

McPherson County Board of Commissioners
Minutes of Proceedings
February 3rd, 2026

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026, in the Commissioners chambers. Chairman Mark Opp called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Members present were Neal Woehlhaff, Jeff Neuharth (via Zoom), Sid Feickert and Mike Mardian. The full meeting can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

Feickert moved Mardian seconded to approve the agenda of the February 3rd meeting with the clarification that action may be taken on Courthouse Maintenance projects. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried. No conflicts were declared.

Woehlhaff moved and Feickert seconded to approve the January 6th and January 9th Commissioner Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

DRAINAGE COMMISSION:

At 10:00AM Mardian moved and Opp seconded to meet as the McPherson County Drainage Commission. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried. The McPherson County Drainage Commission met on Tuesday February 6th, 2026. Chairman Sid Feickert called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Members present were: Mike Mardian, Neal Woehlhaff, Mark Opp and Jeff Neuharth(via Zoom). The Meeting and comments can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

Brief discussion was held on Drainage Permit 25-D-05 submitted by Jim Schauer to improve drainage in the W1/2 STR 28-126-67 by installing patterned drain tiles flowing into a lift station. The permit was tabled in January. Feickert reports that the applicant and neighboring landowner have reached an agreement and the drainage commission will plan to act on 25-D-05 in March.

At 10:03AM Woehlhaff moved and Opp seconded to adjourn the Drainage Commission meeting and resume meeting as the McPherson County Board of Commissioners. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At 10:05AM public comments were heard from: Jodi Waltman – made a statement and the following were in support, Linda Schauer, Melvin Kallas, Ray Geffre, Marian Kallas, Mike Klipfel, Ken Shafer, Gary Schauer, Kathy Reid, Steven Reid, Leo Vilhauer. Full comments can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 26-6
“COMPROMISE OF COUNTY AID LIEN”

WHEREAS, Pursuant to SDCL 23A-40-14, the Board of County Commissioners may compromise on a county lien; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the McPherson County Commission approved a compromise of \$459.15 to correct the recorded amount, on the county aid lien recorded in Book 7 Page 90.

Dated this 3rd day of February 2026

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard

McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

Mardian moved to adopt Resolution Number 26-6. Woehlhaff seconded the forgoing motion. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried, and Resolution Number 26-6 was declared duly adopted.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED AND ACTION TAKEN:

4H/Extension Update

4H Advisor Jackie Rau gave the commission a department update. 38 kids are currently enrolled in 4H Shooting Sports. An office day was held in Eureka, and more office days will be scheduled. Discussion was held on the best way to get the word out and generate additional interest in 4H.

Courthouse Maintenance

Sharon Guthmiller joined the meeting and discussed with the board issues with the North Courthouse door. The door lock performs poorly or doesn't work at all in cold weather and the door itself seems inefficient. Solutions and pricing will be sought from House of Glass. Discussion was held on the 3rd floor ceiling soffit space. Mardian has contacted RISE engineering to look at the structure of the ceiling to give an opinion on the possibility of adding insulation to soffit area. Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to accept the proposal from RISE engineering for \$1,100 to inspect the 3rd floor soffit area. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

Ongoing courthouse boiler issues were discussed with the board. Guthmiller is working with the boiler technicians to get both courthouse boilers functional. Landscaping in the south courthouse lawn was briefly discussed.

Highway Department

Feickert moved and Mardian seconded to call for bids for hot mix asphalt, AE150S, CSS1H, and MC70 prime oil. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to call for bids for crushing reseal material at state spec +/-15,000 tons of aggregate. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

Spitzer has sourced rental tractors at a rate of \$50/hour, an update will be given at the March meeting. Discussion was held on equipment that could be declared surplus and sold in the upcoming year.

Auditor's Office

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to approve the following abatements for tax exempt property:

Abatement 26-1: record #6807, tax exempt, PAY 2026 county portion abated \$2.15

Abatement 26-2: records #7494/7495/6371, tax exempt, PAY 2026 county portion abated \$477.30

Abatement 26-3: record #8924, tax exempt, PAY 2026 county portion abated \$5.37

Abatement 26-4: records #7142/7143, tax exempt, PAY 2026 county portion abated \$9.34

Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

Resolution 26-6 “Lien Compromise” was discussed and an additional compromise to reduce a \$3249.58 lien recorded in County Aid Lien Book 7 Page 90 was discussed. No action was taken. A future compromise may be considered if the applicant makes a good faith effort to repay a portion of the recorded lien.

Zoning Update

Commissioner Mardian gave an update on the Zoning meeting held on January 20th. Mike Lapka gave an update on additions to Ordinance 25-1 he would like the zoning board to consider. Brief discussion was held on manure ordinance 25-3 and an update was given by audience members who attended a community meeting regarding a proposed dairy in Edmunds County.

Executive Session

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to enter executive session at 11:32AM to discuss personnel matters. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried. Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to end executive session at 12:25PM. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”, excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

CLAIMS APPROVED:

Agtegra, Hwy Supplies/Tire Repair, \$2,106.54; Amazon, Supplies, \$218.86; ATT, Cellphone/Hotspot, \$554.66; Auto Value, Hwy Supplies, \$309.34; Axon Enterprises, Body Cameras, \$11,794.96; Bobcat of Aberdeen, Seal Kit, \$93.92; Butler, Motor Grader, \$139,833.00; Butler, Hwy Supplies, \$791.36; Century Business Products, Printer Contract, \$70.25; CHS, Propane, \$3,673.63; Crawford Trucks & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$2,107.70; CRS, Oct/Dec/Jan Inmate Ins, \$133.92; Curt’s Repair, Oil Change/Metal, \$351.92; Custom Cage, New Pickup, \$1,315.00; Joshua Lee Halsey, Repair, \$630.00; Dakota Electronics, Hwy Supplies, \$807.40; Dickey Rural Telephone Coop, Server Maint & Backup/Comps, \$6,009.38; Brandon Duquette, Clothing Reimbursement, \$200.00; Edmunds Co Abstract Company, Return Poor Lien, \$90.20; Eureka City, Utilities, \$242.50; Eureka Comm Health Services, Random Tests, \$123.75; Eureka Mfg, Hwy Supplies, \$219.70; FEM, Utilities, \$663.67; Fire Safety First, Fire Extinguishers, \$468.53; Gene’s Oil, Fuel, \$568.49; Grow SD, 2026 Allocation, \$3,000.00; Heartland Waste, Utilities, \$50.00; J&R Plumbing, Boiler Check Up, \$76.53; Kimball Midwest, Hwy Supplies, \$764.84; Lakeside Lumber, Hwy & Sheriff Supplies, \$313.06; Leola City, Utilities, \$203.97; Linde Gas & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$375.71; McPherson Co Herald, Publishing, \$938.94; MDU, Utilities, \$821.46; Menards, Hwy/Courthouse Supplies, \$183.20; Microfilm, Equip Rent/Software, \$1,633.20; Moser Excavating & Trucking, Snow Removal, \$2,137.50; NW Blade, Publishing, \$835.29; Performance Oil-Eureka, Fuel Oil, \$1,552.76; Plastix Plus LLC, New Vehicle, \$1,705.95; Premier Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$59.28; Jackie Rau, Reimbursement, \$21.65; RDO, Hwy Supplies, \$1,249.33; Rock Tuff, Hwy Supplies, \$213.94; Saber Shred Solutions, Hwy Supplies, \$776.60; Safety Service, Hwy Supplies, \$102.92; SD Assoc of Co Hwy, 2026 Fees, \$600.00; SD Assoc of Co Hwy, Short Course Registration, \$200.00; SD Dept of Labor, Distress Warrant, \$585.96; SD DOT, Bridge Inspection, \$735.76; SD State’s Attorney Assoc, 2026 Dues, \$766.82; Share Corp, Hwy Supplies, \$822.60; Glenn Spitzer, Clothing Reimb, \$153.99; Thomson Reuters, Jan West Law, \$795.43; Tri-State Water, Courthouse Water, \$116.50; US Post Office-Eureka, VSO Box Rent, \$78.00; Valley Telco, Phone/Internet, \$789.87; Vestis, Courthouse Supplies, \$214.79; VFW Eureka Post 5126, Frames, \$288.90; Visa, Supplies, \$755.47; Cortrust, Deliq tax/Direct Deposit Fee, \$24,927.48; McPherson

Co Treasurer, County Plates, \$16.70; December 2025 Apportionment Remitted to Cities/Schools/Townships/Fire Districts, \$87,686.84; State Treasurer, Money Due to State, \$53,669.93; State Treasurer, Sales Tax, \$1,282.02; SDACC, M&P December Fees, \$122.00; January Payroll Reimbursements: Jeff Neuharth, Miles, \$771.76; Sam Barrett, Miles/Stamps, \$127.00; Logan Heupel, Miles, \$12.60; George Hulscher, Miles, \$49.00.

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to approve the forgoing claims. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye", excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

Commissioners, \$6,728.05; Auditor, \$9,875.09; Treasurer, \$9,781.73; State's Attorney, \$6,450.48; Government Building, \$3,899.20; Director of Equalization, \$10,364.80; Register of Deeds, \$9,781.73; Veteran Service Officers, \$2,189.20; Sheriff, \$11,866.43; Extension, \$4,353.40; Planning & Zoning, \$300.00; Road & Bridge, \$58,720.74; Snow Removal, \$1,680.06; Emergency & Disaster, \$1,416.67; Eureka Joint Law, \$5,206.93; Leola Joint Law, \$4,612.50.

McPherson County's Share of the following:

Social Security and Medicare: CorTrust Bank: \$10,931.83

Insurance: American Family, \$418.47; Avera, \$7,420.97; Guardian Vision, \$150.15; MetLife, \$161.36; South Dakota Retirement System, \$8,676.77; Colonial Life Vision, \$50.05.

Meeting Authorizations

Feickert moved and Woehlhaff seconded to approve the following meeting authorizations: Glenn Spitzer to attend short course in Deadwood in March; Mike Mardian, meeting at courthouse with CWF Concrete in February. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye", excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Items and Reports

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to approve the following reports: VSO Hours January 2026, Register of Deeds statement of fees collected during the month of January 2026 for the amount of \$4,476.50; Register of Deed's Modernization and Preservation fees collected during month of January 2026 for the amount of \$290.00; State's Attorney Secretary Hours January 2026; Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer as of January 31st, 2026 as follows: total amount of deposits in Leola Bank, \$427,744.23; total amount of actual cash, \$925.50; Total amount of checks and drafts in Treasurers possession not exceeding three days, \$11,998.53; Itemized list of all items, checks and drafts in the Treasurers possession over three days, \$149.00; CD's, \$1,206,242.58; Super savings, \$1,033,477.23; total, \$2,680,537.07.

At 12:45PM Woehlhaff moved and Feickert seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye", excused Neuharth. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on March 10th, 2026, beginning at 10:00AM.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard
McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp
Chairman, Board of Commissioners