

McLean County Commission Proceedings  
Tuesday, August 5, 2025

The first regular August meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Lee. Present were Commissioners Lee, Steve Cottingham, and Curtis Olson. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Lynda Snyder; Road Superintendent James Grey; Chief Deputy Auditor Lori Foss; Mark Lelm; Kathy Wagner; Western Dakota Energy Association Executive Director Alison Ritter; and Wold Engineering Vice-President Michael Rivinius.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 21, 2025, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that mowing started this week and graveling and blading continues across the county. Discussion followed.

Grey informed the commissioners that he had been contacted by the state regarding the road leading into the Indian Hills Resort in Garrison. He stated that North Dakota Game and Fish Department is currently responsible for the maintenance but the state would like the county to take this over. Grey recommended leaving the maintenance of the road with the state and the commissioners agreed. Discussion followed.

Grey stated that several property owners in the Iglehart Cabin Site area have voiced their concerns with the speed bumps installed on the county road. He also stated that the signs have not been moved as requested and he recommended removing the speed bumps. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to request that the speed bumps and signs are removed on the road in the Iglehart Cabin Site that the county maintains. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to amend the motion to require that the speed bumps and signs are removed on the road in the Iglehart Cabin Site that the county maintains by Monday, August 11, 2025. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion to amend carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to require the speed bumps and signs are removed on the road in the Iglehart Cabin Site that the county maintains by Monday August 11, 2025. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius presented the county’s bridge inspection report for signature. Discussion followed.

Rivinius stated that nine bridges were identified for potential rehabilitation or reconstruction with Flexible Transportation Funds through the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). He recommended five bridge replacements and one bridge removal. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to apply for Flexible Transportation Funds through the NDDOT to replace five bridges and remove one bridge. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None.

Rivinius presented information on an Agricultural Infrastructure Grant Program for roadway and bridge improvements and utility improvements necessary to accommodate the development or expansion of new or existing value-added agriculture business. He recommended applying for the grant funds to widen the shoulder on the road leading to Blue Flint Ethanol. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to a apply for Agriculture Infrastructure Grant funds with the purpose of widening the shoulders leading out to the ethanol plant. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius presented the engineering contract with Wold Engineering for paving projects in 2026. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to accept the contract with Wold Engineering as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion to amend carried.

Foss requested a salary adjustment for Jacob Behles, a new Equipment Operator II with prior experience who requested a step adjustment in order to accept the position. The proposed salary is to Step 7 of the salary grade, \$53,898.12, retroactive to July 28, 2025, with an adjustment to Step 8 after successful completion of introductory six months.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the salary adjustment for Jacob Behles as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion to amend carried.

Ritter introduced herself to the Board of Commissioners and discussed upcoming events of the Western Dakota Energy Association. Discussion followed.

Wagner presented her concerns with a narrow channel on Brush Lake and the potential for accidents. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to have Knutson communicate with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department to assess the channel and make a recommendation for watercraft accessing the channel. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension Agent Kamile Moderegger and NDSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resource Agent Sarah Bedgar joined the meeting to give an update on NDSU Extension activities. Moderegger and Bedgar presented a quarterly narrative to the Commission. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$22,927,403.41 and the total pledged securities were \$25,113,584.82 on July 30, 2025.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to accept the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the Dakota Central Human Service Zone (DCHSZ) Transfer of Funds Resolutions and the McLean County Auditor’s Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolution from July. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

DCHSZ Transfer of Funds Resolutions and the McLean County Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolutions are on file in the McLean County Auditor’s Office.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder’s Department for the month of July in the amount of \$11,307.20.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff’s Department for the month of July in the amount of \$2,372.20.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Local Raffle Permit Application submitted by Camp of the Cross Ministries for a 50/50 raffle to be held on August 12, 2025 at the Garrison Golf Course, contingent on verification that the gaming machines will be shut down during the raffle. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the following vouchers for payment:

VOUCHER/ CHECK	REMIT NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
UNPAID VOUCHERS			
1292	BENJAMIN GEHRING	MONTHLY CORONER FEES	1,000.00
1292	CITY OF UNDERWOOD	HALL RENTAL HAZMAT DECON TRAINING	20.00
1292	CITY OF UNDERWOOD	HAZARDOUS MAT EMERG PREPAREDNESS	80.00
1292	CITY OF WASHBURN	WATER/SEWER COURTHOUSE	99.27
1292	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	DUST MOP, TP, CLOROX, ETC	278.14
1292	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	GLOVES, TISSUE, PENCILS, ETC	823.53
1292	ESRI INC.	ARCGIS FOR DESKTOP - MAINTENANCE	810.00
1292	GARRISON DIVERSION	DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS	1,193.11
1292	GARRISON RURAL WATER DIST	PARK RURAL WATER USAGE	299.10
1292	GERARD GOVEN	WATER BOARD MEETINGS	1,125.00

1292	GERARD GOVEN	MILEAGE	189.67
1292	GOETZ FUNERAL HOME INC	MONTHLY CORONER FEES	1,000.00
1292	LIGNITE TIRE	TIRES	1,304.00
1292	LYNN OBERG	WATER BOARD MEETINGS	1,250.00
1292	LYNN OBERG	MILEAGE	214.75
1292	MARCO	CONTRACT PAYMENT	1,966.00
1292	MCLEAN COUNTY IMPL	32 INCH HAIRPINS	4.29
1292	MCLEAN FAMILY RES CENTER	DISB MONTHLY COLL - VICTIM/WITNESS FUND	425.00
1292	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	PAINTED WOODS WEIR REPLACEMENT	45,032.50
1292	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	PAINTED WOODS HIGH FLOW CHANNEL DESIGN	4,071.25
1292	ND STATE TREASURER	DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS - STATE TAX	283.73
1292	ND STATE TREASURER	DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS - DOMESTIC VIOL	210.00
1292	ND VSO ASSOCIATION	2025 FALL CONFERENCE	120.00
1292	NDSU	LAPTOP COST SHARE	592.74
1292	NW TIRE	REPAIRS	878.20
1292	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	ELECTRIC - COURTHOUSE	2,855.70
1292	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	ELECTRIC - COURTHOUSE	2,580.68
1292	PAHLKE STEEL INC	FORK EXTENSIONS-LOADING CARS FOR AUCTION	708.48
1292	SHANNON JEFFERS	WATER BOARD MEETINGS	1,000.00
1292	SHANNON JEFFERS	MILEAGE	213.97
1292	TOLLEFSON'S FLOORING	INSTALL INTERLOCKING TILE-DISPATCH	15,128.00
1292	US FOODS	INMATE MEALS	1,280.83
1292	WARD COUNTY	INMATE MEDS AND HOUSING	194.99
1292	WESTERN DAK ENERGY ASSOC	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES 2025-2026	3,344.13
<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>			
1293	ELECTRIC SYSTEMS INC	REPAIR TO GAS PUMP TOGGLE SWITCH	268.00
1293	HEARTLAND CONSULTING GRP	HAZMAT DECON TRAINING	903.40
1293	HEARTLAND CONSULTING GRP	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERG PREPAREDNESS	3,613.60
1293	MASTER FIRE AND SAFETY	FIRE EXT-GARRISON & WASHBURN SHOPS	1,735.50
1293	ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	NW REGION BRIDGE INSPECTION	23,166.50
1293	NW TIRE	TIRES	99.25
1293	RDO EQUIPMENT CO	2023 LITTLE FALLS MACHINE	22,000.00
<b>DIRECT DEPOSIT</b>			
1294	BETH A KNUTSON	AUDITOR/TREASURERS CONFERENCE	239.00
1294	BETH A KNUTSON	REIMB VEHICLE REGISTRATION	40.00
1294	CURT MALO	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	ELIZABETH PATTERSON	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	JAN HANSON	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	KAMILE MODEREGGER	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	KAYLA L OBERLANDER	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	NOELLE KROLL	MILEAGE REIMB	42.00
1294	RYAN OBERG	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	SARAH BEDGAR	MILEAGE & MEALS REIMB	269.60
1294	SARAH BEDGAR	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
1294	TRAVIS R VERKE	REIMB JULY CELL PHONE	30.00
<b>NDPERS</b>			
1289	NDPERS	AUGUST 2025 HEALTH & LIFE INS	238,079.74
1290	NDPERS	JULY 2025 RETIREMENT	94,120.66
1291	NDPERS	JULY 2025 DC	7,855.00
<b>PAYROLL</b>			
1275	AFLAC	MONTHLY PREMIUM – JULY PAYROLL	1,322.98
1276	DELTA DENTAL	DENTAL INSURANCE PREMIUM – JULY PAYROLL	7,972.26
1277	AVESIS	VISION INSURANCE PREMIUM – JULY PAYROLL	1,597.04
401475	BRAVERA WEALTH	MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS - JULY	1,303.80
401476	RODENBURG LAW FIRM	GARNISHMENT - JULY	705.52
401477	MISSOURI VALLEY FOP #3	FOP DUES - JULY	15.00
401478	FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE	FOP DUES - JULY	59.00
401480	USABLE LIFE	CANCER/ACCIDENT INSURANCE PREMIUMS - JULY	120.12
1284	ND CHILD SUPP ENFORCEMENT	CHILD SUPPORT - JULY	2,820.20
1285	OHIO CHILD SUPP PMNT CENTRAL	CHILD SUPPORT - JULY	457.87
<b>ON DEMAND/MANUAL CHECKS</b>			
401473	DACOTAH PAPER	BLEACH	32.84
401481	DACOTAH PAPER	TP, DETERGENT, BLEACH, SWIFFER REFILL, ETC	384.16
401482	ND DEPT OF TRUST LANDS	CANCELLED CHECKS	45.89
401483	WASTE MANAGEMENT	CENTENNIAL PARK DUMPSTER SERVICE	3,188.72
401485	ND ATTY GENERAL	MONTHLY COLLECTIONS 24/7 SOBRIETY PROG	979.00
<b>P-CARD FUNDED PURCHASES</b>			
1295	ALLSTATE PETERBILT OF BISMARCK	REPAIRS	532.98
1295	AMAZON	PAPER, IPHONE CASE, FIRST AID ITEMS	117.77
1295	AMAZON	2026 PLANNER, NOTEBOOKS, MOUSE	49.42
1295	AMAZON	PAPER TOWEL HOLDER	9.99
1295	AMAZON	3 TIER ROLLING UTILITY KITCHEN CART	69.97
1295	AMAZON	METAL FILE CABINET, CASTER WHEELS	155.97
1295	AMAZON	TYLENOL, DECONGESTANT MEDS	34.15
1295	AMAZON	HP MONITOR	163.19
1295	AMAZON	DOCUMENT PICTURE FRAMS	27.99
1295	AMAZON	2026 MONTHLY PLANNER	25.80
1295	AMAZON	PENCILS & ERASERS, WIRELESS MOUSE, ETC	41.26
1295	AMAZON	40PC KIDS CUTTING BOARD & KNIFE SET	35.99
1295	AMAZON	AIR BLOW GUN ATTACHMENT	19.98
1295	AMAZON	AIR FILTERS	196.12
1295	AMAZON	HP923 INK CARTRIDGE - PARK PRINTER	98.99
1295	AMAZON	EXTERNAL HARD DRIVES	277.85
1295	AUTO VALUE BISMARCK	PARTS	642.81
1295	AUTO VALUE BISMARCK	FREON	194.74
1295	AUTO VALUE BISMARCK	BATTERY	156.99
1295	CIRCLE SANITATION	GABAGE PICKUP	444.00
1295	DAKOTA DUST-TEX	FLOOR MATS	97.50
1295	DAYS INN BY WYNDHAM STURGIS	ARLAN SWANSON TRAINING	180.58
1295	EVENTBRITE	NDLETS CONFERENCE	135.00
1295	FIREFLY RESERVATIONS	PARK RESERVATIONS	189.00
1295	GALLS	RESPONDER KITS	1,421.28
1295	GALLS	RESPONDER KITS	2,368.80
1295	GALLS	RESPONDER KITS	1,776.60
1295	INDEED	DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT AD	236.93
1295	ISTATE TRUCK CENTER	REPAIRS	226.29
1295	KARL'S	NEW WASHER LEC	1,049.94
1295	KRAUSES MARKET	GROCERIES FOR JAIL	34.07
1295	LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT	WELDING SUPPLIES	95.42
1295	MCLEAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	ROSEGLEN, UNDERWOOD, GARRISON SHOPS	480.00
1295	MCLEAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	CENTENNIAL PARK	2,221.00

1295	MCLEAN SHERIDAN RURAL WATER	RURAL WATER	69.00
1295	MR SQUEEGEE WINDOW CLEANING	CLEAN EXTERIOR WINDOWS	1,200.00
1295	NAPA AUTO PARTS GARRISON	PARTS	95.76
1295	NAPA AUTO PARTS GARRISON	OIL	13.56
1295	NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS	COMMISSION MINUTES	1,069.28
1295	NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS	HELP WANTED ADS	1,568.74
1295	NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS	ZONING MINUTES	8.00
1295	NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS	LEGALS-PLANNING AND ZONING	708.29
1295	NORTHERN PLAINS EQUIPMENT CO	AIR FILTERS - MOWERS	96.15
1295	NORTHERN PLAINS EQUIPMENT CO	AIR FILTERS - MOWERS	56.70
1295	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	AVERY 3" RING BINDERS	76.78
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	BUTTE	39.65
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	BUTTE	43.22
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	TURTLE LAKE	61.57
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	TURTLE LAKE	54.97
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	MAX GRADER	40.85
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	MAX GRADER	43.12
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	WASHBURN SHOP	316.05
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	WASHBURN SHOP	296.73
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	WASHBURN TOWER	119.94
1295	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	WASHBURN TOWER	113.48
1295	PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC.	GEN PEST CONTROL - LEC	265.81
1295	QUADIENT LEASING	LEASE PAYMENT	147.63
1295	RECORD KEEPERS	SHREDDING SERVICES	45.00
1295	RTC NETWORKS	PHONE	45.00
1295	RTC NETWORKS	PHONE	149.00
1295	RTC NETWORKS	DSL	105.00
1295	RTC NETWORKS	PHONE	58.00
1295	SALHUS SEPTIC & PORTABLE TOILET	PARK PORTA POTTY RENTAL	480.00
1295	SALHUS SEPTIC & PORTABLE TOILET	PARK SEPTIC PUMPING	300.00
1295	SALHUS SEPTIC & PORTABLE TOILET	PARK PORTA POTTY RENTAL	110.00
1295	SALHUS SEPTIC & PORTABLE TOILET	PARK RENTAL & CLEANING	480.00
1295	TITAN MACHINERY	A/C HOSE & STRIKER PLATE	340.40
1295	TSC	TRUE INSTINCT DOG FOOD	233.96
1295	UNIFORM CENTER	RANGER CLOTHING	4,858.16
1295	UNIFORM CENTER	PATCHES	525.00
1295	VERIZON	DATA CARD	1,000.27
1295	VERIZON	DETECTIVE PHONES	89.08
1295	VERIZON	KERZMANN CELL	42.04
1295	VERIZON	PATROL CELL PHONES	929.88
1295	VERIZON	ASSESSOR CELL/HOTSPOT	40.01
1295	VERIZON	DES JETPACK	40.01
1295	VERIZON	HIGHWAY CELL	42.04
1295	VERIZON	DES CELL	42.04
1295	VERIZON	HIGHWAY CELL	42.04
1295	VERIZON	ST ATTY CELL	47.04
1295	VERIZON	DATA CARD	1,002.87
1295	VERIZON	DETECTIVE CELL	89.08
1295	VERIZON	SHERIFF CELL	43.15
1295	VERIZON	PATROL CELL	927.26
1295	VERIZON	TASK FORCE OFFICER CELL	79.22
1295	VERIZON CONNECT FLEET USA LLC	MONTHLY RECURRING CHARGES	488.60
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	PHONE & DSL	97.90
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SHERIFF	406.65
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	COURTHOUSE	907.10
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	NDSU EXT	124.42
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	E-911 TELCO TARIFFS	95.68
1295	WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS	E-911 RADIO TOWER	113.90

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee.  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>.

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Steve Lee, Chairperson

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Lynda Snyder, Deputy Auditor