

McPherson County Board of Commissioners
Minutes of Proceedings
May 5th, 2026

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 5th, 2026, in the Commissioners chambers. Chairman Mark Opp called the meeting to order at 9:00AM. Members present were Neal Woehlhaff, Jeff Neuharth, Sid Feickert and Mike Mardian. The full meeting can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

Mardian moved Neuharth seconded to approve the agenda of the May 5th meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried. No conflicts were declared.

Woehlhaff moved and Feickert seconded to approve the minutes of the April 6th Road Tour, April 7th and April 14th Commissioner meetings and the April 14th Board of Equalization meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At 9:15AM public comments were heard from: Linda Schauer – board should ask Garrett Heinz to give an update on the Edmunds County Dairy; Jackie Rau- 4H and Shooting Sports update, there is someone interested in starting a 4H club in Eureka. Full comments can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@McPhersonCountySD>

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 26-10
“PLAT APPROVAL”

“Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of McPherson County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Boulder Cemetery Addition to the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 125N, Range 71 West of the 5th P.M., McPherson County, South Dakota, having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 11-3, and any amendments thereof”

Dated this 5th day of May 2026 at Leola, South Dakota.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard

McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp

McPherson County Commission Chair

Neuharth moved for the adoption of Resolution Number 26-10, Woehlhaff seconded the foregoing motion. Upon roll call vote, thereon, Neuharth, Feickert, Mardian, Woehlhaff and Opp voted “AYE”. Motion carried and Resolution Number 26-10 was declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION 26-11
“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATION”

WHEREAS, The McPherson County Board of Commissioners has provided a contingency line item in the 2026 McPherson County Annual Budget as allowed by SDCL 7-21-6.1; and

WHEREAS, said contingency amount may be used to cover appropriations in which insufficient amounts were provided, and

WHEREAS, McPherson County has such appropriations with insufficient amounts provided,

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED: The appropriations be transferred from the commissioner's contingency line item in the 2026 Annual Budget for McPherson County to the following budget categories in the following amounts:

226-222-411	Emergency and Disaster Salaries	\$7,000
226-222-412	Emergency and Disaster SS/MEDI	\$600
226-222-413	Emergency and Disaster Retirement	\$450
226-222-415	Emergency and Disaster Group Ins.	\$1450
TOTAL CONTINGENCY TRANSFER:		\$9,500

Dated this 5th day of May 2025.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard

McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp

McPherson County Commission Chair

Neuharth moved for the adoption of Resolution 26-11 and Feickert seconded the foregoing motion. Upon roll call vote, all members voted "AYE". Motion carried and Resolution Number 26-11 was declared duly adopted.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED AND ACTION TAKEN:

Olivia DeBoer, GROW South Dakota

Olivia DeBoer from GROW South Dakota, McPherson County's Community action program, met with the board to discuss the investment GROW has made in McPherson County in 2025 and their budget request for 2027. GROW SD provided Business/Housing loans, Emergency Services, Home Improvements, Weatherization, food pantry services and several educational workshops to 276 recipients in the county.

Courthouse Maintenance

Woehlhaff moved and Feickert seconded to not replace the 3rd floor Clerk of Courts vault window and instead place foam on the interior and spray paint the exterior of the existing window. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Woehlhaff moved and Mardian seconded to accept the quote from Midwest Wall System to repair the south steps piers for \$8,000 - \$10,000. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Discussion was held on two quotes received to replace the ADA chair lift in the Courthouse. A replacement of the current system was quoted at \$64,950 and a two-lift system which may operate better with less issues was quoted at \$130,400. Questions were discussed on the cost and feasibility of adding an elevator, Mardian will contact Kone elevators for a quote. Discussion was held on the Courthouse's status on the Historical register and if that status would prohibit certain engineering that may be required for an elevator. Feickert and Howard will look for grants and programs; any other idea are welcome. Venting to disperse the boiler heat in the basement was looked at by an electrician and plumber, the issue is still ongoing. A plumbing issue occurred last week, and sewage was in the basement, the issue ended up being an easy fix. Courthouse repair budget was looked at with the repairs and improvements made so far in 2026. Discussion was held on how much should be invested in repairs to a 100-year-old building. Melvin and Marian Kallas provided public comments.

Shane Glover, RDO

Shane Glover with RDO presented two options for a new John Deere loader. Cost of used versus new with the governmental discounts were discussed. Neuharth moved and Mardian seconded to purchase a 2026 John Deere 644X over 4 years for \$91,804.24 per year. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Highway Department

Issues with approach applications were briefly discussed. Anyone wanting an approach application should contact the Hwy Department. Road shoulder pulling and digging out the bad spots on county road 23 has begun. The AP800 CAT Paver that was offered at Auction did not sell. Spitzer has an offer from Pennington County for \$2500 which is salvage value.

Executive Session

Mardian moved and Feickert seconded to enter executive session at 10:40AM to discuss personnel and legal matters. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded exit executive session at 11:03AM. All voted in favor. Motion carried. As a result of executive session Feickert moved and Mardian seconded to hire Ethan Petrich as a restricted seasonal hwy department employee for \$20/hour. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Auditor's Office

Woehlhauff moved and Neuharth seconded to approve the election agreement with Eureka School District. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to remove the following budget authority from the 2026 budget due to reduction of VSO hours 101-165-411: -12,500; 101-165-412 -1,000. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to approve the following budgeted General Fund cash transfers: \$50,000 from Fund 101 to Fund 238 Leola Joint Law; \$23,150 from Fund 101 to Fund 226 Emergency Management Fund. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Auditor Lindley Howard gave a presentation on Budget History as the 2027 Budget cycle starts. This presentation is available on the county website on the Auditor page. The County Road and Bridge Capital Improvement levy, wheel tax, and general fund opt outs were all discussed.

CLAIMS APPROVED:

Agtegra, Hwy/Soil Dist Supplies, \$4,420.47; Amazon, Supplies, \$1,495.27; American Income Life, 4-H Insurance, \$149.50; ATT, Cellphone/Hotspot, \$515.64; Auto Value, Hwy Supplies, \$399.35; Butler, Hwy Supplies, \$2,105.10; Century Business Products, Printer Contract, \$70.25; Crawford Trucks & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$1,209.70; CRS, April Inmate Ins, \$43.20; Curt's Repair, Oil Change/Metal, \$362.95; Dakota Fluid Power, Hwy Supplies, \$245.96; Daniel L Fox, Mental Health, \$195.57; Dickey Rural Telephone Coop, Server Maint/Antivirus, \$165.84; ES&S, Election Fees, \$1,181.44; Equipment Blades, Hwy Supplies, \$3,695.00; Eureka City, Utilities, \$221.50; Eureka Comm Health Service, Tests, \$212.50; FEM, Utilities, \$532.89; Gall's Incorporated, Sheriff Supplies, \$150.50; Gene's Oil, Fuel, \$831.72; Heartland Waste, Utilities, \$50.00; J&R Plumbing, Courthouse Supplies & Fix, \$381.35; Jensen Rock & Sand, Pearock, \$10,115.51; Mark Katterhagen, Mental Health, \$20.00; Kimball Midwest, Hwy Supplies, \$785.60; Lakeside Lumber, Hwy/Sheriff/Courthouse Supplies, \$119.47; Val Larson, Mental Health, \$20.00; Leola City, Utilities, \$202.00; Linde Gas & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$193.85; McLeod's, Election Supplies, \$99.36; McPherson Co Herald, Publishing, \$475.53; MDU, Utilities, \$600.14; Microfilm, Equip Rent, \$339.00; Midstates Group, Prints/Receipt Books, \$913.85; Moser Excavating & Trucking, Snow Removal, \$1,387.50; North Central 911, April Reimittance, \$3,259.79; NW Blade, Publishing, \$451.31;

Performance Oil-Eureka, Fuel Oil, \$1,251.55; Plastic Works, Hwy Supplies-Asphalt, \$6,854.00; Pomp's, Tires, \$92.00; Premier Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$90.07; Quality Welding, Repair, \$191.00; Ron's Service Center, Oil Change/Tire Repair, \$210.07; SDACO, 2026 Deputy Conf, \$300.00; SDACC, CLERP 1st Qtr, \$1,864.00; SDPAA, Tractor Insurance, \$614.04; Share, Hwy Supplies, \$428.43; Simplot, Weed Chemical, \$15,720.00; Thomson Reuters, April West Law, \$795.45; Tri-State Water, Courthouse Water, \$123.75; Two Lane Tactics, Training, \$99.99; Twotrees Technologies, Office Backup, \$81.00; Valley Telco, Phone/Internet, \$730.69; Vestis, Courthouse Supplies, \$220.33; Visa, Hwy Supplies, \$110.53; Visa, Subs/Postage/MISC, \$360.59; Yankton Co Treasurer, Mental Health, \$153.75; Yankton Co Treasurer, Mental Health, \$50.00; 16 Jurors, Juror Fees & Miles, \$1,113.00; Cortrust, Deliq Tax/Direct Deposit Fee, \$1,073.78; Kevin Germann, MV Refund, \$77.60; March 2026 Apportionment Remitted to Cities/Schools/Townships/Fire Districts, \$332,419.20; State Treasurer, Money Due to State, \$70,635.64; State Treasurer, Sales Tax, \$188.85; SDACC, M&P March Fees, \$122.00; April Payroll Reimbursements: Lindley Howard, Postage Reimb, \$10.48; Brooke Mehlhaff, Cell Reimb, \$180.00; Hunter Heinrich, Cell Reimb, \$180.00; Samantha Barrett, Miles, \$49.00; Logan Heupel, Miles, \$12.60; George Hulscher, Miles, \$49.00.

Feickert moved and Neuharth seconded to approve the forgoing claims. Upon roll call vote: Neuharth, Opp, Feickert and Woehlhaff voted "Aye"; excused Mardian. 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, \$400.00; Road & Bridge, \$62,397.87; Emergency & Disaster, \$1,416.67; Eureka Joint Law, \$5,206.93; Leola Joint Law, \$5,163.27.

McPherson County's Share of the following:

Social Security and Medicare: CorTrust Bank: \$11,131.12

Insurance: American Family, \$371.00; Avera, \$6,233.99; Guardian Vision, \$150.15; MetLife, \$156.18; South Dakota Retirement System, \$8,807.30; Colonial Life Vision, \$70.07.

INCREASED SALARIES:

Feickert moved and Woehlhaff seconded to increase Linda Hanke to Step 2 (6 months), 22.74/hour for 1820 hours annually. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Approach Applications

Meeting Authorizations

Mardian moved and Woehlhaff seconded to approve the following meeting authorizations: Glenn Spitzer to attend the summer meeting in June. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Items and Reports

Neuharth moved and Woehlhaff seconded to approve the following reports: Register of Deeds statement of fees collected during the month of April 2026 for the amount of \$9,962.50; Register of Deed's Modernization and Preservation fees collected during month of April 2026 for the amount of \$350.00; Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer as of April 30th, 2026 as follows: total amount of deposits in Leola Bank, \$188,935.51; total amount of actual cash, \$939.88; Total amount of checks and drafts in Treasurers possession not exceeding three days, \$266,754.19; Itemized list of all items, checks and drafts in the

Treasurers possession over three days, \$149.00; CD's, \$1,212,075.67; Super savings, \$3,377,695.41; total, \$5,046,549.66; Notice and Record of Payments to Poor Persons December 2025-April 2026. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

At 12:25PM Woehlhaff moved and Neuharth seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote: Neuharth, Opp, Feickert and Woehlhaff voted "Aye"; excused Mardian. Motion carried.

The next regular commission meetings will be Thursday, June 4th and Tuesday, July 7th both beginning at 9:00AM.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard
McPherson County Auditor

Mark Opp
Chairman, Board of Commissioners