

**McPherson County Board of Commissioners**  
**Minutes of Proceedings**  
**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 Neuharth seconded to approve the agenda of the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”. Motion carried. No conflicts were declared.

Woehlhaff moved and Mardian seconded to approve the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Commissioner Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”. Motion carried.

**DRAINAGE COMMISSION:**

At 10:05AM Mardian moved and Neuharth seconded to meet as the McPherson County Drainage Commission. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”. Motion carried.

The McPherson County Drainage Commission met on Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Chairman Sid Feickert called the meeting to order at 10:05AM. 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. Mardian moved and Opp seconded to postpone action on permit 25-D-05 until April. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”. Motion carried.

At 10:07AM Opp moved and Woehlhaff seconded to adjourn the Drainage Commission meeting and resume meeting as the McPherson County Board of Commissioners. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted “aye”. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

At 10:07AM public comments were heard from: Ken Shafer: 110<sup>th</sup> Street Complaint; Wendy Brockel: Read statement in support of the commission on behalf of many; Debbie Davis: Complaints about Long Lake Town. Full comments can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

**BIDS:**

At 10:30AM the following bids for 2026 supply of bituminous plant mix (black top), crushing of an aggregate for asphalt surface treatment stockpile, surface asphalt road oil and asphalt emulsions were opened and read aloud:

The following bids were received for asphalt road oil and asphalt emulsions for 2026:

	<u>Jebro</u>	<u>Flint Hills</u>
AE 150S per ton	\$760.09	\$618.00
CSS1H 50/50 per ton	\$460.09	\$581.00
MC70/ton	\$1160.09	no bid

Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to accept both bids received for asphalt road oil and asphalt emulsions. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

The following bids were received for an Aggregate for Asphalt Surface Treatment Stockpile +/-15,000 tons

H.F Jacobs & Son Construction Inc.	\$28.00/ton
Wm. D. Scepaniak, Inc.	\$19.65/ton

Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to reject both bids. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

The following bids were received for Bituminous Plant Mix (Black Top) for 2026:

Lien Transportation Company	\$90.00 per ton
Jensen Rock & Sand	\$90.00 per ton

Neuharth moved and Woehlhaff seconded to accept both bids. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

#### **OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED AND ACTION TAKEN:**

##### Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Glenn Spitzer presented quotes to the board for a 2026 Loader. Discussion will continue at the next meeting. Feickert moved and Mardian seconded to declare the #0904 Motorgrader surplus and McPherson County's 50% of the Cat AP800 paver owned with Edmunds County. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

Rental Tractors for the 2026 season have been secured with Valley Plains Equipment at \$50/hour for 250 hours minimum. The reseal schedule for 2026 was discussed along with some changes, more discussion will be held at the April meeting. The Approach Permit application changes needed due to the passing of Ordinance 25-2 were discussed. The highway department will advertise for part-time summer help.

##### Right of Way Permits

Woehlhaff moved and Neuharth seconded to approve the following permits to occupy right of way: Web Water to install a potable waterline for livestock service along 336<sup>th</sup> Ave, boring under the road south of the intersection of 336<sup>th</sup> Ave and 104<sup>th</sup> Street in Section 30-T128N-R71W. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

##### Zoning Update

Commissioner Mardian gave an update on the Zoning meeting held on February 24<sup>th</sup> including a possible amendment to the Data Center Ordinance 25-1 and the manure ordinance/liquid manure pumping. Austin Weig joined the meeting and gave an overview of liquid manure pumping and discussion was held on permitting of liquid manure pumping.

##### Director of Equalization

Director Brooke Mehlhaff went over the appeal process for assessments, including important dates during the appeal period. The property owners guide to the appeal process can be found on the South Dakota Department of Revenue's website. County Owned property was reviewed and several parcels discussed. Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to approve a cellphone reimbursement, \$30/month for 6 months, for both Brooke Mehlhaff and Hunter Heinrich, for assessing this year. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

### Courthouse Maintenance

Commissioner Mardian and Woehlhaff presented the RISE Structural Associates Inc. Report of Findings. A copy of the report is available in the Auditor's Office. The Courthouse South Steps were discussed, and repair options are being sought. The Courthouse will turn 100 years old in 2027. A celebration will be planned tentatively in conjunction with the 2027 Rhubarb Days festivities. If anyone has ideas or would like to be a part of the planning committee, please reach out to Sharon Guthmiller. The landscaping circles and parking lot guardrails were discussed.

### Sheriff's Department

Quotes for adding to the courthouse security camera system and quotes for the courthouse basement blockwork were examined. Sheriff Ackerman is working on securing grant funds for the projects and will provide an update at a future meeting.

State's Attorney Hoffman gave an overview on Ordinance 21-1 Open Burning Regulation. McPherson County has an automatic burn ban during any red flag warning and/or when the NWS grassland fire index has McPherson County in the Very High or Extreme Category. That automatic burn ban includes burn barrels. The Commission can enact further restrictions if conditions warrant. Ordinances are online at [mcpherson.sdcounty.gov](http://mcpherson.sdcounty.gov) or in the Auditor's Office.

At 12:10PM Feickert moved and Woehlhaff seconded to break until 1pm. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried. The meeting resumed at 1PM.

### Auditor's Office

Auditor Lindley Howard presented the 2025 Annual Report. The presentation included several of the exhibits and cash balance trends over the past few years. The full annual report is filed with the Department of Legislative Audit, available online at <https://mcpherson.sdcounty.gov/directory/auditor/> and in person at the Auditor's Office during business hours. An abbreviated annual report is also published in the legal newspapers. Brief discussion was held on commission emails and if a county device is needed for commissioners and zoning board members to check county email and obtain meeting documents. No action taken at this time.

Feickert moved and Neuharth seconded to approve the following property tax abatement:

**Abatement 26-5:** record #8890, error/asset gone for entire year, PAY 2026 county portion abated \$180.30, PAY 2026 secondary road portion abated \$40.78. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to have the chairman sign the SDPAA Intergovernmental Agreement update. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

### **CLAIMS APPROVED:**

Aberdeen Area Radiator, Hwy Supplies, \$2,649.37; Amazon, Supplies, \$688.58; AMG, Hwy Tests, \$222.90; Art's Auto Body, Hwy Supplies, \$115.00; Auto Value, Hwy Supplies, \$552.71; Butler, Hwy Supplies, \$7,117.26; Cartney Bearing, Hwy Supplies, \$467.05; Century Business Products, Printer Contract, \$70.25; CHS, Propane, \$4,728.76; Cole Papers, Courthouse Supplies, \$101.85; Crawford Trucks & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$2,843.28; CRS, Feb Inmate Ins, \$40.32; Dakota Electronics, Hwy Supplies, \$807.40; Dakota Oil, Hwy Supplies, \$359.90; Dickey Rural Telephone Coop, Server Maint & Fix, \$778.39; DMC Wear Parts, Hwy Supplies, \$7,521.82; Eureka City, Utilities, \$253.00; Eureka Mfg, Hwy Supplies, \$16.80; Gene's Oil, Fuel, \$695.32; Heartland Waste, Utilities, \$20.00; Dawn Jenner, SDRS Reimb, \$28.37; Ken's Food Fair, Hwy Supplies, \$11.58; Kimball Midwest, Hwy Supplies, \$388.77; Lakeside Lumber, Hwy & Sheriff Supplies, \$68.19; Lamb Motor Co,

New Patrol Vehicle, \$49,201.00; Leola City, Utilities, \$203.45; Linde Gas & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$991.56; McPherson Co Herald, Publishing, \$217.54; MDU, Utilities, \$688.71; Menards, Courthouse Supplies, \$299.22; Microfilm, Equip Rent/Scanner Rental, \$5,907.00; MARC, Courthouse Supplies, \$176.42; Mid-States Organized Crime, 2026 Membership, \$100.00; Moser Excavating & Trucking, Snow Removal, \$1,295.00; Newman Traffic Signs, Signs, \$421.05; North Central Regional E911, Jan-Mar, \$10,352.29; NW Blade, Publishing, \$221.66; Performance Oil-Eureka, Fuel Oil/Hwy Supplies, \$1,822.84; Plastix Plus LLC, New Vehicle, \$165.76; Premier Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$333.53; Jackie Rau, Reimbursement, \$76.91; Ron's Service Center, Sheriff/Hwy, 351.84; SD DOT, Bridge Inspection, \$342.87; SDAAO, 2026 Conf, \$600.00; SDPAA, Ins Add On, \$486.98; Share Corp, Hwy Supplies, \$439.21; Henry Spitzer, Clothing Reimb, \$107.90; Glenn Spitzer, Comp Repair Reimb, \$113.62; Thomson Reuters, Feb West Law, \$795.43; TranSource Truck & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$479.66; Tri-State Water, Courthouse Water, \$266.00; Twotrees Technologies, Office Setup/Backup, \$277.00; US Post Office-Eureka, St. Attny Box Rent, \$162.00; Valley Telco, Phone/Internet, \$804.20; Michael Yost, CDL Reimb, \$204.30; AT&T Mobile, Cellphone/Hotspot/Ipads, \$520.62; Dependable Sanitation, Utilities, \$291.00; FEM, Utilities, \$611.79; Vestis, Courthouse Supplies, \$222.75; Visa, Hwy Supplies, \$141.56; Visa, Subs/Postage/MISC, \$970.78; Cortrust, Deliq Tax/Direct Deposit Fee, \$345.30; January 2026 Apportionment Remitted to Cities/Schools/Townships/Fire Districts, \$303,815.67; State Treasurer, Money Due to State, \$76,728.86; State Treasurer, Sales Tax, \$12.77; SDACC, M&P January Fees, \$116.00; SD Sec of State, Voter List, \$10.00; February Payroll Reimbursements: Mark Opp, Miles, \$1,032.83; Lindley Howard, Miles, \$84.00; Sharon Guthmiller, Part, \$30.24; Dave Ackerman, Reimb, \$3.18; Nathan Hoffman, Hotel, \$233.18; Logan Heupel, Miles, \$12.60; George Hulscher, Miles, \$49.00.

Mardian moved and Woehlhaff 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, \$9,917.09; 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; Weed Control, \$1,080.00; Planning & Zoning, \$500.00; Road & Bridge, \$59,928.03; 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: \$10,983.51

Insurance: American Family, \$418.47; Avera, \$6,233.99; Guardian Vision, \$150.15; MetLife, \$161.36; South Dakota Retirement System, \$8,650.92; Colonial Life Vision, \$70.07.

#### **WAGE INCREASES:**

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to increase Micheal Yost's salary to \$27.61/hour as of 2/25/2026, obtained CDL. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried. Neuharth moved and Mardian seconded to increase Nathan Chambers' salary to Step 3 as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, graduated LET, \$61,959.24 annually (\$5,163.27/month). Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

#### **Meeting Authorizations**

Feickert moved and Woehlhaff seconded to approve the following meeting authorizations: Brooke Mehlhaff & Hunter Heinrich, SDAAO Conference in Sioux Falls in June, Sales Ratio Training in Pierre in May, Training on

Difficult Commercial Assessments in Winner in May and Vanguard User Group Meeting in Oacoma in September; Hunter Heinrich, Mike Lapka, Mike Mardian to meet with NECOG in March.

Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

#### Miscellaneous Items and Reports

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to approve Treasurer's Office closing at noon on Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried. Neuharth

moved and Mardian seconded to grant Good Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Easter Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> as holiday days as approved by Governor Rhoden and the State of SD. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Neuharth, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye". Motion carried.

Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to approve the following reports: VSO Hours February 2026, Register of Deeds statement of fees collected during the month of February 2026 for the amount of \$3,149.75; Register of Deed's Modernization and Preservation fees collected during month of February 2026 for the amount of \$310.00; State's Attorney Secretary Hours February 2026; Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as follows: total amount of deposits in Leola Bank, \$116,152.55; total amount of actual cash, \$831.00; Total amount of checks and drafts in Treasurers possession not exceeding three days, \$22,612.17; Itemized list of all items, checks and drafts in the Treasurers possession over three days, \$1,077.70; CD's, \$1,206,242.58; Super savings, \$958,477.23; total, \$2,305,393.23. Upon roll call vote Mardian, Feickert, Woehlhaff, Opp voted "aye"; Neuharth excused. Motion carried.

At 2:10PM 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 Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup> both beginning at 9:00AM. A Road Tour is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> leaving from the Eureka County Shop at 10:30AM.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard

McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp

Chairman, Board of Commissioners