

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, September 3, 2025

The first regular September 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 Curt Olson. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Lynda Snyder; Road Superintendent James Grey; Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke; Amanda and Wade Haseleu; Lyle Madl; Brad Erickson; Dean Cottingham; Jerry Radke; John Fransen; Brian Fransen; Falkirk Mining Company Representative Adam Ourada; Ted Duma; Donald Paulson; Jean Paulson; Tania Eichhorst; Gary Heidelberger; Steve Krumwiede; Steven Heger; Paul Anderson; and James Coutts.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 19, 2025, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that chip sealing started yesterday and blading, mowing, and graveling continue throughout the county. Discussion followed.

Grey requested permission to purchase parts for the Highway Department's Schulte mowers from Mountrail County as they have bought new mowers. He stated that budgeted funds will be used for the purchase. Discussion followed.

Grey opened up discussion on the Highway Department being responsible for pushing boat docks in and out every week or two due to the lake level fluctuating. He stated this is time consuming and other counties near the lake do not perform this task. Discussion followed. Knutson stated that she will make contact with other counties not performing this task and ask who is responsible.

Grey presented three proposals for Utility Task Vehicles (UTV). RDO Equipment Co. of Bismarck bid a 2026 John Deere Gator in the amount of \$31,389.14 with a one-year warranty. Action Motor Sports of Mandan bid a 2025 Polaris in the amount of \$29,869.96 with a two-year warranty. Moritz Sport & Marine of Bismarck bid a 2026 Can-Am Defender XT in the amount of \$28,044 with a lifetime warranty.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to accept the bid from Moritz Sport & Marine in the amount of \$28,044.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson stated that she contacted the North Dakota Game and Fish Department about the previous request for a no wake or no access zone in an area on Brush Lake. She was informed that a hearing must be held for the public to voice concerns. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to set the public hearing for October 7, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. with the hearing to be advertised in all newspapers in the county. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the updated job description for the NDSU Extension Administrative Assistant who is retiring at the end of the year. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. The total deposits were \$21,683,399.29 and the total pledged securities were \$25,449,679.49 on August 31, 2025.

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

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Dakota Central Human Service Zone (DCHSZ) Transfer of Funds Resolution and the McLean County Auditor's sweep account Transfer of Funds Resolution from August. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, 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.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the local raffle permit submitted by the Painted Woods Golf Course contingent upon approval from the Attorney General's office. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the City of Wilton Municipal Court Contract. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the Court Contract with the City of Wilton. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Office for the month of August in the amount of \$18,618.55.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of August in the amount of \$1,201.80.

Chairperson Lee recessed the meeting at 8:58 a.m.

Chairman Lee opened the public hearing on the petition for temporary closure of section line roads by Falkirk Mining Company.

Ourada presented maps of the proposed road closure and relocated route. Discussion followed with comments from those in attendance. Clarification was needed on a few of the details and concerns from the public.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Lee, to recess the public hearing until after the scheduled Budget Hearing on September 16, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson and Lee. Nay: None. Not voting: Cottingham. Motion carried.

Chairperson Lee adjourned the hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Vision Zero Northwest Region Outreach Coordinator Molly Schoen joined the meeting and introduced herself to the Commission. She explained that their focus is on local events and programs to increase the public education on the Vision Zero mission of zero motor vehicle fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads. Discussion followed.

Duma stated he would like to start the process of County Road (CR) 24 becoming a state-maintained road. He was informed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation that the current owner of the road is responsible for initiating this change, which in this case is McLean County. Discussion followed.

Grey stated that the road being discussed is the road dividing the counties of Burleigh and McLean and technically should be a road maintained by the state. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to have Grey research this change and the requirements. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

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

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

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:10 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