

**Mercer County Commission Special Public Grievance Hearing Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Rick Bauman.

Present were Commissioners Jamee Folk, Steve Guenther, Gene Wolf, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed, and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Others present during the meeting were States Attorney Todd Schwarz, Tax Director/Land Use Administrator Jennifer Neumiller, Jen Wolf, Betty Hunt, Mike Eslinger, Linda Eslinger, Linette Irwin, Michelle Maas, Wayne Windhorst, Chris Renner, Peggy Wolf, Judy Knoell, Rose Laning, Joe Grannis, Chase Dauenhauer, Wayne Bertsch, Mike Knuth, Kay LaCoe, Lori Hammer, Kristy Smith, Kevin Hafner, David Lundstrom, Elizabeth Lundstrom, Andy Thomas, Ben Sand, Lucinda S. Johnson, Nancy Evanoff, Sheila Roth, Darlys Roth, Dallas Maas Jr, William Dillingham, Stefanie Dillingham, Mark Hafner, Dallas Maas, Renee' Carlson, Bob Gartner, Jack Schuh, Mark Kaffar, Weston Berg, Greg McKee, Wes Klein, Alison Ritter, Michael Berg, Kaylene Berg, and Michael P. Morris.

Pledge of allegiance was said.

Folk moved to approve the agenda as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Bauman opened the hearings and States Attorney Todd Schwarz explained the parameters of this grievance hearing are for the petitioners to elaborate on their grievance, and limit repetition. Commission Board was here to listen to what the petitioners' concerns are and will address them at the next regular commission meeting on September 2, 2026.

Grievance petitioners who spoke were Weston Berg, Michael Berg, Kaylene Berg, Elizabeth Lundstrom, Nancy Evanoff, and Lucinda (Cindy) Johnson. Lori Hammer, and Mark Hafner declined from speaking because they felt their grievances had been addressed by other speakers.

Bauman thanked everyone for coming and stated that the board will take what they heard under consideration.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota.

Meetings can be viewed live at <https://www.youtube.com/@MercerCo>

Approved: _____
Rick Bauman, Chairman

Attest: _____
Carmen Reed, Auditor