

Mercer County Commission Minutes June 18, 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, and Auditor Carmen Reed. Dan Arens of the Hazen Star was absent. Others present during the meeting were Sheriff Terry Ternes, Treasurer Dawn Grannis, Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt, Building Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers via phone, NDSU Extension Agent Metta Pfliger, Moore Engineering Tom Weigel, Lewis & Clark Development Group Brent Ekstrom, Zap Park Board Delvin Zahn, Coteau Properties Darren Hellman, Kent Roth, Michelle Renner, and Shiloh Morast. Pledge of allegiance was said.

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

Pierce moved to approve the June 4, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the May Recorder Revenues of \$5,079.60. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Building Maintenance Supervisor/Risk Manager Jim Albers via phone presented the NDACo CEG Premium Discount check of \$23,794.84 and explained why the county receives these discounts. Folk moved to approve putting the NDACo CEG Premium Discount check of \$23,794.84 into the Risk Management (WSI) account 2105-36910-000. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Albers also updated the board on the progress of the courthouse water damage repairs.

NDSU Extension Family and Community Wellness Agent Metta Pfliger explained her role and updated the commission on community and family wellness activities.

Lewis & Clark Development Group Executive Director Brent Ekstrom gave an update and review of all Lewis & Clark Development Group programs available to the community.

Sheriff Terry Ternes presented an AgriBank grant check of \$34,058.00 that was received due to a 50/50 cost share safety equipment grant that his department had applied for, budgeted \$15,000 for and then received the full amount back. Ternes requested that \$15,000 of this check be put back into the general fund to cover the budgeted amount and the remaining funds to be put into the Sheriff Special Vehicle fund. Pierce moved to put \$15,000.00 of the grant check into the general fund and the remaining \$19,058.00 be put into the Special Vehicle fund as requested. Bauman seconded. Pierce voted yea, Bauman voted nay, Voigt voted nay, Folk voted nay, and Wolf voted yea. Motion failed.

Bauman moved to put the entire grant check of \$34,058.00 into the Special Vehicle fund. Voigt seconded. Bauman voted yea, Voigt voted yea, Folk voted yea, Pierce voted nay, Wolf voted yea. Ternes also updated the commission on the purchase of a 911 map printer for an upfront cost of \$11,260.00 and a monthly service charge of \$42.50 + overages that will be paid for by 911 funds.

Pierce moved to approve the 911 printer purchase and service contract as presented. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Zap Park Board member Delvin Zahn is working with ND Game & Fish to replace the Beaver Bay Boat Dock for a cost of \$58,648.00. ND Game & Fish are covering 75% of this cost and Zahn is requesting \$15,000 from the Parks In Lieu fund to cover the remaining 25%. Voigt moved to authorize up to \$15,000.00 from the Parks In Lieu fund to cover the remaining 25% cost the Beaver Boat Dock project. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the Beulah Little People Preschool Raffle application as presented. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve an additional 18 months of BCBS Vision and Dental benefits coverage for Mindy Martin (Widow of Deputy Paul Martin). Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Eide Bailly contract was discussed. Item was placed on next meeting agenda. 2026 Budget process update was given by Auditor Carmen Reed and asked the board to set the meeting date for Department Budget Reviews. Board agreed to set Friday, July 25, 2025, starting at 8:00 a.m. for these budget reviews.

Portfolio updates were given.

Board reviewed vouchers. Folk moved to approve the bills as presented. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment: 4 IMPRINT \$5,067.47; ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$1,287.67; ARMOR INTERACTIVE; \$2,675.69; AT & T \$140.00; BERG, MICHAEL \$32.00; BRONSON'S MARKETPLACE \$6,419.27; BUTLER MACHINERY CO \$764.21; CITY AIR MECHANICAL, INC. \$8,556.00; CITY OF BEULAH \$234.39; CITY OF GOLDEN VALLEY \$29.75; CITY OF STANTON \$6,894.19; D & E SUPPLY CO INC \$540.25; DIRECT MED \$105.56; EMINETH PLUMBING \$510.00; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$1,593.00; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$22.10; FIRESIDE OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$705.67; FLEMMER, RYAN \$14.00; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$198.85; HAZEN HEALTH PHARMACY \$809.83; HAZEN STAR \$150.00; HAZEN WELDING \$9.00; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT \$2,293.60; INTERSTATE ENGINEERING INC \$1,377.50; JOHNSEN TRAILER SALES, INC. \$240.68; JOHNSON CONTROLS – HVAC \$3,175.00; KNIFE RIVER VETERINARY CLINIC \$255.72; KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$67.49; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES \$180.00; LUCKYS TOWING AND REPAIR \$450.00; MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT \$2,384.00; MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$183.17; NAPA \$683.65; ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES \$189.00; ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$4,136.62; ND WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION \$285.00; NDCHCA \$100.00; NEUBERGER OIL COMPANY \$1,370.11; NEUMILLER, JEN \$30.00; NEXUS PLANNING & CONSULTING LLC \$8,402.50; North Central International, LLC \$339.76; NORTH DAKOTA ENVELOPE COMPANY \$579.00; NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS, INC. \$1,446.00; OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL \$860.00; OFFROAD SOFTWARE, INC. \$7,500.00; PFLIGER, METTA \$308.00; PHARMCHEM, INC. \$2,941.68; POSTMASTER \$73.00; POSTMASTER \$154.00; PRAIRIE SCALE SYSTEMS, INC. \$3,241.76; QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC. \$2,039.00; ROUGHRIDER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC \$835.79; RUD PROPANE LLP \$136.68; S & M LAWN SERVICE \$405.00; SAILER, SHANNON \$28.00; SAKAKAWA MEDICAL CENTER \$200.00; SCHEID, RICHARD \$13.30; SCHLENDER,

SCOTT \$25.20; SCHUTT, KRISTY \$18.48; SIGN SOLUTIONS \$500.85; Stein's Inc \$271.35; THE BEACON \$806.82; THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES, INC. \$188.76; TRUENORTH STEEL \$16,342.76; Tyler Business Forms \$1,030.36; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$5,860.00; VERIZON WIRELESS \$660.47; WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$2,469.34; WESTERN PLAINS PUBLIC HEALTH \$4,148.25; WEX BANK \$2,855.61. (TOTAL: \$118,842.16)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 2, 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