

PUBLIC NOTICES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B13

50155, Circle H. Lumber, Material	26.10
50156, Cole Papers, Inc., Supplies	130.24
50157, Curtis Rud Oil Co., Fuel	23,975.83
50158, Dakota Dust Tex, Inc., Service	364.65
50159, Dakota land Auto glass, Glass Repair	616.12
50160, Deis, Nancy, Expense	
Reimbursement	267.40
50161, Donley, Austin, Mowing	450.00
50162, Electronic Communications, Inc. Onsite Service	1,895.00
50163, Emmons County Record, Publishing/Envelopes	1,099.10
50164, Emmons County Treasurer, Registration Fee	10.00
50165, Emmons County Treasurer, Postage Machine Use	473.04
50166, Fireside Office Products, Supplies	1,423.88
50167, FS Manufacturing, Shop Tool	273.44
50169, Jack's Electric, Service	287.76
50170, Jerome Distributing, Inc., Water Refills	87.50
50171, Linde Gas and Equipment, Inc., Shop Supplies	708.85
50172, Linton Auto Parts, Vehicle Maintenance/Shop Supplies	937.89
50173, Linton City, Water Bill	261.71
50174, Locators & Supplies, Jacket	165.92
50175, Martin Oil Company, Gas	3,693.39
50176, Matthew Bender & Co., Inc., NDCC Updates	131.93
50177, MDU, Utilities	1,174.00
50178, ND One Call, Location Request	4.50
50179, ND State Radio Communications, Phone Collections	13,758.22
50180, ND State Radio Communications, LETS Billing	120.00
50181, NDACO Resources Group, Server Management/Computers	6,655.44
50182, NDACTVSO, Conference	120.00
50183, NDSU Extension, Salary Reimbursement	16,560.29
50184, Newman Signs, Inc., Road Signs	216.18
50185, Nodak True Value, Shop Supplies	563.38
50186, Nodland, Chad C, Legal Services	225.00
50187, NW Tire, Inc., Tires	7,704.65
50188, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	223.32
50189, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	595.32
50190, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	371.99
50191, Peterson Brothers, LLC, Gravel Hauling	27,150.00
50192, Pool, Rebekah, 4-H Seasonal Help	500.00
50193, Power Plan Corp., Parts	2,693.39
50194, Quadient Leasing USA, Inc., Postal Machine Rent	353.19
50195, RDO Truck Center, Parts	98.25
50196, Renschler, Norman Maintenance to Langelier's/Rice Lake	4,077.20
50197, Saylor Implement, Inc., Parts	275.62
50198, Schlosser, Steve, Haul Gravel	28,050.00
50199, Schneider, Jackie, Food Pantry	500.00
50200, South Central Regional Water, Water Bill	217.80
50201, St. Alexius, Training	20.00
50202, Strasburg City, Water Bill	94.82
50203, Stuckle, Acacia, Expense Reimbursement	190.40
50204, TC Specialties, Inc., Service	57.00
50205, Tyler Technologies, Software Support	25,472.35
50206, Uniform Center, Uniforms	228.98
50207, Verizon Wireless, Cell Service	442.80
50208, Verizon Wireless, Cell Service	312.80
50209, West River Equipment, Parts	760.55
50210, Western Dakota Energy, Load Pass Dues	500.00
50211, White Cap LP, Supplies	15.72
50212, WL Hall Co Interior Service, Smoke guard Inspections	1,336.39
50213, Wold Engineering, PC, Preliminary Engineering – Grade Raise	11,000.00
50216, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	9,026.63
50217, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	970.67
50218, Payment Remittance Center, Gas/Fuel/Supplies	207.65
50219, Payment Remittance Center,	

Gas/Fuel/Supplies	2,299.88
50220, Soft Choice Corp., Computer Software	1,599.80
50221, Hazelton City, Water Bill	57.00
50222, KEM Electric, Utilities	308.81
50226, Heartland Waste Management, Service	120.00
50230, Information Technology Dept. , Internet Access & Netmotion	1,647.10
50332, BEK Communications, Telephone Service	3,041.41

Commissioner Magrum motioned to adjourn the meeting and reconvene at 6:30 P.M. for an advertised public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

As Advertised, at 6:30 P.M., a public hearing was held to consider the application for a conditional use permit to construct, own, and operate the Emmons-Logan Energy Storage Project.

Chairman Materi opened the public hearing by welcoming the local citizens and NextEra Energy Resources Representatives, and then turned the meeting over to Clint Scherb, Project Developer for Next Era Energy Resources, who presented an overview of the project. The project will be located adjacent to the existing wind site collector substation on the corner of 21st Avenue SE and 72nd St. SE and encompasses approximately 24 acres including the existing five-acre substation. This project will connect to the existing Logan Wind 230 KV collector substation and will utilize the existing transmission to the point of interconnection on the grid to the Napoleon substation. If the conditional use permit is approved, the process will begin with the North Dakota Public Service Commission to obtain a final certificate of site compatibility before construction can start. Construction is expected to start in May of 2026 with commercial operation targeted for December of 2026. The project will be 140-megawatt, 4-hour battery energy storage project (560 MWh). Anticipated local spending impact includes 150 short-term jobs during construction and one to three fulltime operational jobs after construction. Preliminary estimates assume \$7.2 million in property taxes over the life of the project.

Evan Shea, Battery Storage Development for NextEra Energy Resources, stated that NextEra Energy Resources has been developing battery energy storage systems since 2013, and since then they have over fifty systems safely operating across the United States and Canada. Presented was a preliminary site layout and project design of the Emmons-Logan Energy Storage project.

Josh Adams, Fire Safety Engineering Manager for NextEra Energy Resources, talked about the codes, standards, safeguards, safety regulations and testing of the battery energy storage systems. The project is designed to follow National Fire Protection Association 855 and International Fire Code. NextEra Energy Resources works closely with government officials, fire departments and the AHJ's making sure they understand their product and are following all the local regulations. There's 24/7 monitoring from their renewable operations control center that tracks all facilities around the clock.

Following NextEra Energy Resources' presentation of the project, Chairman Materi invited citizens present who wish to speak to come forward.

Commissioner Miller asked if the 45-decibel level for noise is per unit, where Clint Scherb responded that's the total combined noise including the existing wind turbines and the substation.

Senator Jeff Magrum addressed his concerns about the contamination to Lake Aquifer should NextEra Energy Resourses expand on this project in the future. Josh Adams explained the approach in the rare event of a fire and confirmed that there's no risk of contamination. Senator also asked if NextEra Energy Resources is planning on putting a battery energy storage at each of their thirteen industrial wind developments where Clint Scherb stated that this might be one of the goals due to the benefits that it brings to the grid and to the overall transmission system.

Questions were asked about the property taxes paid to the county where Clint Scherb stated that the state is still uncertain whether the project will be centrally assessed or locally assessed, while the opinion of a third-party consultant group is estimating property

taxes of 7.2 million dollars over twenty-five years.

Commissioner Magrum asked what their disposal strategy is where Josh Adams replied that they work with manufactures to recycle the batteries. Current recycling technologies that exist today can recover 97% of the metals from lithium-ion batteries that are recycled. The batteries will never go to the landfill.

Kenneth Huber questioned which fire department would be responsible for responding as the project is twenty miles from Linton and twenty miles from Napoleon where Clint Scherb stated that he's had a conversation with Emergency Manager, Mary Senger, where plans are being made to meet with all the fire districts this fall to offer training. Kenneth Huber stated that the land east of the project within a half mile begins with pasture. The land south of the project is also pasture. There is 25 quarters of land that touches each other that is used for grazing. The concern was should a fire happen and takes off, a lot of land will be lost in a short time. Allan Weigel who has cattle in some of this pasture asked about the width of gravel outside of the containers. Clint Scherb stated that NFPA 55 guidelines are 100 feet from the batteries to the property line and the entire facility is clear of vegetation.

David Moch asked if the plume from the smoke is toxic because there are concerns about toxic substances on the surface water. According to Josh Adams, a report that came out at the end of March written by Fire Risk Alliance stated that they assessed the environmental impacts of historical events and every single one of those events showed no contamination to the surrounding air, water or soil. The lithium-ion batteries primary constituent gases that come out of them in case of a runaway is hydrogen, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Stephanie Doolittle expressed her opinion and stated that multi-million-dollar companies come into our communities and tell us how great their project is going to be. Communities all over our state and our country are being inundated with all this green energy stuff and we know it's all heavily subsidized. The taxpayers are paying for this; but, we are made to believe that this is good. If people aren't going to stand up and defend themselves and our communities, there's going to be a wind tower, solar panel, and batteries all over Emmons County and this entire beautiful state.

Randy Meidinger, City of Linton, believes that the batteries in our garages are going to be more dangerous than the battery project that NextEra is proposing. Randy touched on the property taxes paid by the natural gas pipeline and the Dakota Access pipeline that pays a quarter of million dollars that's divided amongst schools, fires, etc. in Emmons County.

Commissioner Magrum thanked everyone for coming to the hearing and wants to be completely fair to NextEra Energy Resources. It's been a total open process with them. Emmons County has had far too cheap of a permit fee for too long. We have an industrial conditional use permit and then we have a conditional use permit. The interpretation with the county is that the conditional use permit is mostly for locals trying to conditionally amend small things inside of zoning areas. The industrial conditional use permit is meant to permit industrial projects. Emmons County has amended the permitting fee on the industrial conditional use permit to 3% of the total project versus \$250 for the other conditional use permit. The commission is in the process of going through our ordinances trying to figure out the right way because our ordinance book has not been amended for 30-40 years. Commissioner Magrum feels that the commission should adhere to this because they did properly amend the fee through our ordinance process.

Casey Furey, Crowley Fleck Law Firm, who assists NextEra Energy Resources with local and state permitting matters for state projects addressed some of the points that were raised with respect to the application. The application was submitted pursuant to Emmons County's existing ordinances. Electric transmission facilities, which NextEra Energy Resources has filed under, are designated as conditional use in Agricultural districts and the permit was submitted based on this.

Tim Leppert who serves on the Russell Township in LaMoure County came forward and stated that corporations are

coming into their township wanting to build infrastructure, and they were not prepared so they decided to update their zoning ordinances and comprehensive plan. Two-year moratoriums were placed until the zoning ordinances are updated and in compliance with the state to protect their citizens. Their first concern was to protect the resident landowners in the township. One change to the ordinances will be a requirement of the corporations to present their business plan, financial statement and to post a certificate of credit.

Commissioner Gartner commented that with these data centers and AI coming to our country, Emmons County is going to be the only place with nothing in it, or we're going to get on board, and we do need to restructure our fees because a \$500 million company building a \$200 million project through Emmons County should be able to pay a 3% permit fee. Commissioner Gartner also commented that he would like to get to the bottom of the property tax impact to Emmons County. How is the project taxed and what is the benefit to Emmons County? "We have to find those answers out before we can 100% approve this project."

Chairman Materi stated that in his opinion he feels that the board should table the permit until the county's zoning ordinance is amended. NextEra Energy Resources can re-submit the permit that will then comply with our amended zoning ordinance.

Commissioner Vander Vorst commented that it really doesn't matter to him as he see's no benefit for the county.

The Commission concluded to table the conditional use permit and have a special meeting on August 12, 2025 @ 9:00 A.M. Chairman Materi thanked everyone for attending the hearing. The hearing closed at 9:55 P.M.

There being no further business before the board, Commissioner Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Approved: September 2, 2025
 Daniel Materi, Chairman
 Board of County Commissioners
 Marlys Ohlhauser
 Emmons County Auditor
 (09-11-2025)

HAZELTON-MOFFIT-BRADDOCK
 PUBLIC SCHOOL
 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
 THEATER ROOM AT HMB PUBLIC
 SCHOOL
 MONDAY JUNE 9TH, 2025 • 6:00PM

In Attendance: Board President Cindy Schmidt, Mike Small, Jeremy Will, Sandra Baumgartner, Lance Weiser and John Barry
 Call to Order President Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6pm
 Additions to the Agenda Motion to approve the additions of the Pre K program, and Executive Session under New Business was made by Will, seconded by Weiser...motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting Motion to approve the minutes from our May 12th meeting was made by Small, seconded by Weiser. Motion to approve the May 16th meeting was made by Will, seconded by Small...motions carried.

Recognition of Audience The audience was recognized at this time.

Business Manager's Report Monthly Financial Report/Bills The monthly financial reports and bills were presented and reviewed by the board. A discussion took place regarding the 2024-2025 projected budget, comparing it to the actual ending balance. Although progress was made throughout the year in reducing the projected deficit, there is still a deficit to be addressed. Conversation ensued on the preparation of the 2025-2026 budget and how to continue to reduce the deficit. Mrs. Malard shared that we will be receiving the final payment for our Title I funds before the end of June. They talked about the need to look at next year's budget and see what can be done about the deficit. A motion to approve the reports and bills was made by Will and seconded by Weiser...motion carried.

Superintendent's Report District Update Mr. Barry provided his superintendent's report to the board for review. His report included graduation, the coop meeting, a new cell phone policy and mandatory reports that will need to be submitted. He shared information on the state's required hours and advised

the board that HMB has more than the required. He also advised that the ND State Fire and Tornado Fund had to increase the replacement cost coverage to ensure the school would be covered.

Consolidated Application Narrative Mr. Barry explained what the consolidated application is what he will be submitting. Motion to accept was made by Weiser, seconded by Schmidt...motion carried.

Final Enrollment A motion to accept our final enrollment of 136.11 was made by Small, seconded by Will...motion carried

School Policy The following policies were reviewed and edited by the board members.

AAA – Philosophy of Public Schools Motion to accept made by Will, seconded by Small...motion carried.

ii. AAB – District Goals and Objectives Motion to accept made by Weiser, seconded by Small...motion carried.

iii. ABAA – School District Organization Plan Motion to not accept this policy was made by Baumgartner, seconded by Small...motion carried.

iv. ABAB – School Year and Calendar Motion to accept made by Baumgartner, seconded by Will...motion carried.

v. ABBA – North Dakota's Comprehensive Model School Policy for Tobacco Use Motion to accept made by Weiser, seconded by Will...motion carried.

vi. ABEB – Child Nutrition Program Motion to accept made by Baumgartner, seconded by Small...motion carried.

vii. ACAA – Emergency Closing Motion to accept made by Will, seconded by Schmidt...motion carried.

viii. ACAB – Emergency and Disaster Plan Motion to accept made by Baumgartner, seconded by Weiser... motion carried.

ix. ACBA – Automated External Defibrillators (AED) Motion to accept made by Baumgartner, seconded by Will...motion carried.

x. ACBC – Use of Animals in District Schools and in Curricular Motion to accept made by Will, seconded by Small...motion carried.

xi. ACBD – School Medication Program Motion to accept made by Small, seconded by Weiser...motion carried.

xii. ACBF – Medical Marijuana Motion to accept made by Schmidt, seconded by Small...motion carried.

xiii. KACA – Patron Complaints Motion to accept made by Will, seconded by Schmidt...motion carried.

xiv. KACB – Complaints about Personnel Motion to accept made by Small, seconded by Will...motion carried.

Principal/AD Reports K-12 Principal Reports Mr. Barry advised the board that they are in the process of working on the student handbook and the extracurricular activities criteria for the advisors. Area principals are working together on a new cell phone policy for next year.

Co-op Update Mr. Larson put together a packet from the coop meeting that was held on May 21st and presented that to the board.

Facility/Transportation Report The gym floor has been waxed, and the carpet installation is almost finished. The propane project is expected to be done in July. The playground barriers will be replaced, and the rental house decks will be painted. We are still waiting for a quote on the south side concrete project.

New Business Approve Classified Contracts A motion for executive session to discuss negotiating strategy and provide instruction regarding admin contracts and classified contracts. Legal Authority: NDCC Section 44-04-19.1(9). A motion was made by Baumgartner, seconded by Weiser and followed by a roll call vote in which all members voted yes to enter executive session...motion carried. President Schmidt asked the audience to leave. In attendance were all board members and the superintendent. At 7:44 pm the executive session was called to order. A discussion was held, and the executive session ended at 8:19 pm. The public was invited back to the meeting at this time. A motion to accept Mr. Larson's contract was made by Will, seconded by Weiser. A motion to accept Mr. Barry's amended contract was made by Baumgartner, seconded by Small and motion to approve the classified contracts was made by Baumgartner and seconded by Small...all motions carried.