

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

The second regular June meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Curt Olson. Present were Commissioners Olson, Steve Cottingham, and Steve Lee. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Lynda Snyder; Road Superintendent Jim Grey; Computer Operations Director Lori Foss; Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson; Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc, Real Estate Administrator Eric Poppinga; John Keller; David Lindell; Kevin Korus; Tim Langerud of Swenson Hagen & Company; Kathy Skaley; Curtis Skaley; and Brett Mathern.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 2, 2026 as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss presented a quote from NRG Technology Services for equipment to upgrade the wireless network in the Law Enforcement Center and Courthouse, including a five-year warranty in the amount of \$12,270.24. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the purchase as presented using ARPA funds for payment. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson presented a quote from Motorola Solutions to update the department's 911 mapping system in the amount of \$45,500.00 over a five-year term. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the initial payment of the Motorola Quote of \$13,100.00 with the total payment being \$45,500.00 over the next five years. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson presented two quotes from NRG Technology Services to replace two computers and two backup hard drives in the Sheriff's Department to accommodate the new 911 mapping system from Motorola. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve both quotes from NRG Technology Services as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update of department operations reporting that two graveling crews are working using material out of the Johnson Pit. Discussion followed.

Grey stated that the newly purchased road groomer is being used and is working very well. Discussion followed.

Grey informed the board that two 2021 half-ton pickups were purchased at the state auction last week. He went on to state that there are several vehicles and/or pieces of equipment that will need to be retired and sold later this year at auction.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve purchase of a mulcher attachment from Titan Equipment not to exceed \$38,350.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Poppinga presented a request from Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. to construct 43.8 kV transmission line on wood monopoles and/or wood H frame poles in McLean County road right-of-way. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the permit as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented dumpster rental and pickup pricing from Circle Sanitation to replace dumpsters at the Garrison and Washburn shops. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve renting a two-yard dumpster for the Garrison and Washburn shop locations. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Assistant Director of Tax Equalization Elizabeth Patterson joined the meeting presenting six applications from the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting held on June 15, 2026.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by SKS Properties LLC, Bismarck ND, requesting approval of a subdivision plat being Outlot A, part of Government Lots 1 & 2 of the NE¼, Section 27, Wise Township.

Langerud presented the plat for the new subdivision. Discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by Michael J. Reim of Underwood, North Dakota, requesting approval of a zoning change involving 2.3 acres of land located in Outlot A in SE¼SE¼ of Section 24, Township 145 North, Range 84 West. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application for a Conditional Use Permit submitted by Ben and Marquise Hudgen, Bismarck North Dakota, involving 5.82 acres of land located in Outlot G in the SE¼SW¼, Section 9, Township 148 North, Range 84 West. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by Patrick W. and Katie R. Krueger, Bismarck, North Dakota, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit involving 1.50 acres of land located in Outlot A in Government Lot 5, Section 35, St. Mary Township. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by submitted by Nathan and Michelle Kupfer, Bismarck, North Dakota, requesting a variance of the setback requirements of the McLean County Zoning Ordinance involving land located in Lot 34, Block 1, Bonnie Subdivision, Wise Township. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by Harry and Sharon Hottel, Fontana, California, requesting approval of a subdivision plat involving land located in NE¼NE¼, Section 36, St. Mary Township.

Patterson stated that McLean County currently has approximately 104 lots for sale by the original developer with about 90 of those in lake or recreational areas. In addition, she stated that there have been 46 subdivision lots approved by the Commission but have not been recorded and will go on the market this year. Discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented an amendment to the Resolution Approving Engineer's Report for Rainbow Energy Center, LLC 29th Avenue Southwest Project adding a 1% administrative fee. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the Resolution Approving Engineer's Report as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Resolution Approving Engineer's Report is filed in the Auditor's Office.

Knutson provided an election update stating that the election went very smoothly and the Canvass Board is scheduled to meet Monday at 9:00 a.m. Olson thanked the Auditor's Office and the election workers for all of their work leading up to and during the election.

Knutson presented the City of Butte and Turtle Lake Police Contracts for signing. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented several vouchers for payment to Primary Election workers for training, election hours, and reimbursement for meals and mileage.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the vouchers for the Primary Election workers and the following vouchers for payment:

A detailed list of checks is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Curt Olson, Chairperson

Lynda Snyder, Deputy Auditor