McLean County Commission Proceedings Tuesday, October 7, 2025

The first regular October 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; Computer Operations Director Lori Foss; Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson; Michael Lindblom; Bob Larson; Kathy and Dan Wagner; and Rainbow Energy Director of Projects Jon Price.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 16, 2025, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss presented a quote for five laptops and software from NRG Technology Services in the amount of \$9,916.58. Foss stated that all laptop replacements were budgeted.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to authorize purchase of the laptops and software from NRG Technology Services. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Ave: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson asked for permission to extend the probation period for an employee of the Sheriff's Department trying to pass their GED to fulfill the minimum job requirements. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve extending the probationary period through June 2026. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Building and Maintenance Supervisor Curt Malo joined the meeting and asked permission to replace the light fixtures in the shower in the Law Enforcement Center (LEC) with tamper-proof fixtures per the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation requirements. He stated that only two fixtures need to be replaced at this time and the Maintenance Department will install them. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve purchase of new light fixtures for the LEC with amount not to exceed \$650 per fixture. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried. Discussion followed.

Malo stated that he had been seeking bids for glass partitions for the offices with direct access to the public. He went on to explain that five windows will be needed in the Clerk of Court, States Attorney, Auditor, and the Dakota Central Human Services Zone departments. Discussion followed.

Chairperson Lee asked Malo to return to an upcoming meeting for approval once bids are final.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that mowing will be completed in the next couple weeks and graveling continues across the county. Discussion followed.

Grey presented a boring request from RTC Networks (RTC) to bore and plow 1 ¼" HDPE pipe to provide service to Shay Collins at 2388 21st Street NW in Benedict North Dakota. RTC is requesting permission to be in County Road (CR) 23 right-of-way for approximately 2 1/8 miles, beginning in NE ¼ of Section 19, Township 149 North, Range 81 West, vibratory plow a 24-fiber optic cable at the depth of 42 inches, in the west right-of-way for 5,734 feet including boring the wet area in NE ¼SE ¼ of Section 19, boring the SE ¼ of Section 19 to NE ¼ of Section 30, and boring CR 23 from NE ¼NE ¼ of Section 30 to NW ¼NW ¼ of Section 29 where a vault will be set on the edge of the right-of-way then continue south in the east right-of-way for 5,403 feet including boring the wet area in the SW ¼NW ¼ of Section 29 and Ken Adam's driveways in the NE ¼NE ¼ of Section 32 to the existing vault. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the boring request for RTC to provide service to Shay Collins. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey stated that Mortiz Sport and Marine contacted him, the Can-Am Defender XT previously purchased has arrived and we should receive the unit next week once the modifications are completed.

Grey informed the board that he and Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke will be attending the 40th Annual Local Road Conference in Sioux Falls, SD, on October 20-22, 2025. Discussion followed.

Chairperson Lee recessed the regular McLean County Commission meeting at 9:00 a.m. and opened the public hearing for the request of a no wake zone or no access buoy placement at Brush Lake.

Knutson provided an explanation of the Century Code rules and clarification of the purpose of the public meeting being held. Discussion followed.

Larson stated his opposition. Discussion followed.

Kim Wagner stated her concern with the blind channel and obstructed view as this is a unique situation. Discussion followed.

Lindblom stated his opposition and concerns with placing a buoy in this area. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, that the McLean County Commission will not request a no wake zone or no access buoy from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion continued on the Brush Lake Association being more communicative of rules and trying to resolve issues within the community themselves.

Knutson stated the Wagners were responsible for the publishing charge for the public hearing, however, the commission requested the notice be published in all county newspapers resulting in additional charges. Knutson recommended that McLean County pay any cost over \$150 previously quoted to the Wagners for the publication.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to cover the additional cost over \$150 for advertising the public hearing in all papers. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chairperson Lee adjourned the public hearing for a request of a no wake zone or no access buoy placement at Brush Lake at 9:34 a.m.

Chairperson Lee reconvened the 2026 McLean County budget hearing at 9:42 a.m.

State's Attorney Ladd Erickson joined the meeting.

Knutson presented copies of the 2026 McLean County budget to the Commission and went over the changes. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the 2026 cost-of-living increase of 2.5% and salary step adjustments of 2.5%. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve the McLean County 2026 budget as presented. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

McLEAN COUNTY BUDGET FINAL BUDGET FOR McLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2026.

I, Beth A. Knutson, duly elected and qualified auditor for McLean County, North Dakota, do hereby certify that the following budget for said McLean County was approved and adopted by the McLean County Board of Commissioners on October 7, 2025. Motion for the adoption and approval was made by Commissioner Cottingham and seconded by Commissioner Olson. Voting aye: Commissioner Cottingham, Commissioner Olson, and Commissioner Lee.

I further certify that the action was taken only after a review of all department budgets and the hearing of any comments made at a public hearing on the proposed budget which was held in the commission room of the McLean County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M., September 16, 2025 the meeting was recessed and reconvened on October 7, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

TO THE TAXPAYERS OF McLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA: We, the Board of Commissioners, McLean County, North Dakota, hereby give notice that we have examined the several offices, institutions, departments and undertakings, supported wholly or in part by McLean County, and from such examinations, in our opinion, for the calendar year beginning January 1, and ending December 31, 2026, the following amounts are necessary for government operations and are therefore approved as the final budget for McLean County, North Dakota for the year of 2026:

FINAL BUDGET McLean County, North Dakota

| N | AcLean Cou | nty, North Da | akota | |
|--|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Department of Activity | | | 2026 Approved | |
| Board of Commissioners | | \$ | 82,856.21 | |
| McLean County Park Board | | \$ | 89,245.70 | |
| Clerk of District Court | | \$ | 201,942.06 | |
| Juvenile Court | | \$ \$ | 2,000.00 | |
| Auditor | | \$ | 331,226.61 | |
| State's Attorney Director of Tax Equalization/Land Use | | \$ \$ | 244,504.06 | |
| Recorder | | Ф С | 235,483.69 188,123.93 | |
| Superintendent of Schools | | \$ | 8,675.59 | |
| Computer Operations | | \$ | 226,813.26 | |
| GIS Implementation | | \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ | - | |
| Buildings & Grounds | | \$ | 599,586.79 | |
| Election Expenses | | \$ | 100,000.00 | |
| Non-Departmental Expenses + Fair Board | | \$ | 571,000.00 | |
| Employee Benefits | | \$ | 2,928,600.00 | |
| Utilities | | \$ | 167,500.00 | |
| Employee Risk Management Program | | \$ | 8,000.00 | |
| Dues/Membership | | \$ | 34,134.00 | |
| Flexible Benefits-Medical & Child Care | | \$ | 1,000.00 | |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 6,020,691.90 | |
| DIDITO CARRON | | | | |
| PUBLIC SAFETY | | Φ. | 2.457.402.01 | |
| Sheriff Mel con County Coroner | | \$ | 3,457,492.01 | |
| McLean County Coroner Communications | | \$ \$ | 26,000.00 | |
| Communications Motor Pool | | \$ \$ | 9,000.00 13,100.00 | |
| Sheriff's Vehicles | | \$ \$ | 267,000.00 | |
| TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY | | \$ \$ | 3,772,592.01 | |
| 10 IIM I ODDIO JIM DI I | | Ψ | 0,114,074.0± | |
| SPECIAL FUNDS | | | | |
| Vehicle Impound & Towing | | \$ | 6,000.00 | |
| E-911 Coordinator | | \$ | 117,569.54 | |
| SSNTF | | \$ | 131,862.31 | |
| TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS | | \$ | 255,431.85 | |
| DEBT SERVICES | | | | |
| Coal Severance Loans W/Held | | \$ | 498,026.16 | |
| TOTAL DEBT SERVICES FUNDS | | \$ | 498,026.16 | |
| Total County General Appropriations | | | , | |
| | | \$ | 10,546,741.92 | |
| HIGHWAY OPERATING | | | , , | |
| Highway Administration | | \$ | 227,713.89 | |
| Highway Maintenance Shops-Washburn/Garrison | | \$ | 25,000.00 | |
| Highway Equipment Expense | | \$ | 1,752,000.00 | |
| Highway Construction/Maintenance | | \$ | 3,315,031.13 | |
| Highway Maintenance Sheds | | \$ | 13,000.00 | |
| Road Plan Expenses | | \$ | 739,000.00 | |
| TOTAL HIGHWAY OPERATIONS | | \$ | 6,071,745.02 | |
| FARM-TO-MARKET ROAD | | | | |
| Engineering | | Repealed | | |
| Construction | | Repealed | | |
| TOTAL FARM TO MARKET ROAD | | \$ | - | |
| Total County Highway Appropriations | | | | |
| | | \$ | 6,071,745.02 | |
| TRANSFER FUNDS | | | | |
| School Resource Officer | T | \$ | 108,648.33 | |
| Veteran's Service Officer | T | \$ | 38,199.01 | |
| Disaster Emergency Services | T | \$ | 112,487.62 | |
| Extension Agent | T T | \$ \$ | 125,532.62 | |
| Parole & Probation Job Promotions | T | \$ \$ | - | |
| McLean County Rescue Boat | T | \$ \$ | - - | |
| TOTAL TRANSFER FUNDS | 1 | \$ \$ | 384,867.58 | |
| SPECIAL DISTRICT FUNDS | | Ψ | 504,007.50 | |
| Emergency Fund | | \$ | 40,000.00 | |
| Special Assessments | | \$ | | |
| Senior Citizens | | \$ | 188,175.00 | |
| Water Resource Board | | \$ | 173,500.00 | |
| McLean/Mercer Regional Library | | \$ | 339,000.00 | |
| 1st District Health Unit | | \$ | 209,830.00 | |
| McLean County Historical Society | | \$ | 23,500.00 | |
| Weed Control Board | | \$ | 246,604.00 | |
| TOTAL SPECIAL DISTRICT | | \$ | 1,220,609.00 | _ |
| | | | | |
| SOIL CONSERVATION | | | | |
| Soil Conservation | | \$ | 216,367.07 | |
| TOTAL REQUESTS-ALL DEPARTMENTS | | \$ | 18,440,330.59 | |

Listed below are the various dollar amounts expected to be levied for each account in accordance with the approved final 2026 budgets and state mill levy limitations. The mill levies are subject to minor change dependent upon final taxing district valuations.

ACCOUNT Levy Amount \$ 94,089.49

State Tax

| County General Fund | \$ 4,570,311.64 |
|---|--------------------|
| Farm to Market Road** | \$ - |
| Road & Bridge Fund** | \$ 1,881,789.82 |
| Social Service Fund | \$ - |
| Emergency Fund | \$ 40,000.00 |
| Special Assessments | \$ - |
| SPECIAL DISTRICT LEVIES | |
| Senior Citizens** | \$ 188,175.00 |
| Garrison Diversion | \$ 94,089.49 |
| Water Resource Board | \$ 173,500.00 |
| McLean /Mercer County Library** | \$ 339,000.00 |
| 1st District Health Unit | \$ 209,830.00 |
| McLean County Historical Society** | \$ 23,500.00 |
| Weed Control Board | \$ 246,604.00 |
| SOIL CONSERVATION | |
| West McLean Soil Conservation District | \$ 79,902.63 |
| South McLean Soil Conservation District | \$ 136,485.34 |
| Unorganized County Road Fund | \$ 522,109.00 |

NOTE: Items marked with double asterisk are maximum allowable levies and may not generate the entire amount of requested levy.

| COLINION CENTED AT ENIND | • | • |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| COUNTY GENERAL FUND Fund Balance January 1, 2026 (#4) | \$ | 1,048,833.59 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue (#5) | | 5,530,098.16 |
| Total Available Funds (#6) | \$ \$ \$ \$ | 6,578,931.75 |
| (Less) Budget Request (#3) | \$ | 10,931,609.50 |
| Delinquent Tax Allowance (#8)* | | 217,633.89 |
| Required 2026 Levy (#9) | \$ | 4,570,311.64 |
| STATE MEDICAL | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ \$ | 15,648.78 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue (Less) Transfer Out | \$ | 15 (40 70 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ \$ | <u>15,648.78</u> |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 94,089.49 |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 94,089.49 |
| GARRISON DIVERSION | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 16,431.81 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 12,468.17 |
| (Less) Transfer Out | \$ \$ \$ | 16,431.81 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 12,468.17 |
| (Less) Budget Request Required 2026 Levy | \$ \$ | 106,557.66 94,089.49 |
| Required 2020 Levy | φ | 94,009.49 |
| FARM TO MARKET ROAD | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | - |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - |
| (Plus) Transfer In | \$ | - |
| (Less) Cash Reserve | \$ \$ \$ | - |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | - |
| (Less) Budget Request Required 2026 Levy | \$ \$ | - |
| ROAD & BRIDGE FUND | Φ | - |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | (162,061.99) |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 1,918,400.00 |
| (Plus) Transfer In | | 2,433,617.19 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | 4,189,955.20 |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 6,071,745.02 |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 1,881,789.82 |
| UNORGANIZED ROAD FUND | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 98,716.80 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue (Minus) Transfer to General Fund | \$ \$ | 09 716 90 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | <u>98,716.80</u> |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 522,109.00 |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 522,109.00 |
| EMERGENCY FUND | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 859,068.94 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ \$ \$ | - |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 859,068.94 |
| (Less) Budget Request Required 2026 Levy | \$ \$ | 899,068.94 40,000.00 |
| SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS | Ψ | 40,000.00 |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 21,052.82 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - |
| (Less) General Fund Transfer | \$ \$ | _ |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 21,052.82 |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | (24.052.02) |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | (21,052.82) |
| SENIOR CITIZENS | ф | 14.045.22 |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 (Less) Transfer Out | \$ \$ | 14,845.33 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 14,845.33 |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 188,175.00 |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 188,175.00 |
| WATER RESOURCE BOARD | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 78,589.52 |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - |
| (Less) Cash Reserve | \$ | <u>78,589.52</u> |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ \$ \$ | 172 500 00 |
| (Less) Budget Requests | | 173,500.00 |
| Required 2026 Levy MCLEAN/MERCER REGIONAL LIBRARY | \$ | 173,500.00 |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | (9,519.01) |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 108,375.00 |
| (Less) Cash Reserve | \$ | - |
| (Plus) Transfers In | \$ \$ \$ \$ | 414,925.01 |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 513,781.00 |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | <u>852,781.00</u> |
| | | |

| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 339,000.00 | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| FIRST DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 41,176.73 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | -1,170.73 | |
| (Less) Transfer Out | \$ | 41,176.73 | |
| | φ φ | 41,170.73 | |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | 200 020 00 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | | <u>209,830.00</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 209,830.00 | |
| HISTORICAL SOCIETY | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 4,063.10 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - | |
| (Less) Transfer Out | | 4,063.10 | |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 23,500.00 | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 23,500.00 | |
| • | Ψ | 25,500.00 | |
| WEED CONTROL BOARD | ¢ | 15 604 00 | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 15,604.00 | |
| (Less) Cash Reserve | \$ | 15,604.00 | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ | 5,400.00 | |
| Total Funds Available | \$ | 5,400.00 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | <u>252,004.00</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 246,604.00 | |
| SOIL CONSERVATI | ON DISTRIC | CTS | |
| SOUTH McLEAN SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 21,702.70 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 21,102.10 | |
| | φ Φ | 21 702 70 | |
| (Less) Transfer Out | \$ \$ | <u>21,702.70</u> | |
| Total Available Funds | D | 126.464.44 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 136,464.44 | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 136,464.44 | |
| WEST McLEAN SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 16,338.00 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - | |
| (Less) Transfer Out | \$ | <u>16,338.00</u> | |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 79,902.63 | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | 79,902.63 | |
| TRANSFER AG | | 17,702.03 | |
| | CCOUNTS | | |
| E-911 SERVICES | | 120.025.50 | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 138,837.78 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 165,000.00 | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ \$ | | |
| Total Funds Available | \$ | 303,837.78 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | <u>117,569.54</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | (186,268.24) | |
| SSNTF | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 111,011.51 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 100,000.00 | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ | = | |
| Total Funds Available | \$ \$ \$ \$ | 211,011.51 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | 134,362.31 | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | (76,649.20) | |
| 1 | Φ | (70,049.20) | |
| SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 855.59 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | 72,000.00 | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ | <u>35,792.74</u> | |
| Total Funds Available | \$ \$ \$ | 108,648.33 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | | <u>108,648.33</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | - | |
| VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER | | | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | - | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | _ | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ | 38,199.01 | |
| Total Available Funds | \$ \$ | 38,199.01 38,199.01 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ \$ | 38,199.01 38,199.01 | |
| | | <u> 38,199.01</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | - | |
| DISASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES | | 40 0= | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 18,113.87 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | \$ | <u>112,487.62</u> | |
| Total Available Funds | \$ | 130,601.49 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | \$ | <u>112,487.62</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | (18,113.87) | |
| EXTENSION AGENT | | • | |
| Fund Balance January 1, 2026 | \$ | 8,113.88 | |
| (Plus) Projected Revenue | \$ | - | |
| (Plus) General Fund Transfer | φ | 125,532.62 | |
| | \$ \$ \$ | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| Total Available Funds | Þ | 133,646.50 | |
| (Less) Budget Request | 2 | <u>125,532.62</u> | |
| Required 2026 Levy | \$ | (8,113.88) | |
| Dated this 7th day of October, 2025 at Washburn, North Dakota. | | | |
| Zanez and the day of Goldoot, 2025 at 11 denouti, 110th Dakota. | \a\ D -41 | A Vnutson | |
| | | A. Knutson | |
| | Beth A. | N nutson | |

Beth A. Knutson

McLean County Auditor

Chairperson Lee adjourned the 2026 McLean County budget hearing and immediately reconvened the regular McLean County Commission meeting at 9:57

Erickson stated he has been contacted about a potential battery storage project being constructed west of Garrison. This project would stabilize the grid in the area for Central Power and McLean Electric. Discussion followed.

a.m.

Erickson presented a low interest loan program through Bank of North Dakota for improved access of infrastructure on county roads. The purpose of the loan would be to pave the road to the Industrial Park at Rainbow Energy Center. Erickson stated that the application is due November 1, 2025, and the county would have the option to decline the funds if approved. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to authorize application to the Bank of North Dakota for a loan to finance improved county road infrastructure. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$21,246,766.92 and the total pledged securities were \$22,574,918.94 on October 1, 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 Cottingham, seconded by Olson, 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 September. 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.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the 2026 Commission Meeting Schedule calendar with one change in December moving the meeting on December 22 to December 29. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to change the second meeting in December 2025 from December 16 to December 30. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to appoint Ashley Woolley as the 2025 ND State Fair Delegate. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented final recommendations for minimum sale prices on real estate forfeited to the county. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve minimum sale prices of property taken for delinquent 2022 taxes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Notice of Sale of Real Estate Forfeited to the County For Delinquent Taxes Chapter 57-28 N.D.C.C.

Notice is hereby given that the following real estate has been forfeited to the County of McLean, State of North Dakota, for delinquent taxes that said county has taken tax deed for such property and will offer it for sale at public auction beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, in the county commission chambers of the McLean County Courthouse.

Each Parcel of real estate will be offered separately and sold to the highest bidder, but not for a sum less than the minimum sale price listed below. Payment must be made in cash. The sale shall continue until such time as all parcels forfeited to McLean County have been offered for sale and/or sold.

Appraised Value of Property Taken for Delinquent 2022 Taxes

| Parcel # | Legal Description | Amt Owed | Minimum Sale Price |
|-------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Butte City | Sale Price |
| 73-0001-10306-000 | Lots 3-4 Blk 4 Original Townsite | \$1,545.15 | \$2,169.03 |
| 73-0001-10370-000 | South 143' Lot 2 Blk 8 Original Townsite | \$1,564.47 | \$2,194.84 |
| 73-0001-10499-000 | Lot 22, Less West 5' Blk 20 Original Townsite | \$1,812.22 | \$2,516.61 |
| | | Garrison City | |
| 75-1602-00008-000 | Lot 5 Blk 2 Pankratz 2 nd Addition | \$1,384.47 | \$1,958.00 |
| | | Mercer City | |
| 77-1501-00073-000 | E2N2 Lot 14 (150X150) Olesen's Addition | \$8,068.41 | \$8,093.18 |
| 77-1501-00074-000 | W2N2 Lot 14 (150X150) Olesen's Addition | \$7,438.72 | \$7,607.49 |
| | | Turtle Lake City | |
| 79-1801-00005-000 | Lots 10-11-12 Blk 1 Ramsey Addition | \$1,090.54 | \$1,355.76 |

Given pursuant to authority of law this 7th day of October, 2025, at Washburn, ND

/S/ Beth A. Knutson
Beth A. Knutson
McLean County Auditor

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to set the hearing for the minimum sales prices of delinquent properties for 9:15 a.m. on October 21, 2025. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of September in the amount of \$10,647.30.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of September in the amount of \$1,633.00.

Knutson presented the Joint Powers of Agreement with Ward County for housing inmates for 2026.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Joint Powers of Agreement with Ward County for 2026 as presented. 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:

| VOUCHER/ | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| CHECK | REMIT NAME | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
| UNPAID VOUC | CHERS | | |
| 1370 | ARTHUR RENNER | JAIL MEDICAL DIRECTOR | 1,040.00 |
| 1370 | AT & T | PHONE | 70.00 |
| 1370 | BENJAMIN GEHRING | MONTHLY CORONER FEE | 1,000.00 |
| 1370 | CHASE DRUG STORE | INMATE MEDS | 467.14 |
| 1370 | CHI ST ALEXIUS HEALTH GARRISON | INMATE MEDICAL | 1,635.85 |

| 1370 | CITY OF WASHBURN | WATER COURTHOUSE WATER/SEWER | 87.75 95.17 |
|---------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| | CITY OF WASHBURN DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY | TOILET PAPER | 95.77 95.77 |
| | DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY | SWIFFER REFILL, CAN LINER | 164.38 |
| 1370 1370 | DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY | SUPPLIES & TOOLS-MAINT SHEDS PAPER TOWELS, PAPER TOWEL ROLL | 501.77 164.65 |
| 1370 | | INLAND MARINE-ADDL PREMIUM END | 328.00 |
| 1370 | | FUEL FOR WEED WHIP | 7.12 |
| 1370 1370 | GARRISON RURAL WATER DISTRICT GERARD GOVEN | PARK RURAL WATER USAGE SEPT WATER BOARD MEETING AND MILEAGE | 168.79 1,178.87 |
| 1370 | GOETZ FUNERAL HOME INC | MONTHLY CORONER FEE | 1,000.00 |
| | L-TRON CORPORATION | POCKETJET ROLL PAPER | 205.00 |
| | LIGNITE TIRE LYNN OBERG | TIRES SEPT WATER BOARD MEETING AND MILEAGE | 1,104.00 1,665.25 |
| 1370 | LYNN OBERG | REIMB APPLICATION FEE | 250.00 |
| | MAIN STREET MARKET MARCO | SEPTEMBER GROCERIES FOR JAIL | 2,683.72 1,966.00 |
| 1370 | | CONTRACT PAYMENT SEPTEMBER POSTAGE | 38.60 |
| | MDU | UTILITIES | 398.62 |
| 1370 1370 | | PARKING LOT REPAIR BOILER ROOM REPAIR | 53.66 118.16 |
| 1370 | MERCER MCLEAN CO COM ON AGING | 2022 LEVY MONIES | 70.70 |
| 1370 | | 2023 LEVY MONIES | 234.85 |
| 1370 1370 | | 2024 LEVY MONIES STATE AID | 577.22 1,418.85 |
| 1370 | | MOBILE HOME RECEIPTS | 6.81 |
| 1370 | MERCER MCLEAN CO COM ON AGING ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES | PENALTY & INTEREST COUNTY DUES 1/1/26 TO 12/31/26 | 78.39 450.00 |
| 1370 | NDACO RESOURCES GROUP | IT SUPPORT CONTRACT- OCT 2025 | 3,900.00 |
| 1370 | | IT SUPPORT CONTRACT-OCT 2025 | 184.29 |
| 1370 | NDACO RESOURCES GROUP NDACO RESOURCES GROUP | IT SUPPORT CONTRACT-OCT 2025 IT SUPPORT CONTRACT-OCT 2025 | 255.71 480.00 |
| 1370 | | OIL CHANGE | 90.56 |
| 1370 | | TELETYPE-JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER | 480.00 |
| 1370 1370 | | COURTHOUSE UTILITIES | 2,447.49 2,725.92 |
| 1370 | RUST'S AUTO REPAIR | MOUNTING & BALANCING | 60.00 |
| 1370 | S AND J HARDWARE | RENTAL, CHAIN, CIRCUIT BREAKER BUG SPRAY, CAULK, RV OUTLET, CHAINS, ETC. | 82.39 |
| 1370 1370 | | RECORDS ON DAVID MCCAIN PRIOR CASES | 35.45 131.00 |
| 1370 | SANFORD HEALTH | INMATE MEDICAL | 2,262.33 |
| 1370 1370 | SCOTTS HARDWARE SCOTTS HARDWARE | WOOD GLUE - SKEWERS TO REPAIR DOOR FAN, SCREWS & BOLTS | 18.31 71.02 |
| 1370 | SCOTTS HARDWARE | DUCT TAPE, SPRAY ADHESIVE, BLADES, ETC | 136.21 |
| 1370 | | SEPT WATER BOARD MEETING | 875.00 |
| 1370 1370 | SHANNON JEFFERS SIRCHIE | MILEAGE EVIDENCE BAGS AND TAPE, DRUG TEST KITS | 167.40 259.01 |
| | WAGON WHEEL LUMBER INC | LUMBER FOR PICNIC TABLES | 90.24 |
| | WARD COUNTY | INMATE MEDS | 92.94 |
| | WARD COUNTY WATER PURITY INC | INMATE HOUSING WATER | 3,870.00 112.00 |
| HIGHWAY DI | | WIIIEK | 112.00 |
| 1371 1371 | AUTO VALUE BISMARCK BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY | PARTS AND SHOP SUPPLIES PARTS | 250.88 6,234.73 |
| 1371 | BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY | CUTTING EDGES | 1,339.84 |
| 1371 | , | REPAIR ON TIRE MACHINE | 1,171.83 |
| 1371 1371 | GARRISON CITY HEARTLAND CONSULTING GROUP LLC | WATER/SWERER/GARBAGE FULL SCALE ACTIVE SHOOTER EXERCISE | 54.94 7,950.00 |
| 1371 | LOMCO INC. | TRANSPORTATION/HAULING | 3,606.25 |
| 1371 | MAX FARM SERVICES | FUEL TO MAX & BUTTE SHOPS | 7,833.20 |
| 1371 1371 | MCLEAN COUNTY IMPLEMENT LLC MCLEAN COUNTY IMPLEMENT LLC | PARTS SHOP SUPPLIES-WASH SHOP | 65.61 1,248.00 |
| 1371 | MDU | WASHBURN | 77.55 |
| 1371 1371 | MDU MDU | TURTLE LAKE MAX | 29.04 29.04 |
| 1371 | MDU MDU | GARRISON | 29.04 |
| 1371 | NEFF REPAIR SHOP LLC | REPAIR CYLINDER | 400.00 |
| 1371 1371 | NW TIRE RDO EQUIPMENT CO | TIRES NEW LITTLE FALLS MACHINE PLATE | 790.82 3,550.00 |
| 1371 | | AIR COMPRESSOR 60-GALLON | 3,550.00 749.99 |
| 1371 | | PARTS TO FIX GARDEN HOSE | 16.98 |
| 1371 DIRECT DEPO | | PROJ B-24-30 SC-2800(053) PCN 24497 | 91,633.30 |
| 1372 | | NURSING HOURS - SEPTEMBER | 2,000.00 |
| 1372 | | MEALS REIMB DOG FOOD, DOG BED, DOG LEAD | 112.00 95.64 |
| | CARISSA R SCHUMAIER CURT MALO | REIMB DOG FOOD, DOG BED, DOG LEAD REIMB FOR BOLTS, PLOW | 95.64 25.44 |
| 1372 | CURT MALO | REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 |
| 1372 1372 | ELIZABETH PATTERSON JAN HANSON | REIMB SEPTEMBER CELL PHONE REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 30.00 |
| 1372 | | REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 |
| 1372 | KAYLA L OBERLANDER | REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 |
| 1372 1372 | | JULY, AUG, SEPT CELL PHONE REIMB REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 90.00 30.00 |
| 1372 | SANDRA L BETTENHAUSEN | REIMB DIABETIC TEST STRIPS | 9.00 |
| 1372 | | REIMB SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 |
| 1372 1372 | SHERRY GREY SHERRY GREY | REIMB POSTAGE REIMB CLOTHES FOR TRAINING | 18.55 85.00 |
| 1372 | TRAVIS R VERKE | REIMB FOR SEPT CELL PHONE | 30.00 |
| PAYROLL 1344 | AFLAC | MONTHLY PREMIUM | 1,371.60 |
| 1344 | DELTA DENTAL | DENTAL I PREMIUM DENTAL INSURANCE PREMIUM | 7,712.63 |
| 401667 | AVESIS/FSL | VISION INSURANCE PREMIUM | 1,627.29 |
| 401669 401670 | BRAVERA WEALTH FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE | MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS FOP DUES | 1,309.59 59.00 |
| 401671 | MISSOURI VALLEY FOP #3 | FOP DUES | 30.00 |
| 401672 | RODENBURG LAW FIRM | GARNISHMENT | 782.29 |
| 401673 1351 | USABLE LIFE MICHIGAN INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING | CANCER INSURANCE PREMIUM WITHHOLDING TAX | 120.12 496.71 |
| 1353 | MI DEPT OF REVENUE TAXATION DIV | 3RD QTR 2025-STATE TAX | 562.50 |
| 1354 | ND CHILD SUPPORT ENFORECEMENT | CHILD SUPPORT | 2,691.00 |

| 1250 | IOD GEDVICE OF NO | ADD OHADTED GENERAL DAVIDOLI | 1 005 02 |
|------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| | JOB SERVICE OF ND STATE TAX COMMISSIONER | 3RD QUARTER - GENERAL PAYROLL 3RD QUARTER 2025 | 1,995.02 5,438.26 |
| | /MANUAL CHECKS | SRD QUARTER 2023 | 3,436.20 |
| 401680 | | FREEZER BAGS, STEAM TABLE PANS, GLOVES, ETC | 1,046.23 |
| 401681 | NORTHERN PLAINS EQUIPMENT | GRASSHOPPER MOWER, BLADES | 16,329.00 |
| 1356 | | LEASE CHARGES | 15,802.50 |
| 401683 | DACOTAH PAPER | SANI HAND WIPES, BATTERIES, COPY PAPER | 299.50 |
| 401684 | GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERV DIST | DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS | 1,585.87 |
| 401685 401686 | MCLEAN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER ND STATE TREASURER | DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS DISB MONTHLY COLLECTIONS | 340.00 941.68 |
| 401687 | ND ATTY GENERAL | MONTHLY COLLECTIONS MONTHLY COLL 24/7 SOBRIETY PROG | 963.00 |
| 1366 | | QUARTER ENDING 9/30/25 - HWY | 704.35 |
| 1368 | CIRCUIT COURT-3RD DIST-WYOMING | CERTIFIED COPY OF CRIMINAL JUDGEMENT | 4.00 |
| | SEPTEMBER PAYROLL | A DETAILED LIST OF PAYROLL FUNDS EXPENDED IS | 38,016.13 |
| | | AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ANYTIME | |
| | | DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOUES IN THE MCLEAN | |
| P-CARD FUN | DED PURCHASES | COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE. | |
| | AMAZON | ERGONOMIC AND WIRELESS KEYBOARD | 137.98 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | REFLECTIVE MIRROR TILES | 15.98 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | ERGONOMIC AND WIRELESS MOUSE | 81.66 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | PORTABLE CHARGER BANK, WINDOW SQUEEGEE | 97.97 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | 3-DRAWER MOBILE FILE CABINET OINTMENT AND CLOTHING FOR INMATE | 118.26 93.43 |
| 1367 1367 | AMAZON AMAZON | WOODEN PENCIL HOLDER, MONITORS | 335.97 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | RED PENCILS, CARPET MAT | 74.44 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | 4-INCH LED RETROFIT LIGHT KITS | 31.98 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | ADVIL TABLET REFILL, HOOVER BRUSHES | 59.43 |
| 1367 | AMAZON | EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS | 76.33 |
| 1367 | CIRCLE SANITATION | GARBAGE PICKUP | 444.00 |
| 1367 1367 | CIRCLE SANITATION CLEVERBRIDGE-ACRONIS | GARBAGE PICKUP 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION | 444.00 136.49 |
| 1367 | COVERTRACK GROUP, INC. | STEALTH 5 BASIC, TRACKING SERVICE | 1,770.00 |
| 1367 | COVERTRACK GROUP, INC. | NEMA BOX 3 WINDOW, VIEW COMMANDER | 6,595.00 |
| 1367 | DAKOTA DUST-TEX | FLOOR MATS | 97.50 |
| 1367 | EBIX INC | DIGITAL TOPHEALTH NEWSLETTER THRU 01/27 | 358.80 |
| 1367 | FIREFLY RESERVATIONS | METERED BILLING 8/3/25 - 9/2/25 | 164.50 |
| 1367 1367 | GREY MAN TACTICAL HARBOR FREIGHT | VEHICLE HELMET RACK CUTOFF WHEELS | 414.97 131.95 |
| 1367 | ID CREATOR | ID CARDS | 374.40 |
| 1367 | INDEED | JOB ADVERTISING | 190.80 |
| 1367 | JOHNSEN TRAILER SALES, INC | FENDER MOUNT KIT, PARTS, ETC | 340.31 |
| 1367 | KRAUSES MARKET | COFFEE, GROCERIES FOR JAIL | 162.23 |
| 1367 | LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT | WELDING SUPPLIES | 95.42 |
| 1367 1367 | MAC'S-BISMARCK MCLEAN ELECTRIC COOP, INC. | CUTTING EDGE FOR BOBCAT ROSEGLEN | 499.99 59.00 |
| 1367 | MCLEAN ELECTRIC COOP, INC. | UNDERWOOD | 68.00 |
| 1367 | MCLEAN ELECTRIC COOP, INC. | GARRISON | 298.00 |
| 1367 | MCLEAN SHERIDAN RURAL WATER | RURAL WATER | 96.48 |
| 1367 | NAPA AUTO PARTS GARRISON | PARTS, TRICO FORCE BLADES | 77.45 |
| 1367 | NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS | COMMISSION MINUTES | 1,123.70 |
| 1367 1367 | NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS | HELP WANTED ADS COMMISSION MINUTES | 1,656.57 963.90 |
| 1367 | NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS | HELP WANTED ADS | 3.916.55 |
| 1367 | NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS | PUBLIC HEARING; CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS | 583.78 |
| 1367 | NORTHERN PLAINS EQUIPMENT CO | DUP CHARGE CREDITED BACK | (96.15) |
| 1367 | ORIENTAL TRADING COMPANY | HALLOWEEN PARTY DECO | 44.90 |
| 1367 | PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC. RAY O'HERRON | GEN PEST CONTROL PROGRAM | 276.45 6,535.00 |
| 1367 1367 | RTC NETWORKS | TACTICAL HELMETS BREATHALYZER - GARRISON ND | 45.00 |
| 1367 | RTC NETWORKS | TELEPHONE | 149.00 |
| 1367 | RTC NETWORKS | PHONE & DSL | 157.00 |
| 1367 | SALHUS SEPTIC | BUTTE SHOP | 110.00 |
| 1367 | SALHUS SEPTIC | STEINKE BAY AND DEEP WATER | 480.00 |
| 1367 | TSC | 4HEALTH STRIVE AND PURINA ONE DRY DOG FOOD | 486.12 |
| 1367 1367 | VERIZON VERIZON | DATA CARD DETECTIVE PHONES | 1,039.26 87.35 |
| 1367 | VERIZON | SHERIFF CELL PHONE | 39.01 |
| 1367 | VERIZON | PATROL CELL PHONE | 883.95 |
| 1367 | VERIZON CONNECT FLEET USA LLC | MONTHLY RECURRING CHARGES | 488.60 |
| 1367 | WALMART | COLOR PRINTER CARTRIDGES FOR PASSPORTS | 64.00 |
| 1367 | WALMART | PRINTER CARTRIDGE FOR PASSPORT PHOTOS | 32.00 |
| 1367 1367 | WALMART WEBROOT LLC | KITCHEN BRUSHES ANTI-VIRUS PROTECTION | 16.46 85.59 |
| 1367 | WEST RIVER TELECOMM | PHONE & DSL | 97.90 |
| 1367 | WEST RIVER TELECOMM | SHERIFF | 364.03 |
| 1367 | WEST RIVER TELECOMM | COURTHOUSE | 800.42 |
| 1367 | WEST RIVER TELECOMM | NDSU | 190.37 |
| 1367 1367 | WEST RIVER TELECOMM WEST RIVER TELECOMM | E-911 TELCO TARIFF E-911 RADIO TOWER | 90.56 113.90 |
| 1307 | ,, DOI MITER IDDECOMM | Z /II MIDIO TO II DA | 113.70 |

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

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at https://www.mcleancountynd.gov.

| Steve Lee, Chairperson | Lynda Snyder, Deputy Auditor |
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