

January 6, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse, and Travis Mockler.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 subsection 1, appointment to the Wakonda Development Co., and a correction to the number of food trays being declared surplus as 120 instead of 100.

Mockler asked for a declaration of any conflicts of interest regarding agenda items.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2025 and December 31, 2025 meetings.

At 9:03 a.m., the meeting adjourned and reconvened to reorganize for the ensuing year with a motion by Brady, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried.

Auditor Carri Crum called for nominations for Chairperson. Thiesse nominated Mockler for Chairperson, and Brady seconded the nomination. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Mockler.

With Chairman Mockler presiding, the following proceedings were held.

The Chairperson called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Gilbertson nominated Thiesse, and Brady seconded the nomination. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Thiesse.

Robin Schiro of Elk Point in Union County appeared as a Visitor to be Heard. She voiced concerns about human trafficking and drug activity being conducted out of her attic by unknown individuals. She said she has been asking the Clay County Commissioners for help for three years. She also spoke about former Union County Sheriff Dan Limoges and said he was the only person who helped her, but he was killed.

At 9:08 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to enter an Executive Session for personnel matters per SDCL 1-25-2 subsection 1.

At 9:18 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to exit the Executive Session.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adopt Modern Addition of Robert's Rules of Order Original 1876 Edition by Major Henry M. Robert Completely Revised by Darwin Patnode, Ph.D. as on file with the Auditor, no restrictions on the Chair, and minutes not to record motions not seconded.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Brent Hays as Highway Superintendent for a 2-year term expiring 1/3/2028.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to appoint Layne Stewart as Emergency Management Director for a one-year term expiring 1/4/2027.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to appoint Noah Westergaard as Zoning Administrator and Veterans Service Officer for a 4-year term expiring 1/7/2030.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Brady to Fair Board.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Gray-Lobe as member of the Executive Board of SECOG.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Gray-Lobe to Board of Directors of the Clay County Youth Trust Fund and the Youth Service Council.

The Board considered appointments to the Planning Commission per Ordinance #2025-05. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Matt Olson to Seat #1, a 1-year term. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Ruslan Averain to Seat #2, a 2-year term. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Marty Gilbertson to Seat #3, a 3-year term, with Gilbertson abstaining from the vote to avoid any conflict of interest. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Cynthia Aden to Seat #4, a 4-year term. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to appoint Thiesse to Seat #5, the County Commissioner seat on the Planning Commission, a 1-year appointment.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-03, a Resolution Appointing Members to the Clay County Planning Commission. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2026-03**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CLAY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION.**

**WHEREAS**, on November 13th, 2025, the Board of Commissioners of Clay County adopted Clay County Ordinance 2025-05, which shall be referred to as the Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ordinance organizes the Clay County Planning Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the Ordinance provides that “the Planning Commission shall consist of four (4) members appointed and confirmed by the members of the Board of Commissioners” as well as a fifth member, who shall be a member of the Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 3 of the Ordinance provides for the terms of each appointed member of the Planning Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Clay County, South Dakota in session met this 6th day of January, 2026, and that:

**Section 1.** The Board of Commissioners hereby appoints and confirms the following members to serve on the Planning Commission:

Planning Commission Member

Term Expiration

Seat 1: Matt Olson  
(Name)

1/4/2027  
(Date)

Seat 2: <u>Ruslan Averin</u> (Name)	<u>1/3/2028</u> (Date)
Seat 3: <u>Marty Gilbertson</u> (Name)	<u>1/1/2029</u> (Date)
Seat 4: <u>Cynthia Aden</u> (Name)	<u>1/7/2030</u> (Date)
Seat 5: <u>David Thiesse</u> (Name)	<u>1/4/2027</u> (Date)

Adopted this 6th day of January, 2026.

ATTEST:

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Auditor

Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Adopted: January 6, 2026  
Published: January 22/23, 2026  
Effective: February 12, 2026

Published once at the approximate cost of: \_\_.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Bob Fuller to the Public Safety Board for a three-year term expiring 12/31/2028.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Gilbertson and Highway Superintendent Brent Hays to the Vermillion Basin Advisory Board.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Gilbertson to the Joint Powers Solid Waste & Recycling Advisory Board.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Mockler to the VCDC Board.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Mockler to the Vermillion Now Advisory Council.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Gray-Lobe to the Clay County Park Board.

It was discussed that the Chair and Vice-Chair always serve on the ICAP Committee, so there is no motion necessary.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Thiesse to the Point of Dispensing Committee.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to appoint Thiesse to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to appoint Brady to the UAS (Drone) Committee.

Gilbertson moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Thiesse to the County's Employee Safety Program Board.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Brady to the Wakonda Community Development Committee.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to designate the front door of the Courthouse and/or the Wakonda Post Office as the place for holding foreclosure sales, at the Sheriff's discretion regarding location.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to designate the Vermillion Plain Talk and The New Era as the official legal newspapers for the County, with the Vermillion Plain Talk being the legal newspaper for the Joint Jurisdiction Zoning Area as The New Era does not serve that area.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to designate First Bank & Trust, BMO Bank, CorTrust Bank/Vermillion, First Dakota National, Wells Fargo Bank/Vermillion, First Premier Bank/Wakonda, SD Funds Investment Trust, and Voyage Federal Credit Union as the official depositories.

Pursuant to SDCL 28-17-4, regarding county burials, the funeral director in charge shall furnish casket and outside container or cremation services and conduct the funeral services in customary manner, and the County shall allow the funeral director for merchandise and such services rendered a sum determined by the County which includes vault and opening and closing of the grave. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to set the sum at \$1,900 for services as required by SDCL 28-17-4.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to follow regulations adopted by the State Board of Finance which provide for rates in connection with travel reimbursement for meals and mileage, and if the State changes reimbursement rates during the year the County will follow suit.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried that the allowance per diem for the Commissioners appointed to serve on all Boards outside of the normal County Commission Meetings as well as the per diem for Planning Commission members be set at \$35.00 plus mileage.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to set the Treasurer's fees for Priority Mail shipping at \$13.00 in addition to fees set in statute and \$34.00 for Priority Express Mail shipping in addition to fees set in statute.

The Board considered Westergaard's recommendation for fees associated with the Planning & Zoning Office. Gray-Lobe said it looks like Westergaard made the recommendations carefully and not to make money but rather to cover the County's costs. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to set the fees as follows: 911 Address Sign Application \$100, Building Permit Fee \$75 plus \$2 per thousand, Conditional Use Permit Application \$200, Variance Application \$100, Rezoning/Amendment Petition \$250, Board of Adjustment Appeal \$100, Plat Application \$100, and Development Application \$175.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to approve fees for boarding prisoners for other counties at \$95 per day, or per contract, fees for housing work release prisoners at \$20 per day, and daily boarding rate at \$15 per day, adult electronic GPS monitoring at \$20 per day, juvenile electronic GPS monitoring at \$10 per day, applicant fingerprinting at \$20 per 2 cards, mug shots at \$8, UA test \$10, accident reports at \$2 per page, other reports or printing e-mailed civil process to serve at

\$2 per page, production of video \$10 per CD/DVD or email/cloud share in addition to \$10 per hour for review and redaction if necessary.

After a brief discussion, Gilbertson moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to hold Commissioner meetings every other Tuesday, starting with the first Tuesday in January of each year, with additional meetings to be held as necessary, for example the Thursday after any election due to canvassing of the votes.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve SD Public Assurance Alliance as the County's liability insurance and SDML for worker's compensation insurance.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve worker's compensation insurance coverage for all interns and election workers as listed on file in the Auditor's Office and Sheriff's Reserve Deputies as listed on file in the Sheriff's Office.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to authorize the use of Sourcewell as a potential vendor source for the county.

4-H Educator Laurie Fritsch met with the Board to present her quarterly report. She said the State has removed her fleet vehicle, she shared news releases she has prepared, she will be creating an Instagram account, and she will be doing some new member orientations as well as other programs and regional projects.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-01 for Establishment of Election Precincts/Polling Places for 2026. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2026-01**  
**Establishment of Election Precincts/Polling Places for 2026**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners in and for the County of Clay shall establish election precincts and polling places.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that hereinafter described precincts and polling places be hereby established.

Rural Ward #1: SESD Experimental Farm, 29974 University Rd., Beresford, SD  
Rural Ward #2: Gingrich-Dixon Post #13 Legion Hall, 101 Montana St., Wakonda, SD  
Rural Ward #3: 4-H Center/Fairgrounds, 515 High St., Vermillion, SD  
Vermillion City-All Precincts: National Guard Armory, 603 Princeton St., Vermillion, SD (Central 1 & 2/Northeast 1 & 2/Northwest 1 & 2/Southeast 1 & 2)

Commissioner Gray-Lobe moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brady.

Vote of Commission: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon which voting the resolution was declared passed and adopted.

Dated at Vermillion, South Dakota this 6th day of January, 2026.

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Board of County Commissioners  
Clay County, South Dakota

ATTEST:

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-02 for Establishment of Precinct Election Officials Fees for 2026. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2026-02**  
**Precinct Election Officials Fees for 2026**

WHEREAS, SDCL 12-15-11 made it the responsibility of the County Commissioners of each county to set the fee for precinct election officials of all units of government in the county.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the fee for precinct election officials in Clay County be set at \$225.00, and election superintendent at \$250.00, for each election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to SDCL 12-15-7 such election officials be allowed a fixed fee for attendance at a meeting called by the County Auditor for instruction on election laws and the duties of the judges and clerks of election as follows: \$30.00 compensation for election officials plus \$.67/mile, or the established county rate, roundtrip for those residing outside of city limits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there will be one cell phone provided by one precinct worker per polling place, and a \$5.00 fee will be issued for the usage of the phone for only that day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the person delivering the poll-books and ballot boxes to the County Auditor's Office at the county seat shall receive \$.67/mile, or the established county rate, for mileage as established pursuant to SDCL 7-7-24, for miles necessarily traveled in going to and returning from making the delivery (SDCL 12-15-11).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the judges, clerks, Resolution Board, Counting Board, and any other personnel deemed necessary by the County Auditor for receiving ballot boxes, supplies, and for tabulating ballots be allowed \$75 plus \$.67/mile, or the established county rate, for travel to the ballot tabulation location for those residing outside of city limits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the persons setting up equipment at polling places be allowed \$75 for setting up equipment and/or \$75 for taking down equipment.

Commissioner Brady moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. Motion seconded by Commissioner Thiesse.

Vote of Commission: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon which voting the resolution was declared passed and adopted.

Dated at Vermillion, South Dakota this 6th day of January, 2026.

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Board of County Commissioners  
Clay County, South Dakota

ATTEST:

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

Auditor Carri Crum reviewed changes to the Employee Handbook with the Board. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to pass and adopt the Employee Handbook for 2026.

State's Attorney Michael Smith discussed the procedure for selling surplus property. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to declare surplus 120 food trays from the jail and authorize Sheriff Andy Howe to sell them. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Andy Howe, Layne Stewart, and Sarah Miller to appraise the food trays, 50-amp food warmer, and flag pole lights; if the value exceeds \$2,500, the sale will be noticed, and Howe can sell the items on the auction website Purplewave.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with Union County for boarding of Clay County inmates in Union County.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a contract with Union County for boarding of Union County inmates in Clay County.

Howe reported he send a boarding contract to Moody County, so it will likely be on a future agenda.

The 2026 payroll to be reported in the minutes is as follows:

Last Name	Preferred/First Name	Base Rate	Per Unit
Aakre	Aaron	23.42	Hour
Aden	Cynthia	35.00	Meeting
Alvarado	Maria	22.34	Hour
Alvarado Aguero	Alfonso	22.35	Hour
Anders	Jeffrey	43.22	Hour
Armstrong	Aaron	37.95	Hour
Armstrong	Marcie	26.19	Hour
Averin	Russ	35.00	Meeting
Averin	Victoria	28.34	Hour
Barcklay	Kalie	24.06	Hour
Baylor	Rozmus	25.27	Hour
Beatty	Dawn	31.29	Hour
Biel	Tanner	24.06	Hour
Boyd	Aidan	23.47	Hour
Brady	Kevin	11.82	Hour
Brinkmann	Kristina	27.47	Hour
Brown	Melissa	24.00	Hour
Burge	Justin	24.06	Hour
Campbell	Austin	33.21	Hour
Chamberlain	Tracy	23.28	Hour
Christopherson	Kaleb	34.32	Hour
Church	Ryan	30.54	Hour
Chytka	Isaac	22.35	Hour
Crum	Carri	42.03	Hour
Doherty	Corey	31.15	Hour
Dommer	Caitlyn	47.64	Hour

Dooley	Timothy	31.31	Hour
Fries	Colton	24.06	Hour
Ganschow	Dennis	30.00	Hour
Gilbertson	Glen	11.82	Hour
Gilbertson	Marty	35.00	Meeting
Gilbertson	William	23.47	Hour
Gray	Tristan	20.50	Hour
Gray-Lobe	Geoffrey	11.82	Hour
Gregg	Sarah	25.34	Hour
Gunderson	Drew	36.80	Hour
Haglund	Alicia	19.78	Hour
Hanson	Scott	33.49	Hour
Hays	Brent	41.64	Hour
House	Myien	27.67	Hour
Howe	Andrew	58.05	Hour
Howe	Rhonda	42.03	Hour
Huber	Kyle	33.21	Hour
Huber	Savannah	24.06	Hour
Johnson	Loren	21.26	Hour
Johnson	Patrick	22.34	Hour
Jongeward	Chris	22.35	Hour
King	Kase	25.19	Hour
Kludt	Joselin	24.06	Hour
Klunder	Nicole	28.37	Hour
Kymala	Shannon	34.32	Hour
Lucas	Jenna	50.00	Call
Maassen	Darin	24.06	Hour
Miller	Sarah	29.01	Hour
Mockler	Travis	12.68	Hour
Morgan	Cameron	41.43	Hour
Olson	Lennea	42.03	Hour
Olson	Matthew	24.65	Hour
Olson	Matthew	35.00	Meeting
Passmore	Gelynn	20.77	Hour
Paulsen	Andrew	39.78	Hour
Pederson	Paul	44.27	Hour
Peterson	Ina	36.75	Hour
Pinkelman	Ashley	20.24	Hour
Pittman	John	25.87	Hour
Plaatje	Julie	30.07	Hour
Polley	Rodney	30.00	Hour
Proefrock	Robert	30.31	Hour
Rainwater	Dual	24.06	Hour
Sangster	Katie	50.00	Call
Schaeffbauer	William	37.84	Hour
Schuck	Tyler	31.61	Hour
Severson	Brianna	23.88	Hour
Smith	Michael	60.06	Hour

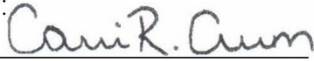
Smith-Dennehey	Tanner	24.06	Hour
Spulak	Isabela	24.06	Hour
Stewart	Layne	38.17	Hour
Styles	David	34.40	Hour
Sundet	Laura	25.73	Hour
Sykes	Rali	19.86	Hour
Taggart	Rhonda	28.37	Hour
Terwilliger	Lisa	42.03	Hour
Thiesse	David	11.82	Hour
Waage	Patty	50.00	Call
Walker	John	27.47	Hour
Weber	Linda	39.43	Hour
Westergaard	Noah	34.33	Hour
Whitehead	Patrick	24.06	Hour
Wingate	Michael	22.35	Hour
Wood	Lisa	32.45	Hour

At 10:29 a.m., Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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January 20, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse, and Travis Mockler.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of setting the date for the annual joint ditch board meeting with Yankton County.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2026 meeting.

Sheriff Andy Howe met with the Board. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve a contract with SD Game, Fish & Parks for office space rental in the Law Enforcement Center and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve a contract for boarding Moody County inmates at the Clay County Jail and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Emergency Management Director Layne Stewart met with the Board to present the SLA Quarterly Activity Report. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the report and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Auditor Carri Crum presented a Combined Election Agreement with the City of Vermillion and the Vermillion School District. She said it saves money for all entities and increases voter turnout. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays met with the Board. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve a Payment Application for the Stream Bank Stabilization Project in the amount of \$58,121.41 and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

The Board reviewed quotes for propane. Quotes were solicited from TLC Propane, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Butch's Propane. Quotes were received from TLC Propane for \$1.37/gallon, SE Farmers Elevator Coop. for \$1.30/gallon, and Butch's Propane for \$1.42/gallon. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$1.30/gallon from SE Farmers Elevator Coop.

The Board discussed with State's Attorney Michael Smith the procedures for the sale of old iron, aluminum signs, and bridge planks. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to declare surplus old iron, aluminum signs, and bridge plank from the Highway Department. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to appoint Mockler, Gilbertson, and Hays as three property owners to appraise the surplus items per SDCL

6-13-1. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to authorize private sale of the items if the value is found to be under \$2,500.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the annual Highway Materials bid specifications and set the opening date as 9:00 a.m. February 17, 2026.

At 9:23 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to adjourn and convene as Clay County Ditch Board.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve an invoice from the Ulteig in the amount of \$5,931.25 for work on Clay Creek Ditch.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the final Change Order from Wieman Construction for the Clay Creek Ditch in the amount of \$40,042, which is \$1,000 less, and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve a Payment Application from Wieman construction for the Clay Creek Ditch in the amount of \$40,042.00 and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to set the date for the annual joint ditch board meeting with Yankton County as 1:00 p.m. on February 17, 2026 at the Clay County 4-H Center, 515 High St., Vermillion.

At 9:27 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene as Board of Clay County Commissioners.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

Clay County Sheriff South Dakota	100.00	Nobles County Sheriff's Office	75.00
Clay County Treasurer	5,557.50	Olson's Pest Technicians	85.00
SD Department of Revenue	315,891.62	One Office Solution	282.64
AARMS	2,310.00	O'Reilly Auto Parts	72.79
Alternative HR, LLC	660.00	Peterson, Stuart & Klentz	14,583.33
A-Ox Welding Supply	156.45	Pharmchem, Inc.	479.25
Appeara	372.78	Pollman Excavation, Inc.	6,376.50
AT&T Mobility	56.88	Pressing Matters	268.00
Aumentum Technologies	2,720.54	Presto-X Company, LLC	228.69
AXON Enterprise, Inc.	7,071.84	Prochem Dynamics	19,221.85
Barco Municipal Products	89.06	Professional Forms & Supplies, Inc.	220.39
Mason Berens	51.00	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	5,252.14
Bob Barker Co., Inc.	488.83	Reliance Telephone	140.00
Broadcaster Press & Plain Talk	1,491.26	Runnings Supply, Inc.	1,162.07
Brunick Service, Inc.	665.06	Santel Communicaitons Cooperative, Inc.	12.10
Buhl's Drycleaners and Linen Supply	177.10	SD Assn. of County Commissioners	6,138.09
Bureau of Administration Finance	58.00	SD Department of Health	585.00
Butler Machinery Co.	2,468.25	SD Department of Transportation	332.83
Cenex Fleet Fueling	1,985.78	SD Emergency Management Association	50.00
CentralSquare Technologies	63.58	SD Executive Management Finance Off.	11.04

Century Business Products	45.05	SD Supplemental Retirement System	100.00
Christensen Radiator & Repair	9,039.85	SDACO - M&P Fund Payment	268.00
CHS, Inc.	3,331.35	SDML Workers' Compensation Fund	63,789.00
Cintas	229.32	Software Services, Inc.	2,525.00
City of Vermillion	127.21	South Eastern Council of Governments	13,768.00
Clay Rural Water System	135.70	Southeast Farmers Coop	1,300.52
Clay-Union Electric Cooperative	703.32	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,490.82
CMoore Pit Service	100.00	SuperCom, Inc.	39.00
Dakota PC Warehouse	49.97	TEGRA Group, Inc.	1,000.00
Davis Pharmacy	101.17	Terri Lembcke Schildhauer	432.00
Dean Schaefer Court Reporting	90.00	The Emblem Authority	1,079.00
D-Ware, Inc.	6,040.00	The Lumberyard, LLC	16.09
Erickson Solutions Group	4,401.00	Thompson Law Office	548.07
Fast Auto Glass, Inc.	3,280.00	Todd's Electric Service	666.54
First Dakota Credit Card	1,462.91	Total Flooring, LLC	741.04
Fischer's Disposal, LLC	65.00	Trane Technologies	161.82
Guardian RFID	20.90	Uline	609.33
Interstate Power Systems, Inc.	1,053.92	Ulteig	5,994.75
Intoximeters, Inc.	1,200.00	Verizon Wireless	107.58
I-State Truck Center	293.91	Vermillion ACE Hardware	770.33
Billings, John	4,290.00	Vermillion Area Chamber & Dev. Co.	26,525.00
Kevin O'Dell Electric	325.51	Vermillion Ford	170.36
Lawson Products, Inc.	273.96	Vermillion Garbage Service	60.00
Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health	225.00	Wakonda Town	62.65
LexisNexis	999.96	Yankton Janitorial Supply	139.00
Lincoln County Auditor	796.00	A&B Business	228.45
Loffler Companies	419.56	Soukup Excavation Inc	58,121.41
MaintainX, Inc.	4,140.00	Wiemann Construction, LLC	40,042.00
Microfilm Imaging Systems	1,885.00	Lloyd Construction Company	449,790.61
MidAmerican Energy	21.45	Paylocity	378,275.78
Mid-States Organized Crime Info.	100.00	Jury & Witness Expenses	1,158.80
New Century Press	36.76		

It was reported that a Court Security Grant was awarded for more advanced door security systems in conjunction with the current Court Security Project. The grant is a state grant from the Unified Judicial System, and it requires a 25% match.

The Sheriff's Office monthly reports and the following Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer Report were accepted and placed on file.

#### AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, regarding items in the hands of the County Treasurer as of January 2, 2026. I hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash.

Total amount of deposits in banks:	5,159,712.49
Amount of actual cash:	946.67

January 20, 2026

Amount of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession not exceeding 3 days:	11,060.93
Itemized list of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession over 3 days:	
Checks returned and not deposited	5,014.00
Cash Items	700.00
Investments	1,151,000.00
Bond Funds	11,687,962.98
Cash Variation	0.00
Total	<hr/> 18,016,397.07

Dated this 2nd of January, 2026.

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

At 9:31 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



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Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

February 3, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse (via Zoom), and Travis Mockler.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026 meeting.

Rich Jahn appeared under Visitors to be Heard to voice concerns about rising assessments and property taxes and cutting spending at the County level.

A public hearing was held for renewal of the East River Electric franchise. Jerae Wire was present via Zoom on behalf of East River Electric. He said they do not have any projects planned in Clay County for the next year. The map he provided was for existing items. They need the franchise renewal in order to continue operating in Clay County. There was discussion regarding future projects, and Wire said a substation would require a conditional use permit, but new lines would likely be permitted use. They would likely cross roads, so it would require East River Electric to work with the township boards and the Highway Superintendent. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady to pass and adopt Resolution #2026-04 for Authorization to Construct Electric Transmission and Distribution Lines on the Public Highways of Clay County. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #2026-04

Authorization to Construct Electric Transmission  
and Distribution Lines on the Public Highways of Clay County

WHEREAS, East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., of Madison, South Dakota, on the 14th day of January, 2026, filed with the County Auditor of Clay County, South Dakota, its duly verified Petition for the purpose of obtaining and acquiring one franchise for both its existing transmission lines and system and the planned extension and future expansion thereof, from Clay County, South Dakota, by and through its County Commissioners, for the right to maintain its existing and future system and to erect and maintain poles and wires for the purpose of transmitting and distributing electricity for lighting, heating and power purposes, in, along, and over the public highways of Clay County, South Dakota, for rural electrification throughout said County and State for a period of twenty years;

WHEREAS, said application was heard and considered by the members of the Board of County Commissioners of said County of Clay, in South Dakota, on the

3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock am., at the Clay County Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, Clay County, South Dakota, due notice of said hearing having been given by mail as provided by law to all persons, firms or corporations owning or operating transmission, telegraph or telephone lines on or along any part of the highways of said County;

WHEREAS, no person, firm or corporation having appeared in opposition to the granting of such application, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Board of County Commissioners of said County that the request contained in said Petition should be granted;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Clay County Board of Commissioners that the right to construct, maintain and operate poles and wires, both for its existing transmission lines and system, and also for its future extension and expansion, for the purpose of transmitting and distributing electricity for lighting, heating and power purposes, over, upon, along and across the public highways within Clay County, South Dakota, for rural electrification, on a county-wide basis, for a period of twenty (20) years from and after the date and passage hereof, be, and it hereby is, granted to said East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., of Madison, South Dakota, subject to the terms and conditions of Chapter 31-26 of the South Dakota Codified Laws (1984 Revisions).

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2026.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor

A public bid opening was held for Structure Berm Repairs and Riprap Scour Protection for Structure #14-103-090. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows: ARGO Excavating \$202,811.80, Pollman Excavating \$148,951.55, Soukup Construction \$197,653.05, 3D Digging & Trucking \$186,926.20, First Rate Excavating \$258,494.00, BX Civil & Construction \$197,840.00, 605 Companies \$150,958.05, Brock Contracting \$171,684.00, Runge Enterprises \$153,046.41, LT Companies \$181,110.00, Feimer Construction \$462,231.00, WJS Contracting \$170,521.02, Midwest Contracting \$215,855.55, and Alliance Construction \$244,110.45. Brad Stangohr, Ulteig Operations, said he will review bids for the County to ensure they meet specifications and return at the next meeting for the bid award.

Rachel Gackle of MMA met with the Board for the annual employee insurance benefits renewal. She said Wellmark give a 3% increase, but the trend is 8%. She discussed the County's claim history and costs. She also discussed ancillary insurance policies. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to renew the County's current Wellmark policy. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to table consideration of the ancillary benefits until the next meeting.

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays met with the Board to discuss highway matters. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to pass and adopt Resolution #2026-05 for Clay County Weight Limit Enforcement. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2026-05  
CLAY COUNTY WEIGHT LIMIT ENFORCEMENT

Whereas, seasonal climatic changes can be detrimental to our highways, and

Whereas, the Clay County Board of County Commissioners desires to protect existing Clay County Highways, ultimately saving tax dollars, and

Whereas, South Dakota Codified Law 32-14-6 allows for the reduction of the legal weight limit which may be carried upon highways within Clay County, and

Whereas, the Clay County Board of Commissioners desire the enforcement of weight limitations on Clay County roads as set forth and posted by the Clay County Highway Superintendent.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

That the limits on Clay County roads shall be set at six (6) ton per axle on all hard surface roads. All gravel roads shall be posted at seven (7) ton per axel, or as posted. Also, all roads hard surface and gravel will be posted "NOT to EXCEED 80,000 LBS."

That the South Dakota Highway Patrol be and hereby is authorized and requested to enforce weight limitations on Clay County Roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be as set forth in SDCL 32-22-55.

Vote of Clay County Commission:

AYE 5 NAY 0

Dated this 3rd day of February 2026 at Vermillion, S.D.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carri R. Crum  
CLAY COUNTY AUDITOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler  
CHAIRMAN, CLAY COUNTY COMMISSION

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve a letter to the SD Highway Patrol requesting assistance with weight limit enforcement that will accompany Resolution #2026-05, and to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to pass and adopt Resolution #2026-06 for Bridge Reinspection Program Resolution for Use with SDDOT Retainer Contracts. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2026-06  
BRIDGE REINSPECTION  
PROGRAM RESOLUTION  
FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS**

**WHEREAS**, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

**THEREFORE**, Clay County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire Ulteig Engineering (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2026, at Vermillion, South Dakota.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of Clay County Commissioners

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve easement documents for Frog Creek Gulch Project (Structure #14-070-063), Dawson Bridge (Structure #14-108-213), and Dakota Street Bridge (Structure #14-117-214), and to authorize the Chairman to sign the documents.

The Board discussed how to award Rural Access Infrastructure Fund Grant money remaining due to projects coming in under budget. State's Attorney Michael Smith reviewed the statutes and said he believes the County will need to wait until next year as the statute says the funds must be awarded prior to January 15<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion regarding which townships have received funds, and Hays said he has the additional applications on file from the townships. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to table the matter until the next meeting.

The Board discussed the purchase of a paver for the Highway Department. They discussed with Auditor Carri Crum the process for supplementing the budget to pay for the equipment. Hays said the price went down since last year's quote. The current quote is about \$24,000 less, and there is a \$30,000 trade-in allowance. There was discussion regarding trading in the old equipment vs. auctioning it. Hays said there are a lot of pavers on auction right now, and most are newer. Mockler said he would like to wait until bids are opened for the Frog Creek project. Rich Jahn asked questions about what they use the paver for, how old it is, and how much use it gets. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to table the matter until the next meeting.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

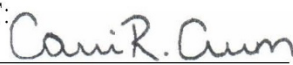
AFLAC	692.16	New York Life Insurance	258.57
Alternative HR, LLC	305.25	Olson's Pest Technicians	240.00
Andwin Scientific	8,470.00	O'Reilly Auto Parts	901.81
AT&T Mobility	56.86	Pheasantland	9.26
Avera McKennan Hospital	2,619.00	Pressing Matters	934.00
Barco Municipal Products	639.66	Presto-X Company, LLC	0.30
Beckenhauer Construction, Inc.	104,109.57	Prochem Dynamics	248.90
Blackstrap, Inc.	1,874.70	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	1,796.59
Broadcaster Press & Plain Talk	1,016.70	Quality Motors	83.44

Brunick Service, Inc.	110.00	Quill, LLC	122.33
Buhl's Drycleaners and Linen	150.97	Runnings Supply, Inc.	120.58
Bureau of Administration Fin.	60.00	Sanford Health	11,028.98
Canon Financial Services	592.36	SD Public Assurance Alliance	265,644.53
Catalis Tax & CAMA	8,000.00	SD Retirement System	48,110.88
CentralSquare Technologies	718.22	SD Supplemental Retirement Sys.	9,210.00
Cintas	155.51	SD Supplemental Ret. Roth 457(b)	780.00
City of Vermillion	4,317.80	Security Shredding Service	40.00
Colonial Life Insurance	293.86	Stryker Sales, LLC	4,628.14
Dakota Alignment & Frame	626.67	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,433.09
Dakota PC Warehouse	85.97	Terri Lembcke Schildhauer	414.00
Davis Pharmacy	68.03	The Soap Guys	28.80
Jordanna Diver	22.00	The Standard Dental Insurance	2,309.96
Empire HVAC	2,409.70	The Standard Vision Insurance	593.04
Erickson Solutions Group	1,596.55	Transcendent Technologies	25,766.00
Fast Auto Glass, Inc.	330.00	United Way of Vermillion	280.00
FedEx	42.58	Verizon Wireless	39.73
Friberg, Nelson & Ask, LLP	150.00	Vermillion ACE Hardware	350.09
Graham Tire S.F. North	4,544.34	VOID FOR OVERFLOW	0.00
Hy-Vee, Inc.	203.06	Vermillion Garbage Service	470.00
Intoximeters, Inc.	2,216.00	Voyage Federal Credit Union Card	38.07
JLG Architects	13,640.00	Washington National Insurance	24.45
Johnsen Heating & Cooling	199.02	Yankton County Treasurer	50.00
Katie Johnson Law, PLLC	387.20	Yankton Rexall Drug	24.21
Kennedy Pier Loftus Reynolds & Brandt	1,632.37	Yankton Winnelson Company	125.13
Loffler Companies	293.59	Youngberg Law, LLC	240.00
MaintainX, Inc.	1,190.20	Paylocity	372,434.49
Microfilm Imaging Systems	1,020.00	TASC (FLEX System)	3,446.63
MidAmerican Energy	1,694.18	The Standard Life Insurance	430.49
Muth Technology	1,834.73	The Standard Short Term Dis. Ins.	1,734.25
New Century Press	784.74	Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield	70,096.83

At 10:28 a.m., Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

February 17, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse, and Travis Mockler.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session for personnel matters per SDCL 1-25-2 (1).

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2026 meeting.

A public bid opening was held for the 2026 Asphalt Surface Project. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows: Bituminous Paving \$1,068,671.40, The Road Guy Construction \$989,950.00, and ASTECH Corporation \$1,107,833.00. Brad Stangohr with Ulteig was present as the engineer for the project. He will review bids to ensure they meet specifications and return at the next meeting for awarding of the bid.

A public bid opening was held for the Frog Creek Road Culvert Project. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows: ARGO Excavating \$583,358.00, Earthworks Enterprises \$453,224.35, Loiseau Construction \$330,310.50, Pollman Excavation \$601,408.75, BX Civil & Construction \$640,000.00, 3-D Digging & Trucking \$641,587.10, Alliance Construction \$831,688.59, Precision Dirt Work \$616,817.50, 605 Companies \$786,607.25, Runge Enterprises \$647,037.37, LT Companies \$388,000.00, Lieber Construction \$514,214.26, Soukup Construction \$545,545.45, First Rate Excavate \$894,000.00. Brad Stangohr with Ulteig was present as the engineer for the project. He will review bids to ensure they meet specifications and return at the next meeting for awarding of the bid.

A public bid opening was held for highway materials for the year. Bids were opened and read aloud. The Highway Superintendent will review bids to ensure they meet specifications and return at the next meeting for awarding of the bids.

Rachel Gackle of MMA met with the Board for a follow-up to the annual employee insurance benefits renewal. She reviewed ancillary benefit quotes. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve Mutual of Omaha for dental, vision, life, and short-term disability insurance.

Tim Schreiner was present via Zoom on behalf of the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission (CCHPC) to request that Mitchell Morse be appointed to the CCHPC. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to appoint Mitchell Morse to the CCHPC.

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays and Stangohr met with the Board for the bid award for the Structure #14-103-090 Berm Repairs & Riprap Scour Protection. Brady moved, seconded by

Thiesse and unanimously carried to award the project to the low bidder, Pollman Excavation, for \$148,951.55.

Hays said he spoke to SD Local Transportation Assistance Program regarding awarding the remaining Rural Access Infrastructure Fund Grant money, and he was told the County will need to go through the whole process. State's Attorney Michael Smith said they will need to keep that in mind this fall because there are October deadlines. Gray-Lobe said they should think about criteria and give Townships a chance to apply if they now have a higher priority project than they had last time. Smith discussed the statutes. Mockler said the bill in this year's legislative session to take back unused funds was not getting traction. Gray-Lobe asked Hays to keep track of deadlines on the calendar to help them remember.

Regarding a paver purchase, Hays asked to put it on hold as he has a lot of projects in the works and can continue to use the old one for now. Rich Jahn was present as a member of the public and asked how many hours it has on it. Hays said it has a little over 1,600.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to table discussion of the Agri-Business Grant Agreement. There was discussion regarding the need to find out whether the County can use asphalt, or whether it has to be concrete and whether 456 Ave. is included. Gray-Lobe said he would like clarity on the State's contribution as well. Is the \$600,000 grant for roads only, or does it include a portion of the turning lanes? He asked if there is anything in writing from SE Farmers Elevator Coop. that they are not paying a portion of the turning lanes because the State said the usual agreement is that the State pays 1/3, the County pays 1/3, and the developer pays 1/3. He would like to have a conversation about that. Gilbertson said he has done the math, and we should not ask the developer as they have spent a lot of money to build the facility. It has been an improvement and saved traffic in other areas of the County. Thiesse said we are saving blacktops that were running grain elsewhere. Brady asked when the SD Dept. of Transportation decided we need turning lanes as there are none going to Freeburg's Hay or Toby's Lounge. He questioned the need compared to other areas along Highway 50 going to Yankton. Gilbertson said it is related to the volume of trucks. Freeburg's may have a half-doze a day. Mockler said at full capacity, the grain elevator could have 8,000 trucks. Gilbertson said he came up with 1,875 truckloads of corn, and soybeans would be another 1/4 to 1/3. Traffic leaving the facility all goes onto Highway 50, so we are saving wear on the County roads.

The Board reviewed quotes for ethanol blend fuel. Quotes were solicited from Jerry's Service, Brunick's Service, CHS, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Vollan Oil. Quotes were received from Jerry's Service for \$2.18/gallon, Brunick's Service for \$2.17/gallon, SE Farmers Elevator Coop. for \$2.599/gallon, and Vollan Oil for \$2.146/gallon. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$2.146/gallon from Vollan Oil.

The Board reviewed quotes for 50/50 diesel fuel. Quotes were solicited from Jerry's Service, Brunick's Service, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Vollan Oil. Quotes were received from Jerry's Service for \$2.69/gallon and SE Farmers Elevator Coop. for \$3.49/gallon. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$2.69/gallon from Jerry's Service.

The Board reviewed quotes for propane. Quotes were solicited from TLC Propane, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Butch's Propane. Quotes were received from TLC Propane for \$1.32/gallon, SE Farmers Elevator Coop. for \$1.40/gallon, and Butch's Propane for \$1.35/gallon. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$1.32/gallon from TLC Propane.

Hays reported he will be out of the office next week.

Treasurer Rhonda Howe met with the Board. Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-07 for Establishment of Closure for Treasurer's Office Relocation. Vote of the Board: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION #2026-07**  
**Establishment of Closure for Treasurer's Office Relocation**

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 7-7-2, the Board of Clay County Commissioners may by resolution establish the hours of operation for County offices, and;

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's Office is vacating its current space and moving to a new office space;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners hereby establishes that the Treasurer's Office be closed on March 5 & 6, 2026 to move equipment and set up the new office space.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

Vote of the Board: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carri R. Crum, Clay County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of Clay County Commissioners

Facilities Manager Scott Hanson presented agreements for Fire Alarm System Check-out and Service for the Law Enforcement Center. He said it is required by code to have a contract. It was noted that one agreement did not specify a cost. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to table the matter for clarification.

Emergency Management Director Layne Stewart met with the Board to present the Quarterly Activity Report. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the report and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Sheriff Andy Howe met with the Board to present an Inmate Boarding Contract with Bon Homme County. He said it is the standard agreement that he uses for other counties. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Smith discussed closure of the State's Attorney's Office for relocation. The plan is to move out February 23<sup>rd</sup> and into the new office by February 27<sup>th</sup>. It sounds like the Fire Marshal has approved. He also said he has been working through old warrant documents that are 15 years and

older. They are not provable anymore, so he has dismissed around 20 cases. He wanted to inform the Board in case they receive any questions from the public.

Auditor Carri Crum presented a Combined Election Agreement with the Beresford School District. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Crum requested to enter a 3-year lease agreement with KnowInk for poll pads. She explained they will take the place of the paper poll books at the elections. Several counties are using them already, and their poll workers like them. The lease cost will be reimbursed by Help America Vote Act Grant funds. Crum said she has been interested in poll pads for a few years, but the grant funds were not previously available for use on poll pads. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to allow the Auditor to enter into a 3-year lease for the poll pads and authorize the Chairman to sign the quote.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve an amendment to the WIC Contract with the SD Department of Health that would allow an extra \$6,000 to be paid to the County and to authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the SD Public Assurance Alliance Intergovernmental Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

At 10:20 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn and convene as Clay County Ditch Board.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve an invoice from Ulteig in the amount of \$2,706.50 for Clay Creek Ditch.

At 10:21 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene as Board of Clay County Commissioners.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

Clay County Jail	30.00	One Office Solution	184.70
Clay County Treasurer	7,753.50	Pennington County Jail	304.62
SD Department of Revenue	334,443.55	Peterson, Stuart & Klentz	15,000.00
Anglin Handyman Service LLC	992.60	Pharmchem, Inc.	1,776.39
Appera	554.04	Pressing Matters	580.00
Automatic Building Controls	540.00	Presto-X Company, LLC	85.75
Avera McKennan Hospital	160.47	Prochem Dynamics	4,350.92
Bob Barker Co., Inc.	582.49	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	2,542.00
Brunick Service, Inc.	162.00	Redwood Toxicology Laboratory	173.00
Budget Blinds of Sioux Falls	9,205.20	Reliance Telephone	250.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling	2,006.73	SD Attorney General	3,387.00
Cintas	34.80	SD Department of Health	1,050.00
Dakota PC Warehouse	94.99	SD Department of Revenue	1,675.00
Gapp, Debra	6,750.00	SDSU Extension	11,525.00

FedEx	16.08	Software Services, Inc.	575.00
Fischer's Disposal, LLC	75.00	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,540.35
Houska Dental Clinic	1,003.00	SuperCom, Inc.	217.75
Ilchuk Enterprises, LLC	240.00	TEGRA Group, Inc.	1,000.00
Kevin O'Dell Electric	225.51	T-Mobile	124.00
Lewno Law Office	234.74	Tri-State EMA	20.00
Lincoln County Auditor	894.51	Ulteig	2,706.50
Lloyd Construction Company	246,230.95	University of South Dakota	71.40
Loffler Companies	83.65	Larson, Val	20.00
Katterhagen, Mark	20.00	Vermillion ACE Hardware	209.90
McClure & Hardy Prof LCC	3,893.00	Wyatt Waage	37.50
Smith, Michael	40.32	Yankton County Treasurer	201.25
Microfilm Imaging Systems	60.00	Yankton Rexall Drug	24.21
MidAmerican Energy	3,691.32	Youngberg Law, LLC	292.80
Midwest Alarm Co., Inc.	119.85	CorTrust Bank	4.00
New Century Press	80.61		

The Sheriff's Office Monthly Reports and the following Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer Report were accepted and placed on file.

**AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER**

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, regarding items in the hands of the County Treasurer as of February 2, 2026. I hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash.

Total amount of deposits in banks:	8,570,465.27
Amount of actual cash:	5,036.42
Amount of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession not exceeding 3 days:	62,255.22
Itemized list of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession over 3 days:	
Checks returned and not deposited	5,014.00
Cash Items	700.00
Investments	1,151,000.00
Bond Funds	9,201,902.69
Cash Variation	0.00
Total	18,996,373.60

Dated this 2nd of February, 2026.

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

February 17, 2026


At 10:23 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to enter an Executive Session for personnel and legal matters per SDCL 1-25-2 Subsections 1 and 3.

At 11:29 a.m., Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to exit the Executive Session.

At 11:30 a.m., Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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**Yankton-Clay Ditch Board**  
**February 17, 2026**

The Clay and Yankton County Commissions met jointly as the Yankton-Clay Ditch Board Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the Clay County 4-H Center, 515 High St., Vermillion, SD.

Members present—Clay County: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse, Auditor Carri Crum, Highway Superintendent Brent Hays, and Highway Foreman Tim Dooley. Yankton County: Ryan Heine, Dan Klimisch, Wanda Howey-Fox, Auditor Patty Hojem, and Development Services Director Gary Vetter.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Travis Mockler.

A motion was made by Howey-Fox and seconded by Gray-Lobe to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the February 25, 2025 meeting as presented. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Ditch fund balances were noted as follows. Clay County Yankton-Clay Creek Ditch \$66,532.72 and Yankton County Yankton-Clay Creek Ditch \$39,120.05.

A motion was made by Gilbertson and seconded by Fox to approve the 2025 Clay County claims: Qualified Presort Service (Postage for meeting notices) \$125.09, Quill (Postcard paper for meeting notices) \$32.77, New Century Press \$44.14, Broadcaster/Plain Talk \$58.19, Complete Excavation \$2,642.50, Dakota Timber Clearing \$12,244.92, 2025 Meeting Per Diem & Mileage \$424.20. All members voted aye; the motion passed. A motion was made by Klimisch and seconded by Heine to approve the 2025 Yankton County claims: Feimer Construction Inc. \$72,704.21, Yankton P&D \$6.24. All members voted aye; motion passed.

Troy Walraven requested spraying of trees/weeds. Calvin Hanson requested replacement of a bridge in Norway Township, the last one in Clay County before crossing into Yankton County.

Walraven moved, seconded by Gilbertson to set the 2026 payable 2027 Yankton-Clay Creek Ditch levy at 8% for both counties. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

At 1:13 p.m., a motion was made by Klimisch and seconded by Howey-Fox to adjourn and convene as Clay Creek Ditch Board. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

**Clay Creek Ditch Board**  
**February 17, 2026**

The Clay and Yankton County Commissions met jointly as the Clay Creek Ditch Board Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 1:13 p.m. at the Clay County 4-H Center, 515 High St., Vermillion, SD.

Members present—Clay County: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, David Thiesse, Auditor Carri Crum, Highway Superintendent Brent Hays, and Highway Foreman Tim Dooley. Yankton County: Ryan Heine, Dan Klimisch, Wanda Howey-Fox, Auditor Patty Hojem, and Development Services Director Gary Vetter.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Travis Mockler.

A motion was made by Howey-Fox and seconded by Gray-Lobe to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the February 25, 2025 meeting as presented. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Ditch fund balances were noted as follows. Clay County Clay Creek Ditch \$472,776.38 (includes \$397,020.77 from FEMA) and Yankton County Clay Creek Ditch \$94,532.66.

A motion was made by Klimisch and seconded by Gray-Lobe to approve the 2025 Clay County claims: Qualified Presort Service (Postage for meeting notices) \$125.10, Quill (Postcard paper for meeting notices) \$32.77, New Century Press \$44.14, Broadcaster/Plain Talk \$58.19, TrueNorth Steel \$12,633.60, Ulteig Engineering \$35,963.75. All members voted aye; the motion passed. A motion was made by Howey-Fox and seconded by Sue McClure to approve the 2025 Yankton County claims: Yankton Observer \$4.08. All members voted aye; motion passed.

Sue McClure requested trees be cut out where the lateral and private ditch meet the Clay Creek Ditch in Yankton County. There is a lot of trash where Frank Martz left his equipment. It was decided that Yankton County will handle it.

Tom Logue moved, seconded by Jeff Becker to set the 2026 payable 2027 Clay Creek Ditch levy at 40% for Clay County. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Jory Freeburg moved, seconded by Sue McClure to set the 2026 payable 2027 Clay Creek Ditch levy at 40% for Yankton County. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Klimisch moved, seconded by Howey-Fox to elect Travis Mockler as Chairman and Ryan Heine as Vice-Chairman of the Clay and Yankton County Joint Ditch Board and that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Laterals were discussed, and balances were as follows: Clay County Laterals 1A & 1B \$68,221.63, Laterals 2A & 2B \$180,082.06, Laterals 3A & 3B \$119,338.02, Prairie Center \$39,395.86, Laterals 50A & 50B \$17,490.97. Yankton County Turkey Valley \$28,692.10, Lesterville Drain \$269.86, Volin Lateral \$109,791.79, 1<sup>st</sup> Ext. Volin Lateral \$48,167.51, L&C Sewer \$1,520.15, YC Lateral #2 \$18,193.49.

**FILED in the Clay County Auditor's Office**  
**March 3, 2026**  
**Carri R. Crum, Clay County Auditor**

At 1:34 p.m., a motion was made by Klimisch and seconded by Howey-Fox that the meeting be adjourned. All members voted aye; the motion passed.

Travis Mockler, Chairman

Attest:

Patty Hojem, Yankton County Auditor  
Carri R. Crum, Clay County Auditor

March 3, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, Travis Mockler, and David Thiesse.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the deletion of the Petition for Vacation of Street as it is a Township matter.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 meeting.

Greg Merrigan appeared under Visitors to be Heard to present the Annual Impact Report for Feeding Vermillion and to thank the Board for its support. Merrigan said Feeding Vermillion was a merger of the Food Pantry and Welcome Table a few years ago and has grown to seven programs: The Welcome Table, Community Food Pantry, Tanager Shopping, Tanager Delivery, Golden Share, School Supplies, and Brain Boost. Clay County's food insecurity rate in 2023 was 13.7%, and in 2025 the Food Pantry served 12,108 people. The Feeding Vermillion programs are located in the Community Connection Center downtown.

Sheriff Andy Howe appeared under Visitors to be Heard to discuss the contract with Reliance Telephone for inmate calling. The FCC lowered the rates, so a new contract needs to be signed. The costs are paid by the inmates, and he thinks it actually raises the share of the proceeds that the County receives. He said, historically, he has signed the contract and asked if there was any objection to him signing it. There were no objections from the Board.

Veterans Service Officer and Zoning Administrator Noah Westergaard discussed construction in the Courthouse. He said when they were working on renovations for the new annex, he could not answer the phones because the noise below his office was so loud. Now, work will be taking place next door to his office. He requested to be allowed to work remotely as he has a laptop and the ability to answer phone calls through the Vonage app. He would place signs to notify people to call him and would be willing to meet people off-site if necessary. This would be as-needed during the construction. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve Westergaard to close the office as-necessary and work remotely during this construction project.

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays and Paula Huizenga from the SD Department of Transportation met with the Board to discuss the Agri-Business Grant Agreement. Huizenga added 456 Ave. to the agreement. There was clarification that the County will still get the grant if the roads are left as gravel as the \$600,000 is at the County's discretion. The State will pay for its 1/3 of the turning lanes in addition to the \$600,000. Gray-Lobe found a section of the agreement (A3) that also needed to include 456 Ave. Huizenga said she will make the necessary

change. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the agreement with the changes discussed and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

The Board reviewed the bid tabulations from the public bid openings at the last meeting. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to award the bid for the 2026 Asphalt Surface Project to the low bidder, The Road Guy for \$989,950. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to award the bid for the Frog Creek Road Culvert Project to the low bidder, Loiseau Construction for \$330,310.50. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to accept the Highway Superintendent's recommendations for the 2026 Highway Materials bids as follows.

**Clay County Highway Department 2026 Material Bid Recommendations**

Asphalt concrete (Hot Mix)

Myrl & Roy's	Knife River	Barkley Asphalt
G-1 \$70.00 50-ton min.	D-1/D-2 \$78.00 Yankton	\$90.00 1/2" mix
G-2 \$72.00 100-ton min.	G-1/G-2 \$72.00 Madison St. Sioux Falls	\$105.00 3/8" mix

Recommend awarding to all bidders, whichever is most advantageous to Clay County.

Road Sealant

Midstates Equipment & Supply, Inc.

Roadsaver 221 Maxwell Elastoflex (zipbox) \$0.628/lb.

Mastic One Maxwell Gap Modified 201 \$.056/lb.

White Cap

Duramelt Crack Seal \$.70/lb.

Duramelt Mastic \$.65/lb.

Flex-O-Mat \$4.25/sq. ft.

Recommend awarding to Midstates Equipment.

Carbides, Plow and Grader Blades

Butler

4'X6" Carbide Blades \$246.49

8' Grader Blades \$150.65

12' Plow Blades \$236.67

Recommend awarding to Butler (only bidder).

Crane Work, Crane Men, & Driven Piling Equipment & Labor

40 Ton Crane & Operator \$450.00 per hr.

110 Ton Crane & Operator \$600.00/hr.

Cat 299D2 & Operator \$220.00/hr.  
 Takeuchi Mini Excavator \$210.00/hr.  
 General Labor \$125.00/hr.  
 Bridge Superintendent \$180.00/hr.

Recommend awarding to Hollaway Construction (only bidder).

Dirt Work

Complete Excavation

Skid Loader \$125.00/hr.  
 Mini Excavator & Operator \$145.00/hr.  
 Large Excavator John Deere 200D \$225.00/hr.  
 Side Dump \$145.00/hr.

Recommend awarding to Complete Excavation (only bidder).

Corrugated Metal Pipe

TrueNorth Steel (Beadle County Bid)

2026 Price	2025 Price
18" \$24.00/ft.	\$24.00/ft.
24" \$30.40/ft.	\$30.40/ft.
36" \$46.40/ft.	\$46.40/ft.
48" \$76.80/ft.	\$76.80/ft.
Bands 12"	
18" \$48.00 each	\$48.00 each
24" \$60.50 each	\$60.50 each
36" \$92.80 each	\$92.80 each
48" \$121.60 each	\$121.60 each

Arched Metal Pipe

2026 Prices	Bands	2025 Prices	Bands
24" =28"x20" \$34.96/ft.	12" wide \$69.92	24"=28"x20" \$34.96/ft.	12"wide \$69.92
54" =64"x43" \$134.32/ft.	24"wide \$242.88	54"=64"x43"\$134.32/ft.	24"wide \$242.88

Flex-O-Mat \$4.65 per sq. ft.

Recommend accepting Beadle County Bid Packet for Corrugated Metal Pipe and Flex-o-mat; True North was the only bidder.

Facilities Manager Scott Hanson presented a contract from Schumacher Elevator for elevator maintenance. The contract is \$195.00/mo. and is \$1,000/yr. cheaper than the old contract. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it. Under discussion, Mockler pointed out that there is a 3% discount for paying the contract in one annual payment. Gray-Lobe moved to amend the motion to make the payment annually, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried. All voted aye on the motion to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it; motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding additional employees in the State's Attorney's Office and the Director of Equalization Office. Mockler said they have been asking for and needing an additional person in each office. After seeing the final budget numbers from last year, he asked State's Attorney Michael Smith and Director of Equalization Lennea Olson to compile cost estimates. Smith said he does not have anyone to fill the front window space in the new office and will not put a current Legal Assistant in that space as they will not get any work done aside from answering questions from the public. He presented cost estimates for a Legal Assistant with and without qualifications and a list of staff in State's Attorney's Offices in similar sized counties. He said his office has taken over welfare duties. They are also no longer scanning documents as they do not have time. They are drowning in work and are understaffed. He has an adequate number of attorneys but needs support staff. There was discussion regarding the duties of an additional person. Gray-Lobe said when he thinks about investing in the office, he thinks of diversion programs that save the County money in the long run. Smith said they are already running a robust diversion program, and the attorneys have been doing the work. Additional support staff would either do some of the work, or they would pick up other tasks to free up the attorneys to do additional work on diversion. He is looking to expand and work more efficiently in that respect.

Olson said she would hire an Assessor Clerk. It would be around a \$60,000 increase, and she would need an additional phone line and computer. That person would not need to attend conference and school or be licensed. They would only need sales ratio training. Mockler asked if they could allow that person to go to school. Olson said they can, but having that person in the office would allow the certified officials to attend training at the same time. She has had the former director, Ina Peterson, cover the office, but she cannot count on her forever. They are 3 parcels away from 9,300 parcels of land. The State cap is 3,500 parcels per Assessor Appraiser, so they would need 3 Assessor Appraisers. She is also managing & supervising the office, addressing taxpayer concerns, preparing for appeals, etc. She does not have the time in the office to study the data her people are bringing back from the field. She is barely treading water. The reappraisal cycle is 5-7 years, but her office is on year 8 and has not touched Vermillion commercial property. They are behind on filing; 2024 has not even been touched yet. They are implementing new software, and a clerk could do data entry. By international standards, they are handling double the parcels they should be. Gray-Lobe said down the road they could discover that clerk is a really talented person. Mockler said they could be trained up.

Gilbertson said the two offices' staffing needs would cost approximately \$140,000 combined. They discussed that a computer for each office is around \$2,000. Gray-Lobe and Auditor Carri

Crum discussed the County's cash reserved. Brady said these are not new requests. Thiesse said it has been a need for quite some time. Mockler asked about the renovation project budget. Crum said she has not received many bills for that yet. There will be change orders. Gilbertson discussed the sprinkler system cost. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to authorize Smith and Olson to hire for the two additional staff positions.

The Board considered a change order for the renovation project, and it was decided that it fit within the authority granted to Gilbertson in his oversight of the project.

The Board discussed the open burning ordinance. Smith said from an enforcement mechanism, the Sheriff's Office will need to prepare a report and forward to the State's Attorney's Office, or issue a citation for a court appearance. The challenge is how to identify who to cite. Most class 2 misdemeanors have a set fine amount and no mandatory court appearance. This is a little rare to have the mandatory court appearance. Gray-Lobe said the next paragraph after that seemed to indicate the other costs, such as the fire department time, and that could be way more than \$500. Smith said that statute is about civil liability and is in effect regardless of whether this ordinance is in place. Howe clarified the current ordinance doesn't have anything to do with the Red Flag Warning provision. Mockler said the purpose was so people have to call in a controlled burn so that if people call 911 for a fire, the fire departments know it is controlled. Emergency Management Director Layne Stewart said this time of year, he ends up driving around checking out smoke to make sure there are no uncontrolled fires. Mockler said they are not looking for criminals. They just want people to call in when they are going to burn. All of the fire departments are volunteer, so they are leaving their jobs to chase a fire that is not out of control. Howe said he ran into a situation where they couldn't determine who to cite. Smith discussed that kind of situation and said the ordinance does leave some ambiguity. He said the current challenge is the mandatory court appearance as well if an owner lives elsewhere and the renter does not take responsibility. Mockler said it can be remedied between the owner and renter. Thiesse agreed that the intent of the ordinance is to make people call in controlled burns. Vermillion Fire/EMS Director Matt Callahan said he tells people they have to call in a controlled burn, it has to be attended to, and if someone else will be switching shifts, they have to call back in to notify dispatch. The number of false responses have gone down. Howe agreed. The only issue is enforcement. Brady said the question is whether it should be a mandatory court appearance. Smith said a question is also who to cite. Howe said if he cites an absent landowner, and they choose not to appear in court, he is not going to extradite them for this kind of offense. Some people are not interested in following the rules. Callahan said most people are educated the first time, so there are less and less offenses each year. There was a lengthy discussion about responsibility. Zoning Administrator Noah Westergaard asked if it could be worded as "land manager." Gray-Lobe said that might be possible with an added definition of land manager. There was also discussion regarding how the ordinance came into being. Gray-Lobe said it seems like setting a dollar amount might solve one aspect. Identifying the responsible person might be more challenging. Olson suggested using the term "lease holder." Howe suggested using "the person who lit the fire." Smith said he likes that standard as it is probably the most straightforward. He likes it as a starting point. He can draft some language to include a fine schedule rather than a mandatory court appearance. It would simplify things and alleviate extra

work. Mockler said other fire chiefs are saying they need the Sheriff to issue a fine so they can collect the damages. Smith and Callahan discussed the statute. Thiesse asked if they need to decide on a fine amount. Smith said he can do some research and bring a recommendation to the Board.

The Board considered the renewal contract with SD Department of Health for the Community Health Nurse. There was discussion regarding whether the nurse will be present a specified number of hours. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

A&B Business	227.89	Pressing Matters	66.00
AFLAC	657.33	Presto-X Company, LLC	98.59
Paulson, Alicia	1,800.00	Pro Movers LLc	1,651.50
A-Ox Welding Supply	180.00	Prochem Dynamics	504.21
Barco Municipal Products	2,836.89	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	2,727.22
Blackstrap, Inc.	3,782.62	Quill, LLC	259.97
Bob Barker Co., Inc.	194.60	Ramkota Hotel - Pierre	784.00
Brunick Service, Inc.	333.00	Riverside Hydraulics & Labs, Inc.	148.09
Budget Blinds of Sioux Falls	1,761.00	Runnings Supply, Inc.	12.99
Butch's Propane	281.34	Schumacher Elevator Company	2,269.80
Canon Financial Services	592.36	SD Association of Assessing Officers	150.00
Century Business Products	39.89	SD Assn. of County Commissioners	5,781.00
Jongeward, Chris	28.00	SD Department of Transportation	21,399.01
Christensen Radiator & Repair	352.85	SD Retirement System	46,955.26
Cintas	160.31	SD Supplemental Retirement System	10,365.00
City of Vermillion	4,644.84	SD Supplemental Retirement Roth	825.34
Clay Rural Water System	151.90	SDACO - M&P Fund Payment	220.00
Clay-Union Electric Cooperative	739.70	Stewart Oil & Tire Co.	100.00
CMoore Pit Service	100.00	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,405.39
Colonial Life Insurance	293.86	The Lumberyard, LLC	288.68

Doherty, Corey	134.00	The Standard Dental Insurance	2,309.96
Davis Pharmacy	98.37	The Standard Vision Insurance	549.60
De Castro Law Office, PLLC	1,759.60	Thompson Law Office	2,994.58
Den Herder Law Office	154.03	Dooley, Tim	28.00
Ganschow, Dennis	736.00	Trane Technologies	856.20
Erickson Solutions Group	1,266.30	Transwest Trucks of Sioux Falls	10,497.18
Fast Auto Glass, Inc.	80.00	Two Way Solutions, Inc.	188.99
Fox Law Firm, PLLC	255.57	Uline	609.33
Frame Aligners, Inc.	167.00	Ulteig	19,570.75
Graham Tire S.F. North	1,398.24	United Way of Vermillion	280.00
Graham Tire Yankton	404.15	Larson, Val	40.00
HOV Services, Inc.	979.36	Verizon Wireless	140.31
Jerry's Service	6,114.24	Vermillion ACE Hardware	356.23
Kennedy Pier Loftus Reynolds & Brandt	1,882.88	Vermillion Ford	186.16
Kodex, Inc.	245.00	Vermillion Garbage Service	410.00
Leisure Lawns, LLC	1,068.42	Vollan Oil	3,575.24
Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health	225.00	Voyage Federal Credit Union Card	431.30
Locators & Supplies, Inc.	356.80	Wakonda Town	62.65
Lyle Signs, LLC	321.96	Washington National Insurance	24.45
Katterhagen, Mark	40.00	Yankton County Treasurer	264.75
Smith, Michael	40.32	Youngberg Law, LLC	739.20
National Sheriff's Association	250.00	CorTrust Bank	8.00
New Century Press	250.91	First Dakota Credit Card	16,188.14
New York Life Insurance	258.57	Paylocity	363,741.35
Olson's Pest Technicians	240.00	TASC (FLEX System)	3,296.63
One Office Solution	224.61	The Standard Life Insurance	426.21
O'Reilly Auto Parts	120.61	The Standard Short Term Dis. Ins.	1,712.38
Terwilliger, Philip	987.40	Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield	70,996.82

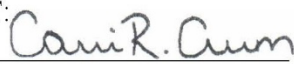
Crum presented the 2025 Annual Report and Surplus Cash Report to the Board. She stated she was impressed with how the year ended and expressed appreciation to the department heads for once again keeping spending down. Crum said she has not seen the County finish a year so well financially in almost 10 years. She is hopeful the trend will continue now that the new jail is open.

The Board reviewed the current quarter's Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG) Agreement Matrix Report.

At 10:25 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room in the Courthouse Basement, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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March 16, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in a joint meeting with the City of Vermillion City Council Monday, March 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 25 Center St., Vermillion, SD, for consideration of the Joint Jurisdiction Comprehensive Plan for the Joint Jurisdictional Area of Clay County and the City of Vermillion.


County members present: Travis Mockler, David Thiesse, Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, and Geoffrey Gray-Lobe (via phone). It should be noted that Gray-Lobe was unable to hear everything that was said due to the technological limitations of being on the phone.

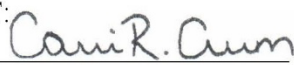
Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

Zoning Administrator Noah Westergaard and City Engineer José Dominguez gave a brief presentation on the proposed plan. There was discussion between the Council and the Commission regarding the map and annexation language, changes to language and positioning of paragraphs within the document, boundary lines, and grammatical corrections.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 6, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 25 Center St., Vermillion, SD 57069.

At 5:59 p.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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March 17, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Clay County Jail and Law Enforcement Center, 1250 Stanford St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe (via Zoom), David Thiesse, and Travis Mockler.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion regarding the kitchen in the Extension/4-H building.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2026 meeting.

The Board considered a Driveway Application from Robert Peterson, to be located at 42°58'43.85", -97°1'6.18". Brady moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

The Board considered a Driveway Application from Tim Gregoire and Ken Wastlund on 309 St., to be located at 42°54'38.1"N, 96°56'18.3"W. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

The Board considered a Right-of-Way Application from Bluepeak for fiber internet cable to be located under 299 St. at 452 Ave., under 452 Ave. at 300 St., and under 452 Ave. approx. 1015' south of 303 St. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the contract for the Frog Creek Rd. Culvert Replacement Project and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Brady moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to approve the contract for the 2026 Asphalt Surface Treatment Project and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

The Board reviewed quotes for propane. Quotes were solicited from TLC Propane, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Butch's Propane. Quotes were received from TLC Propane for \$1.280/gallon, SE Farmers Elevator Coop. for \$1.469/gallon, and Butch's Propane for \$1.200/gallon. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$1.200/gallon from Butch's Propane.

The Board discussed the burn ban ordinance. State's Attorney Michael Smith said the County will have to go through the ordinance creation process. It will involve changing language to make the person who started the fire responsible for the fire. He read the current section 2e and discussed a change in language to "adult burner who started the fire." If there is a state law, the County cannot implement a higher fine. SDCL 5-4-15 is similar enough that he believes the County should stay with the bond schedule. It is currently a \$54 fine, with the total being \$132.50 including court costs. He recommends implementing that fine. There is no possibility of

jail time with that. Smith and Sheriff Andy Howe discussed the issues with enforcement in the past. This would clear up who is responsible for a fire. Vermillion Fire/EMS Chief Matt Callahan said the intent was never to fine someone whose fire got out of control. This was for those who light a fire and leave it unattended. Smith read the rest of the provisions and said it is all about supervision. It was discussed that it is based on the National Weather Service's fire weather watch and red flag warning. Callahan said some other counties have a permanent burn ban right now, but he doesn't think we need that. Howe said if people call in, they will be informed if there is a burn ban. Thiesse and Smith discussed the definition of open burning. There was also discussion regarding campgrounds. Gray-Lobe said Clay County Park has a campground host. Mockler wondered if the Clay County Park Board should have some authority to place a ban on campfires. Gilbertson asked if a host is there 24/7. Gray-Lobe said there is usually one. Emergency Management Director Layne Stewart said the intent was to include campgrounds if the Commission put on a permanent burn ban. The park should be able to shut down burning any time they want to. Smith agreed with Stewart. Gray-Lobe pointed out Section 2c and said if there is a burn ban it applies to campgrounds. Callahan said even in campgrounds there is a high fire risk on red flag days. Stewart said from the original conception the campground was exempt. Gilbertson said the host should be responsible. Gray-Lobe would like to have the same ban apply in the campground as the rest of the county. Gilbertson said the host would have to be the enforcing party. Callahan suggested not having exemption areas such as a campground. Mockler said it needs to be straight across the board. Howe suggested when there is a red flag warning, the camp host posts a sign. If someone lights a fire, the camp host needs to tell them to put it out. If they don't comply, then the Sheriff's Office can issue a citation. Mockler said he would like to see the fine money go to the fire department that had to be called out. Callahan said the fire department has the ability to bill the person, but if it's not paid, they have to civilly sue the individual. Smith said he will work on a proposed ordinance.

Smith reported to the Board that, in 2024, the Supreme Court appointed a committee to work on the public service pathway to bar admission to allow a select few law students to take a public service pathway in lieu of bar exam. It's a 5-year commitment to placement inside of public service in South Dakota after law school. The student works under an attorney and submits work to the Supreme Court, and they make the decision to grant the license in lieu of the bar exam. He was approached about being a placement for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year law student. There are only up to 10 students selected. They work 500 hours during the fall of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of law school. Smith agreed to the placement. Not every county is paying for the placement, and due to our location near the law school, his recommendation is not to pay. There is no obligation to employ the person after law school. They will handle misdemeanor cases.

Zoning Administrator Noah Westergaard requested permission from the Board to sign off on all plats. Over the past year, they have had a handful of meetings where the only thing on the agenda is a single plat. It seems to him to be a waste of County resources and money. There have also been situations where a person comes in the day after the meeting with a plat application, and they have to wait a month. Mockler and Thiesse said there are rarely questions at the Planning Commission meeting. It does not stop Westergaard from bringing in a plat if there are issues. Mockler said the applicant still has the ability to appeal Westergaard's decision. Westergaard

clarified we have minor and major plats, and he is requesting permission to sign major plats. Currently, it goes to the Planning Commission. Gray-Lobe said he thinks it's important to maintain an open meeting for a major plat to maintain transparency. Westergaard further explained the process. Gray-Lobe said he was confusing the final plat and the preliminary plan stage. He referred to page 4 of the subdivision ordinance. Smith said it will involve an ordinance change within the subdivision ordinance. He suggested working with Westergaard for the change and bringing it to the Commission for more conversation. Gray-Lobe said they should consider what makes a plat a major plat and read the definition. He thinks criteria could be changed in the definition. Thiesse said things are taken into consideration within the guidelines and ordinance because Westergaard has to follow those. Gray-Lobe said public comment is an important part of the process.

The Board discussed a proposed renovation of the Extension/4-H building kitchen. Brady said the 4-H clubs have raised funds for the kitchen renovation. They are concerned about getting bids. The City owns the land, the County owns the building, and the 4-H leases it from the County. They would like the bid process to go through the County, but they would be paying for it. Mockler said he thinks it would be simpler for them to get a better product if they just handle the process. There will be little details that will need to be fleshed out by a contractor. They don't have to follow the bid regulations. Smith said it would go back to the agreement for the building and whether the County is ok with them making decisions regarding a County building. If the County wants ultimate say on how the project goes, it complicates things. They are not expending public funds, so he does not think it is within the realm of the bid regulations since the County is not spending public funds. Mockler said he thinks it would be better for them to choose a contractor. Brady asked if there are any concerns about them making changes to a County building. Mockler said he is not concerned about that, but he wondered if they will need to install a sprinkler system. They will need to have a conversation with the City about that. Smith said the permit will likely need to be under the County. Mockler said that cost will be minimal.

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

Clay County Treasurer	3,668.00	Katterhagen, Mark	40.00
SD Department of Revenue	311,159.65	Microfilm Imaging Systems	1,080.00
A&B Business	220.95	MidAmerican Energy	4,381.89
A-Ox Welding Supply	192.50	Minnehaha County Auditor	313.17
AT&T Mobility	56.86	New Century Press	203.59
Auto Value Vermillion	62.93	O'Reilly Auto Parts	210.53
AXON Enterprise, Inc.	895.00	Pennington County Jail	254.80
Barco Municipal Products	590.95	Peterson, Stuart & Klentz Prof LLC	15,000.00
Beckenhauer Construction, Inc.	62,995.28	Pharmchem, Inc.	223.65
Broadcaster Press & Plain Talk	852.78	Pheasantland	274.24
Brunick Service, Inc.	400.45	Pictometry International, Inc.	21,776.48
Buhl's Drycleaners and Linen	161.22	Pressing Matters	3,589.00
Butch's Propane	2,687.51	Pro Movers LLC	560.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling	1,659.87	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	5,399.14
CentralSquare Technologies	116.51	Quality Motors	83.44

Century Business Products	46.03	Quill, LLC	119.64
Cintas	138.34	Runnings Supply, Inc.	219.92
Clay Co. Sheriff South Dakota	3.60	Sanford Health Occ. Medicine	244.00
Clay Rural Water System	303.80	SD Assn. of County Highway Sup.	600.00
Clay-Union Electric Cooperative	2,520.13	SD Attorney General	1,473.00
CMoore Pit Service	100.00	SD Department of Health	865.00
Crafco, Inc.	3,313.00	SD Department of Revenue	830.30
Dakota PC Warehouse	59.99	SDAAO	375.00
Davis Pharmacy	68.42	SDACO - M&P Fund Payment	308.00
D-P Tools, Inc.	75.42	Security Shredding Service	160.00
Erickson Solutions Group	540.00	South Dakota Planners Association	375.00
First Dakota Credit Card	17,911.29	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,564.42
Fischer's Disposal, LLC	75.00	SuperCom, Inc.	204.75
Fleetpride	576.99	TEGRA Group, Inc.	1,000.00
Fox Law Firm, PLLC	195.57	The Soap Guys	114.40
Graham Tire S.F. North	241.92	TLC Propane	792.00
Hy-Vee, Inc.	72.00	Ulteig	13,927.39
JLG Architects	32,028.29	Larson, Val	40.00
Kennedy Pier Loftus Reynolds & Brandt	247.27	Vermillion ACE Hardware	205.93
Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health	675.00	Vermillion Garbage Service	60.00
Lewno Law Office	198.74	Wakonda Town	68.65
Lincoln County Auditor	899.80	Woodbury Sheriff's Office	30.00
Lloyd Construction Company	252,839.62	Yankton County Treasurer	461.25
Loffler Companies	67.73	Jury/Witness Expenses	757.30

The Sheriff's Office Monthly Reports, Vermillion Public Library Board Report, and the following Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer Report were accepted and placed on file.

**AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH THE COUNTY TREASURER**

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners of Clay County, regarding items in the hands of the County Treasurer as of March 2, 2026. I hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash.

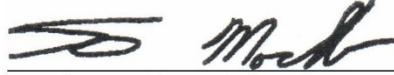
Total amount of deposits in banks:	7,405,904.91
Amount of actual cash:	4,231.36
Amount of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession not exceeding 3 days:	29,463.92
Itemized list of checks/drafts in Treasurer's possession over 3 days:	
Checks returned and not deposited	69.40
Cash Items	700.00
Investments	1,151,000.00
Bond Funds	9,228,532.68
Cash Variation	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,819,902.27</b>

Dated this 2nd of March, 2026.

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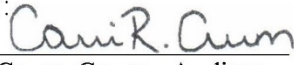
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

At 10:09 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



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Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   

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Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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March 31, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room in the basement of the Clay County Courthouse, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, Travis Mockler, and David Thiesse.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of an aerial spraying service under Ditch Board and Executive Session for legal/contractual matters per SDCL 1-25-2 Subsection 3.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to amend and approve the minutes of the March 16, 2026 and March 17, 2026 meetings.

Sheriff Andy Howe appeared under Visitors to be Heard to discuss the recent RFP process for an ATM in the lobby at the jail. He said there were no responses to it, even from Chad Grunewaldt who has the ATM that is currently there but not in use. Howe said statute permits negotiation when no bids are received and asked for direction from the Board. State's Attorney Michael Smith said it should be an agenda item before any official action is taken. Gilbertson asked if the ATM is something they need. Howe said people do use it. Fees are higher than at a bank, though. Gray-Lobe asked what the advantages are, and Howe said it is a secure place to use an ATM, people get bond money from it, and people get money from it to pay fingerprint fees.

Zoning Administrator Noah Westergaard was present for a public hearing and first reading of a proposed ordinance amending the 2013 Revised Zoning Ordinance for Clay County. Specifically, the County Commissioners will be considering adoption of an amendment to Article 2, Definitions; Section 2.02, Definitions; Article 3, General District Regulations; Section 3.10, Mobile Homes/Manufactured Homes; Article 4, Districts And Boundaries; Section 4.05, District Regulations Established; Section 4.05.01, NRC: Natural Resource Conservation District; Section 4.05.02, A-1: Agricultural District; Section 4.05.03, Rr: Rural Residential District. Westergaard said he is trying to help address housing affordability issues in the county. This amendment would add another classification as modular homes do not have a trailer tongue and wheels under them when placed on a foundation. Director of Equalization Lenna Olson said she is in favor of this change as it would help ease some frustration for people who do not have a serial number because their home is modular rather than mobile or manufactured, so they would not need to go through a conditional use permit. Thiesse asked if it is true that the university purchased Suburban Mobile Home Park. Olson said she has not seen any deed transfers for the property. She knows residents received a letter, but she has not seen it, so she does not know whether it referenced new ownership or new management. Westergaard said this change would help people build affordable housing that will create equity versus something that will deteriorate over the next 20 years. Olson said modular homes are stick built and do not have serial numbers. It was discussed that once they are placed on a foundation, it is difficult if not impossible to know it is a modular home. The ability

to obtain traditional financing is also a factor for people in a modular home purchase. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse to advance the ordinance to a second reading. Under discussion, Mockler brought up Section C, and the version in front of the Commission had language that was updated recently. It was discussed that the language should match the current version. Gray-Lobe rescinded his motion. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to re-advertise the proposed ordinance for another public hearing and first reading with the updated language.

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays met with the Board. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to set a bid opening date of April 14, 2026 for removal of Structure #14-030-180 over Yankton-Clay Ditch and its replacement with a culvert.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to set a bid opening date of April 14, 2026 for purchase of a road widener machine.

Hays discussed purchase of a pickup truck. He said state bid is \$48,253.00. He asked Jerry's for a quote, and it was \$50,860.00, which is over the \$50,000.00 bid threshold. He requested to purchase the truck using the state bid. Howe said the County can legally purchase off of state bid or purchase from another vendor if they can match or beat state bid, which is not the case in this situation. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to allow Hays to purchase the truck using the state bid of \$48,253.00.

Hays reported to the Board that the State allocated \$5 million for the Rural Access Infrastructure Fund grant program. He should know in a month or two how much Clay County will receive. Thiesse said this is great news.

The Board reviewed quotes for diesel fuel for the Wakonda Highway Shop. Quotes were solicited from Jerry's Service, Brunick's Service, SE Farmers Elevator Coop., and Vollan Oil. Quotes were received from Jerry's Service for \$3.75/gallon, Brunick's Service for \$3.62/gallon, and Vollan Oil for \$3.63/gallon. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the low quote of \$3.62/gallon from Brunick's Service.

At 9:32 a.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to adjourn and convene as Clay County Ditch Board.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve an invoice from TrueNorth Steel for a culvert on the Yankton-Clay Ditch in the amount of \$13,254.00.

The Board reviewed aerial spray services from NEN Aerial Services for Yankton-Clay Ditch for \$1,500.00. It was approved at the annual joint meeting. Hays said the best time to spray is in the fall once the crops are out of the fields but the leaves still have foliage. Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the spray service.

At 9:34 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene as Board of Clay County Commissioners.

Hays asked for permission to give a tour of the Highway Shop and machinery to an individual that SESDAC serves. The consensus was that he can give a tour as long as he feels it is safe to do so.

Smith discussed a draft of changes to the burn ban ordinance. He said he has worked through it but would like to contact SECOG before presenting a draft for a first reading. Gray-Lobe gave an updated from the Park Board. He said his expectation was that any burn ban would also apply in the Clay County Park Campground. However, the Park Board informed him that the long-time tradition has been that burning is allowed under a burn ban as long as it is in the designated fire rings. Gray-Lobe said any other burns are done in concert with the fire department. Smith said he will review the matter. Brady asked if there is a better way to get the word out to the public because the irony of having five fires immediately after it was discussed at the last meeting was not lost on him. Smith said it is a slow system of informing the public and then getting people to change their ways. Mockler said it is not really a total burn ban, just on the red flag warning days. Smith said it is important to include a provision that allows the Commission the authority to issue a burn ban if necessary.

Treasurer Rhonda Howe met with the Board. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-08 for Treasurer Outstanding Checks Cancellation. Roll call vote: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2026-08  
Treasurer Outstanding Checks Cancellation

WHEREAS, the Board of Clay County Commissioners may by resolution cancel warrants or checks that have not been presented for payment at any time within one (1) year of the date on which the warrant or check was issued,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Clay County Commissioners hereby authorize the cancellation of checks and warrants of record, in the Clay County Treasurer's Office that have not been presented for payment within the one (1) year of the date of the said checks or warrants, for \$951.03 in Treasurer's Checks and that the Auditor and Treasurer Office's shall make note of such cancellation in the Warrant and Check Register, respectfully. (List on File in the Auditor's Office)

Dated this 31st day of March, 2026, at Vermillion, South Dakota.

Commissioner Gray-Lobe moved for the adoption of the foregoing resolution, motion seconded by Commissioner Brady.

Roll call vote: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye.

Upon which voting the foregoing resolution was declared, passed, and adopted.

Board of County Commissioners  
Clay County, South Dakota

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady to pass and adopt the following Resolution #2026-09 for Mobile Homes Moved to Uncollectible Tax List. Roll call vote: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2026-09  
Mobile Homes Moved to Uncollectible Tax List

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 10-22-32, the Board of Clay County Commissioners may by resolution after examination of unpaid tax list, transfer to the uncollectible list.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Clay County Commissioners hereby authorizes the Clay County Treasurer by Resolution to move the following Mobile Homes to the Uncollectible Tax List, as in their judgment these mobile home taxes cannot be collected (Further collection effort not required).

List of mobile homes to be moved to the Uncollectible Tax List located in Clay County Treasurer's Office are as follows:

Name/Address	MH#	Tax District/Year	Amount
Black Bear, Brandon	15999-01800-01324	2024 R 1343	\$181.76
Blaine, Alfred	15999-00500-00038	2024 R 8117	\$120.08
Bundy, Corbin	15999-01000-00110	2024 R 5877	\$725.55
Hage, Tom	15999-00200-00014	2024 R 4633	\$82.75
Hartz, Brodie	15999-01600-00926	2024 R 3463	\$177.75
Hodges, Matthew S	15999-01500-00929	2024 R 1009	\$71.90
Nielsen, Howard or Darlene			
%Charles Woodward	15999-01900-01001	2024 R 6226	\$361.18
Schliesman, Jacob	15999-01600-01006	2024 R 353	\$143.52
			Total \$1864.49

Dated this 31st day of March, 2026 at Vermillion, South Dakota.

Commissioner Gray-Lobe moved for the adoption of the foregoing resolution, motion seconded by Commissioner Brady.

Roll call vote: Mockler Aye, Gray-Lobe Aye, Brady Aye, Thiesse Aye, Gilbertson Aye.

Upon which voting the foregoing resolution was declared passed and adopted.

Attest:

Board of County Commissioners  
Clay County, South Dakota

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Travis Mockler, Chair

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

Beckenbauer Construction, Inc.	138,819.84	One Office Solution	73.14
AFLAC	621.45	O'Reilly Auto Parts	51.89
Andwin Scientific	275.08	Pressing Matters	27.00

Auto Value Vermillion	64.90	Presto-X Company, LLC	98.59
Avera McKennan	3,310.00	Prochem Dynamics	3,828.85
Barco Municipal Products	698.04	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	1,628.23
Bob Barker Co., Inc.	307.90	Quill, LLC	86.56
Hays, Brent	602.00	Rasmussen Electric	982.65
Brunick Service, Inc.	190.00	Riverside Hydraulics & Labs, Inc.	27.80
Budget Blinds of Sioux Falls	238.95	Runnings Supply, Inc.	5.29
Bureau of Administration	66.25	Sanford Health	10,385.34
Canon Financial Services	96.00	Santel Communicaitons Cooperative	250.00
Cash	45.40	SD Assn. of County Commissioners	600.00
Cintas	47.61	SD Department of Transportation	702.22
City of Vermillion	102,968.90	SD Retirement System	44,263.68
Climate Systems Inc	1,695.00	SD Supplemental Retirement System	10,540.00
Colonial Life Insurance	293.86	SD Supp. Retirement Roth 457(b)	820.05
Davis Pharmacy	388.12	SDSU Extension	71.79
Duininck	1,456.00	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,411.25
Erickson Solutions Group	1,715.63	Terri Lembcke Schildhauer	446.00
FedEx	20.35	T-Mobile	62.00
Fox Law Firm, PLLC	207.57	Trane Technologies	6,339.77
Heiman, Inc.	1,540.89	Transwest Trucks of Sioux Falls	3,611.32
High Point Networks LLC	48,669.00	TrueNorth Steel	13,254.00
Jerry Miller Law PLLC	842.23	Uline	415.08
Kennedy Pier Loftus Reynolds & Brandt, LLP	5,894.34	United Way of Vermillion	280.00
Lawson Products, Inc.	110.17	Larson, Val	24.00
Loffler Companies	277.09	Verizon Wireless	147.31
Lyle Signs, LLC	184.72	Vermillion ACE Hardware	321.79
Katterhagen, Mark	24.00	Voyage Federal Credit Union Card	67.69
McClure & Hardy Prof LCC	378.00	Washington National Insurance	24.45
MidAmerican Energy	9.83	Yankton County Sheriff	100.00
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	980.39	Yankton County Treasurer	50.00
Muller Repair	30.00	Yankton Janitorial Supply	212.50
Murph's Appliance	1,648.00	Yankton Medical Clinic, PC	112.75
NEN Aerial Services	1,500.00	CorTrust Bank	7.00
New Century Press	641.73	Paylocity	348,907.69
New York Life Insurance	258.57	TASC (FLEX System)	3,296.63
Northern Tool & Equipment	149.99	Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield	72,353.42
Olson's Pest Technicians	240.00	Jury & Witness Fees	487.60

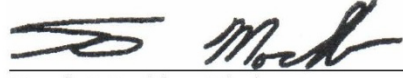
At 9:41 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to enter an Executive Session for legal/contractual matters per SDCL 1-25-2 Subsection 3.

At 9:54 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to exit the Executive Session.

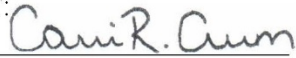
At 9:54 a.m., Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room in the Courthouse Basement, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD 57069.

FILED in the Clay County Auditor's Office  
April 14, 2026  
Carri R. Crum, Clay County Auditor

March 31, 2026



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
Carri R. Crum, County Auditor

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April 14, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room in the basement of the Clay County Courthouse, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, Travis Mockler, and David Thiesse.

Chairman Mockler called the meeting to order and asked for a declaration of any conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2026 meeting.

A public bid opening was held for Removal of Structure #14-030-180 and replacement with a culvert supplied by the County. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

1. Gregoire Excavating, LLC - \$53,439.07
2. Pollman Excavation, Inc. - \$24,973.00
3. 3D Digging & Trucking, LLC - \$59,000.00
4. Pershing Excavating - \$90,000.00

Highway Superintendent Brent Hays will review the bids to ensure the bids met specifications and include the bid bond. He will return at the next meeting for the bid award.

A public bid opening was held for purchase of a Road Widener Single Right Side Discharge Machine. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

1. Butler Machinery Company - \$69,780.77
2. HTC Enterprise, LC (Hydraln) - \$56,000.00

Hays will review the bids to ensure the bids met specifications and include the bid bond. He will return at the next meeting for the bid award.

Hays presented an Application for Payment for Stream Bank Stabilization on Structure #14-125-120. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the Application for Payment and authorize the Chairman to sign it.

Director of Equalization Lennea Olson met with the Board for her annual review. She gave updates on happenings in her office and presented an informational packet.

The Board asked how often the County does Pictometry flyovers. Olson said it is conducted every three years. Gray-Lobe was curious about whether trees or shadow covering makes it hard to see buildings. Olson said they make notes of things that were covered or hard to see due to the environmental factors and physically go to those locations to make a better evaluation.

The Board discussed the shortcomings of the Zoom meeting microphones in the Commissioner Room. To see if the microphones need to be replaced, Olson asked Paul Ebsen to look that them

because he has a background with audio technology. After a few tests, and with him being present at the meeting, Ebsen told the Board what he did to better adjust the microphones, and he said they don't need to purchase new microphones anytime soon. The Board was appreciative of Ebsen volunteering his time and talents for the County.

Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the following claims for payment.

Clay County Treasurer	10,246.50	MidAmerican Energy	3,625.76
SD Department of Revenue	364,736.12	Midwest Alarm Co., Inc.	25,051.63
Kodex, Inc.	245.00	Minnehaha Co. Juvenile Det. Ctr.	522.02
SD Police Chiefs' Association	135.00	Olson, Molly	130.50
A&B Business	220.85	New Century Press	359.63
All Star Cleaning Services & Janitorial	217.50	Nutrien Ag Solutions	12,066.00
Alternative HR	1,823.25	O'Connor Company	1,660.46
Amazon Capital Services	105.94	One Office Solution	42.35
A-Ox Welding Supply	163.35	O'Reilly Auto Parts	25.52
Appearra	886.56	Johnson, Patrick	75.00
AT&T Mobility	56.86	Peterson, Stuart & Klentz Prof	15,000.00
Avera McKennan Hospital	873.00	Pharmchem, Inc.	305.55
Barco Municipal Products	117.54	Pressing Matters	60.00
Bob Barker Co., Inc.	512.28	Prochem Dynamics	4,268.26
Broadcaster Press & Plain Talk	1,563.16	Qualified Presort Service, Inc.	3,002.24
Brunick Service, Inc.	8,683.91	Runnings Supply, Inc.	25.91
Buhl's Drycleaners and Linen	316.28	Santel Communicaitons	125.00
Builders Supply Company	3,900.00	SD Attorney General	1,366.00
Canon Financial Services	496.36	SD Department of Health	785.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling	2,459.14	SD Federal Property Agency	7,000.00
Century Business Products	65.96	SD Records Management	11.04
Cintas	177.19	SD Secretary of State	30.00
Clay County Treasurer	1,586.36	SDAAO	600.00
Clay-Union Electric Cooperative	839.87	SDACO - M&P Fund Payment	314.00
CMoore Pit Service	100.00	Security Shredding Service	40.00
Dakota Lock & Key	390.00	Kymala, Shannon	114.00
Dakota PC Warehouse	22.99	Soukup Excavation Inc	117,024.30
Davis Pharmacy	75.11	Summit Food Service, LLC	8,628.47
Dean Schaefer Court Reporting	186.00	SuperCom, Inc.	221.00
Fischer's Disposal, LLC	75.00	Manning, Tanner	1,175.00
Hansen Funeral Home, Inc.	1,900.00	TEGRA Group, Inc.	1,000.00
Heiman, Inc.	1,636.79	Uline	1,397.87
Interstate Power Systems, Inc.	473.97	Ulteig	12,144.15
I-State Truck Center	47.62	Verizon Wireless	82.94
Jacob Bies	87.70	Vermillion ACE Hardware	88.92
Johnson Feed, Inc.	116.42	Vermillion Ford	77,574.86
Kennedy Pier Loftus Reynolds & Brandt, LLP	4,556.86	Vermillion Garbage Service	470.00
KNOWiNK, LLC	15,460.64	Wade's Drywall	7,000.00
Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health	225.00	Wakonda Town	67.65
Lincoln County Auditor	633.16	Yankton County Treasurer	165.95
Lloyd Construction Company	357,964.72	Yankton Winnelson Company	293.38
Loffler Companies	3,417.43	Youngberg Law, LLC	656.20

April 14, 2026

McClure & Hardy Prof LCC	2,277.00	CorTrust Bank	137.06
Microfilm Imaging Systems	1,110.00		

At 9:40 a.m., Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to adjourn and reconvene Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room in the Courthouse Basement, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD 57069.



Travis Mockler, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



Nicole Klunder, Chief Deputy Auditor

April 14, 2026

The Clay County Consolidated Equalization Board met at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 in the Commissioner Room in the basement of the Clay County Courthouse, 211 W. Main St., Vermillion, SD 57069. Oaths were administered, and the meeting convened. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, Travis Mockler, David Thiesse, Jon Cole, Richard Holland, and Jay Thaler. Others present: Chief Deputy Auditor Nicole Klunder, Director of Equalization Lennea Olson, Deputy Director of Equalization Melissa Brown, State's Attorney Michael Smith, and Deputy State's Attorney Caitlyn Dommer.

Appeal #2026-01 – Candice Spurlin (15800-00200-150-00) The Director recommended lowering the structure value from \$221,170 to \$203,903 due to basement finish correction. Thaler moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to accept the Director's recommended value.

Appeal #2026-02 – JC & Anna Fielder (15730-08600-070-24) The Director recommended lowering the structure value from \$224,610 to \$183,021 due to basement finish correction. Cole moved, seconded by Holland and unanimously carried to accept the Director's recommended value.

Appeal #2026-03 – Laurence Brady (15880-09252-144-01) The Director recommended lowering the structure value from \$256,684 to \$178,818 due to improvements removed prior to November 1, 2025. Kevin Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the Director's recommended value.

Appeal #2026-04 – Vermillion Chamber & Development Co. (15295-00700-030-00) The Director recommended lowering the structure value from \$4,909,551 to \$3,444,977 due to recent market analysis. Mockler and Cole recused themselves as they serve on the VCDC Board. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to accept the Director's recommended value.

Appeal #2026-05 – Kimberly Dawn Carter (15999-01000-000-82) The Director's value was \$2,290. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to accept the Director's original value of \$2,290 due to purchase price.

Appeal #2026-06 – Rodney E & Jill SN Schaeffer (15730-08600-070-42) After some discussion, Cole moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to table the appeal until the meeting scheduled on April 28, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Appeal #2026-07 – Tailwind Vermillion LLC (15575-00500-030-00) The Director's original value was \$9,485,242 due to analysis using the income approach to value. Cole moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the Director's original value.

Appeal #2026-08 – Tailwind Vermillion LLC (15575-0600-020-00) The Director's original value was \$3,657,039 due to analysis using the income approach to value. Cole moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the Director's original value.

Appeal #2026-09 – Tailwind Vermillion LLC (15575-00700-020-00) The Director’s original value was \$4,204,096 due to analysis using the income approach to value. Cole moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the Director’s original value.

At 2:04 p.m., Cole moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to recess the Consolidated Board of Equalization until April 28, 2026 and convene the County Board of Equalization.

Oaths were administered, and the meeting convened. Members present: Kevin Brady, Glen Gilbertson, Geoffrey Gray-Lobe, Travis Mockler, and David Thiesse. Others present: Chief Deputy Auditor Nicole Klunder, Director of Equalization Lennea Olson, Deputy Director of Equalization Melissa Brown, State’s Attorney Michael Smith and Deputy State’s Attorney Caitlyn Dommer.

Appeal #2026-11 – Wade D & Chris A Druin (09000-09353-021-06) The Local Board made no change to the assessed value and the property owner appealed to the County Board of Equalization. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to table the appeal until the meeting scheduled on April 28, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Appeal #2026-12 – Goose-In LLC (12000-09251-101-00) The Director recommended lowering the land value from \$423,246 to \$407,480 due to soil survey statistics that could be adjusted. Thiesse recused himself. Brady moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to accept the Director’s recommendation.

Appeal #2026-13 – Richard R & Andrea M Jahn (11000-09252-154-04) The Local Board made no change to the assessed value and the property owner appealed to the County Board of Equalization. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to lower the NA-C1-S structure value from \$421,399 to \$400,000

Appeal #2026-14 – Steven A Erickson – (01000-09551-203-03) The Local Board changed the property to AG but did not use productivity numbers. The Director appealed the Local Board decision with the recommendation to reclassify the land from NA-C-S to AG-C, increasing the value from \$55,479 to \$59,737. Thiesse moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to accept the Director’s recommendation.

The Tax-Exempt Applications List for 2026 was presented. Mockler recused himself from consideration of the application from the Vermillion Chamber & Development Co. Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the addition of parcel 15295-00600-060-02. Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to approve the addition of parcel 15880-09251-183-83. Gray-Lobe recused himself as he is on the Missouri Valley Growth Board. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to approve the addition of parcel 15730-08600-050-15.

Parcel	Name	Legal
15295-00600-060-02	Vermillion Chamber & Development	Lot 6D Blk 6 Erickson Addn

15880-09251-183-83	Missouri Valley Growth, Inc.	S 1,138.5' of E 165' Exc S 364' & Exc Turner Addn SE1/4 SW1/4 18-92-51
15730-08600-050-15	Apostolic Faith Church	Lot 4A of Lots 4 & 5 Blk 86 Addn to Snyder's Addn

Brady moved, seconded Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to approve the existing Tax-Exempt list as published in county legal newspapers. The list is on file in the Auditor's Office.

Gilbertson moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the additions of Owner-Occupied status for 2026 for the following parcels. Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to accept the removal of Owner-Occupied status for 2026 for the following parcels.

<b>ADDITIONS</b>		
Parcel	Name	Address
15280-07800-060-00	KELLER CHARLES ROSS & SUSAN ELLEN KELLER-SMITH JOINT LIVING TRUST	304 CANBY St
15730-08600-070-27	STUBBS JOSHUA D	422 N DAKOTA
13750-00100-020-00	ANDERSON ERICK M & CHRISTAL L	203 PARK CIR
15999-01900-010-40	CORBIN FELICIA	1040 KIM LANE
<b>REMOVAL</b>		
Parcel	Name	Address
15730-08600-070-09	DEHNER TERA	106 E DARTMOUTH ST
15880-09252-144-25	IVERSON TY J	603 OLIVE DR
15310-00500-010-06	WAGNER ROBERT & CAYLYN	121 S UNIVERSITY
15280-07300-120-00	WOLFPACK LLC	215 E LEWIS ST
12000-09251-091-00	SCHMITZ JEROME & SALLY LIVING TRUST	31647 GREENFIELD RD
09000-09353-343-03	APLAND KATHLEEN P	45541 JETLEY PARK ST
15720-05400-100-00	MARSHALL GLEN & CHELSEA	302 FRANKLIN ST

Brady moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to instruct the Director of Equalization to make adjustment for Freeze on Assessment of Dwellings of Disabled and Senior Citizen per SDCL 10-6A.

Brady moved, seconded by Gilbertson and unanimously carried to instruct the Director of Equalization to make adjustment for Veterans Exemption per SDCL 10-4-40 & 10-4-41.

April 14, 2026

Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe and unanimously carried to instruct the Director of Equalization to make necessary changes in value in compliance with SDCL 1-19A-20 for the Tax Moratorium on qualifying historic properties.

Gray-Lobe moved, seconded by Thiesse and unanimously carried to instruct the Director of Equalization to make the necessary changes in value for those properties qualifying for the Discretionary formula under SDCL 10-6-137.

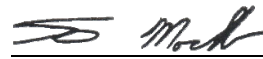
Brady moved, seconded by Gray-Lobe to authorize the Director of Equalization to correct errors that did not result in a change to property values per SDCL 10-11-26.

At 4:29 p.m., Thiesse moved, seconded by Brady and unanimously carried to recess the County Equalization Board and reconvene Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST:



Nicole Klunder, Chief Deputy Auditor



Travis Mockler, Chairman

Board of County Commissioners