobile Home abatements. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Erin Laverdure, Beulah Chamber President along with Deanne Gierke, spoke with the board regarding difficulties they have been having in keeping the Department of Motor Vehicles within our community. The Beulah Chamber is asking the county for financial support for the Beulah Department of Motor Vehicle. Board agreed that the States Attorney would have to be contacted regarding this request before any decision is made.

Bauman gave an update on his investigation of the leasing of the A1 Auto Building in Beulah. This item was put on the next agenda.

2025 Budget was brought up and put on the next agenda.

Board reviewed vouchers. Pierce moved to approve the bills as presented. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment: ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$1,435.70; ARMOR INTERACTIVE \$4,201.00; ASKIM, CRAIG \$509.00 BAKER, ADAM \$70.00; BAUMAN, RICK \$466.80; BEULAH JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY \$1,196.67; BEULAH LUMBER CO \$7.50; BRONSON'S MARKETPLACE \$8,581.43; BUTLER MACHINERY CO \$1,604.18; CHARM-TEX, INC. \$88.90; CITY OF BEULAH \$232.48; COLE, SHANNON \$32.20; COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEMICAL CORP. \$355.18; D & E SUPPLY CO INC \$950.85; DACOTAH PAPER CO \$1,167.90; DONOVAN & KAFFAR PLLP \$2,486.50; DUANE'S BODY SHOP INC. \$1,821.26; ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INC \$2,896.04; ENTZE, CINDY \$102.20; ESLINGER, MIKE \$18.90; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$3,650.00; FARMERS UNION SERVICE ASSOC. LTD \$642.00; FOLKERTS, JESSE \$70.00; FORCE AMERICA DISTRIBUTING LLC \$1,860.30; GRINSTEINNER, ALICE \$177.10; HAFNER, KEVIN \$23.80; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$104.56 HAZEN HEALTH PHARMACY \$962.42; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT \$2,497.00; INTERSTATE ENGINEERING INC \$25,030.50; ISTATE TRUCK CENTER \$39.71; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL \$5,625.00;

KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$75.81; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES \$90.00; LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$274.38; MATTHEIS, BARBARA \$25.90; MENARDS \$268.00; MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT \$1,849.93; MERCER COUNTY WARC \$820.00; MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES \$98.26; MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS \$42,738.00; NAPA \$1,976.37; ND DEPT OF CORRECTIONS & REHAB \$150.00; NDLTAP \$50.00; NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE \$15,503.22; NEUBERGER OIL COMPANY \$4,387.24; NEUMILLER, JEN \$151.20; North Central International, LLC \$732.83; NORTH DAKOTA ENVELOPE COMPANY \$294.60; NORTHWEST TIRE AUTO SERVICE INC. \$4,476.42; OLHEISER, DENNIS \$72.61; OLSON, DAVID \$70.00; PFLIGER, METTA \$502.00; POSTMASTER \$72.00; QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC. \$682.29; RDO EQUIPMENT CO. \$2,840.43; REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY \$302.13; RENNER, CHRIS \$1.40; ROTH, KENT \$70.00; ROUGHRIDER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC \$175.00; RUD PROPANE LLP \$5,773.90; SAKAKAWEA MEDICAL CENTER \$301.41; SCHMITT, MARK \$70.00; SCHUTT, ZACHARY \$472.00; SEIFERT, BRADLEY Q \$345.96; SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$57.91; THE BEACON \$431.70; THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES, INC. \$149.29; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$14,660.00; UNIFORM CENTER \$1,078.92; VERIZON WIRELESS \$1,077.03; WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$3,567.94; WESTERN PLAINS PUBLIC HEALTH \$4,245.40; WEX BANK \$2,726.76; WIEDRICH, WARREN \$70.00; WOLF, GENE \$181.20; ZAZESKI, KURT \$70.00. (Total: \$182,936.52)

Portfolio updates were given.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at www.mercercountynd.com.

Approved: _____
Gene Wolf, Chairman

Attest: _____
Carmen Reed, Auditor