

**Mercer County Commission Special Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Rick Bauman. Present were Commissioners Jamee Folk, Steve Guenthner, Gene Wolf, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed, and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Others present during the meeting were Highway Superintendent Elroy Opp, Assistant Highway Superintendent Dennis Olheiser, Highway Office Administrator Rachel Grimm, Wes Klein, and Stefanie Dillingham.

Pledge of allegiance was said.

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

2027 Budget reviewed and discussed. Commission requested the following budget changes:

- Take out \$250,000 of Beulah Building fund for remaining Value of \$46,500.
- Change Public Health Nurse from \$89,550 to \$60,000.
- Change the Examination Fees Audit Fees (State Audit) from \$60,000 to \$48,111
- Change the Soc Sec Software & Services (computer/Software) from \$102,000 to \$51,163.
- Social Security confirmation amount... recalculated Soc Sec to \$310,595.50.
- Updated the General fund Social Security/Medi Expenses as of 8/31/26...from \$31,466.89 to \$273,315.90.
- Confirm Road Department transfers, and update budget sheet.
- Update the 911 Fund with Oliver Co 911 Revenues of \$30,000, for both 2026 & 2027.
- Update the Workers Comp, NDACo CEG Insurance Premiums: 2026 estimated Cost \$96,513 & 2027 estimated cost \$101,577.

It was agreed to request Linda Svihovec %NDACo to review our 2027 Budget.

Folk moved to set a Special Budget Meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. Guenthner seconded. Folk, Guenthner, Wolf, and Bauman voted aye. Voigt voted nay.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 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