

McPherson County Zoning Board and Board of Adjustment
Minutes of Proceedings
February 24th, 2026

Call to Order

The McPherson County Zoning Board was called to order by Chairman Mike Mardian at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Chambers. Members present included George Hulscher, Logan Heupel, Dan Mettler, and Mike Lapka. Also present was Hunter Heinrich from Zoning Administration, several people from the public, and people on Zoom. The full meeting can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

Agenda

George Hulscher moved, and Logan Heupel seconded to approve the agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes

Dan Mettler moved, and Mike Lapka seconded to approve the January 20th, 2026, meeting minutes as published. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Conflicts of Interest

No Conflicts of Interest were mentioned.

Public Comments

No public comments were heard.

Board of Adjustment

Dan Mettler moved, and George Hulscher seconded to go into the Board of Adjustments at 10:03 A.M. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Variance hearing was held on 26-V-02 for Luke and Ahna Jorgenson who want to move a mobile home pursuant to Section 5.10.01 of the Revised Zoning Ordinance 24-1 of McPherson County. Luke and Ahna met with the board and discussed the renovations they have planned for the mobile home. Dan Mettler made a motion and Logan Heupel seconded to approve 26-V-02. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Mike Lapka made a motion and Dan Mettler seconded to waive the \$600 special meeting fee as other business brought forward by the board was to be discussed. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mike Lapka moved and George Hulscher seconded to move out of the Board of Adjustment at 10:10 A.M. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

Discussion on the Data Center Ordinance was held. Mike Lapka discussed changes he would like to see to Ordinance #2025-1. Changes discussed included: Fencing, roads, additional site plan requirements including a drainage plan, EMF exposure studies, Tax revenue impact studies, Energy consumption studies, Biodiversity and wildlife impact studies, contamination prevention, and a submittal requirement section. Questions about the Public Utilities Commission's role in some of the items discussed were

brought forward. States Attorney Austin Hoffman arrived and gave an opinion on including any study the state already has guidelines on. Public Comments were heard from Ray Geffre. Full comments can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD> No action was taken; more discussion will be held at a future meeting.

Mike Lapka shared a copy of Brookings County's Easement for use of county road right-of-way with the board for discussion due to liquid manure being pumped through in the county's right-of-way and liability concerns. No action was taken; more discussion will be held at a future meeting.

Building Permits

There were no new building permits.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 21st, 2026.

Adjournment

Logan Heupel moved, and Dan Mettler seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:53 A.M.

Hunter Heinrich
Zoning Administrator

Mike Mardian
Chairman of the Zoning Board