

Public Notice

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 4, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price and Brandon Padilla with Butler.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the October 21st Commission meeting and October 21st Public Hearing. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Bills: Amazon Capital Services, Inc., \$121.84; Andrew S. Marquart, 288.00; Applied Concepts, Inc., 2,858.00; Braun Intertec Corporation, 7,087.50; Brinster Law, P.C., 104.71; Carrington Motors, Inc., 737.81; Corean Swart, 580.90; Dacotah Paper Company, 305.36; Ellen Roundy, 22.00; Foster County Independent, 486.92; Hailey Bachmeier, 211.00; Jerrold Holte, 35.00; Kara Brinster, 175.00.

Kent Hewitt, 599.00; Lynelle Lyman Hoppe, 225.00; Merle or Eunice Munson, 1,000.00; Midstates Wireless, 5,549.58; Napa Auto Parts, 67.87; Nathan Monson, 269.80; Patriot Fuels, 128.34; RDO Equipment Co., 3,000.00; Residence Inn, 1,386.00; Running's Supply, Inc., 524.39; Steins, Inc., 41.08; Stutsman County Auditor, 2,000.00; USPS, 126.00; William J. Gale, 691.60; Wold Engineering, P.C., 1,725.00; Hagel Storage, 400.00.

Commissioner Copenhaver requested to add water at Grace City Shop to the agenda. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business
There is no update with the lots by Juanita. State's Attorney Kara Brinster will coordinate with Karen Evans, Tax Director, and the Planning and Zoning Board regarding the Road Utility Ordinance.

New Business
Brandon Padilla With Butler, informed the BOCC that a new blade for the county to test is on-site. This is the newest blade that CAT has to offer, it's heavier duty with less maintenance over the lifetime of the machine. The blade will be on-site for the next day for the Road Department and BOCC to look at. Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update for the BOCC. In 2026, the department plans to crack seal three areas in the county. Monson provided a contract with Midstates for material on the projects. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the ordering of crack

sealing material and Madam Chair Hagel to sign and return to Midstates, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Mike Rivinius with Wold Engineering joined the meeting via phone. He presented the BOCC with a cost estimate for the Flex Funding Project FXS-1602(067). The county was awarded flex funding from the state with a twenty% cost share from the county that is capped at one million dollars. The county plans to utilize Prairie Dog funds for this project. There was an additional half mile that could be tagged onto the project that was not a part of the original flex funding project that the county would have 100% financial responsibility for. Total for both estimates comes out to \$5,172,661.66 with the county's share estimated to be \$1,119,197.60. Commissioner Scanson motioned for authorization to Wold Engineering to go to bid for the Flex Funding project with a bid opening date of December 16th, 2025, at 2:30 PM, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. The board also discussed the special road fund program. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve Wold Engineering to assist with the application process for the South Bordulac road, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Discussion was had on maintenance responsibility on the frontage road NE of town. State's Attorney Brinster stated that the contracts the City of Carrington provided were between the City and State DOT, the county has never taken ownership of that road. Easements in the contract appear to be granted to the state from the city. In past research of county share roads, it's based on designation and that frontage road has never been designated a county road. The county does not maintain the road, provide snow maintenance on the road, etc. Brinster stated that beings it is not a county road, the county will not take a stance on whose road it is. Commissioner Copenhaver asked if anyone has an update to the water project at the Grace City Shop. The BOCC will look into the progress.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, provided the BOCC with the one bid received on the 2001 Toro Snowblower. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the bid received from Jerry Johnson for \$100, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented the fee schedule to the BOCC. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to increase the liquor license fee to \$800 and the Beer/wine license to \$100.00, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented three abatements to the BOCC. James Rindy qualified for homestead credit in 2023 and 2024 with abatement amounts being \$1,149.82 and \$865.83 respectively and Leo and Julie Laube qualified for homestead credit in 2024 with the abatement amount being \$771.28. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve all three abatements, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All

voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner discussion included an update on the basement renovation project. Commissioner Hagel stated that EAPC was on-site verifying requested fixes. The tile in the basement bathrooms will need to be redone. There is work in the election vault that needs to be updated, and the HVAC isn't connected correctly in the VSO office. Commissioner Hagel will visit with Central City Lumber regarding replacing a door that was not in the original project. EAPC will communicate the updates with the contractors to get the project wrapped up. Commissioner Roller reached out to Johnson Controls regarding the call out feature if there was a fire in the building after hours. The county would need to go with the IP/POTS option as it would connect to an existing phone line. Commissioner Roller motioned to move forward with the IP/POTS option for \$720.00 annually, seconded by Commissioner Utke. Discussion included having Roundy set up the system along with calling order. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Roller – aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson – aye

Commissioner Copenhaver – aye. Motion passed.

The annual township meeting will be held on Monday, November 10th at the Foster County Courthouse. There will be a commissioner summit held in Bismarck on Tuesday, December 9th. The next six-county meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11th, at 10:00 AM in Emmons County.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm.

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, and Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the November 4th Commission meeting. Commissioner Hagel noted one correction. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the minutes with the change, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Bills: 701 Wash, \$200.00; Arrowwood Co-op, 911.47; Auto Value Parts Store, 62.80; Avid Hawk, LLC, 35.00; Blue 360 Media, 172.38; Boote Septic Solutions, 125.00; Branded Blooms, 26.00; Briss Oil Company, 47.00; C&J Oil Company, 11,559.35; Carrie Nichols, 294.20; Central City Lumber, Inc., 4.29; Danielle Koepplin, 56.28; Information Technology Dept., 1,411.05; Justin Johnson, 87.48; ND Association of Counties, 1,815.00; ND Association of Counties, 6,166.00; ND County Commissioners Association, 1,725.00; ODP Business Solutions, LLC, 926.80; R.M. Stoudt, 303.92; Stutsman Co. Correction Center, 600.00.

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda as it stands, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business
State's Attorney Kara Brinster has contacted Tamarac on the lots at Juanita Lake. Brinster is also coordinating with Tax Director Karen Evans on the ordinances.

New Business
Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update for the BOCC. The department has equipment ready for the winter months. Wold Engineering has finished their road report requested by the BOCC from the 2024 train derailment and will provide information at the next meeting. Wold Engineering has completed the application for two grants. Both grants are an 80/20 split with the county being responsible for twenty percent of the project costs. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve and submit the Special Road Fund application which will regrind and overlay the first two miles on the Bordulac Highway going south from Highway 200 and the Agricultural grant application which will regrind and overlay the Bordulac Highway from Highway 9 going north to the Murphy Highway, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented an easement for Greater Ramsey Water to bring a water hookup to the Grace City shop. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the easement seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, provided the BOCC from the delinquent tax sale that was held earlier in the day. There were three properties for sale with two of the three selling at the auction. Two properties in McHenry sold with one property in Carrington remaining unclaimed. The office will post the property for sale until the next delinquent tax sale in November of 2026. Two resolutions were brought to the board for the 2026 Primary and General Election. One for the establishment of precincts and polling locations and one for the selection of election inspector. Roundy had spoken with Michele Seil at the Library and approved both the 2026 Primary and General Election location to be held at the Carrington Library. She also spoke with Marlene Boyer who has served as Foster County Election Inspector for many years, and Boyer stated she would serve the role in 2026 as well.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Foster County approve the establishment of precincts and polling locations for the 2026 election cycle per NDCC 16.1-04, 16.1-07, and 16.1-11.1.

WHEREAS, currently, under state law, the Board of County Commissioners, in cooperation with the county auditor, shall set precinct boundaries by Decem-

ber 31st of the year preceding an election. Polling locations must be established by the 64th day before the election though traditionally, Foster County has set polling locations at the same time as precinct boundaries.

WHEREAS, the Foster County Auditor/Treasurer is committed to providing a positive voting experience to all voters within Foster County while simultaneously upholding the security and integrity of elections. Precinct boundaries were determined using logical boundaries within the county. Proximity, accessibility, and availability of locations were considered when selecting polling locations. The recommendation includes establishing one precinct and one polling location in Foster County.

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Foster County Board of Commissioners adopt the proposed resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Foster County Commission approves the establishment of precincts and polling locations for the 2026 election cycle as presented; and authorizes the Foster County Auditor/Treasurer to establish early vote as presented and absentee ballot precinct, as necessary.

and
WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners of Foster County approve the appointment of election inspector for the 2026 election cycle per NDCC 16.1-05-01.

WHEREAS, Currently, under state law, the Board of County Commissioners, in cooperation with the county auditor, shall appoint the inspector of the election for all polling locations within Foster County by 40 days preceding the election. Each election board must be comprised of at least one election inspector per polling location within the county. The election inspector supervises the conduct of the election and ensures that all election workers are performing their duties. Additionally, the inspector and judges verify the results of the election and return the election results and associated ballots to the county auditor at the close of polls.

WHEREAS, The Foster County Auditor is committed to providing a positive voting experience to all voters within Foster County while simultaneously upholding the security and integrity of elections. The enclosed list of election inspectors ensures Foster County's success for the upcoming elections.

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Foster County Board of Commissioners adopt the proposed resolution.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Foster County Commission approves the enclosed list of election inspector and approves the county auditor to fill any vacancies that may exist for the 2026 Primary and General Elections.

The resolutions were made by Commissioner Scanson and seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented two policies for approval to the BOCC. The first is a nursing policy and the second is clarification of the holiday schedule. The

Courthouse will observe Columbus Day as a holiday as well as the full day for Christmas Eve. There was clarification included in the policy for when Christmas and Fourth of July land on a Tuesday or Thursday. Commissioner Roller motioned to approve both policies, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented five building permits that had been approved at the Planning and Zoning meeting earlier in the day. Eric and Mary Paulson submitted a permit for a steel building, Richard Zink for hoppers and small building, Highway Off-Sale for an addition, Kent Matteson for an addition, and Lyle and Deb Lutman for an attached garage and addition. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve all building permits, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. There was a public hearing held for a conditional-use permit for T-Mobile to update equipment on an existing tower. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the conditional use permit, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Additional discussion included the campground that is being installed on Kvamme property. Jeff Kvamme is proceeding with construction without meeting any requirements that the Planning and Zoning board had asked him to complete. Missing information is a survey of the area so the property can be assessed correctly in the taxing system, completing paperwork with the Department of Health and Human Services (food and lodging division), and paying the conditional use permit fee. The county currently has jurisdiction over the project versus the state. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the cease-and-desist letter be delivered from Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster to Kvamme by Sheriff Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. Additional discussion included the next steps that will need to be taken. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner discussion included updating Commissioner portfolios and selecting Chairman and Vice-Chair for December of 2025 through November of 2026. Commissioner Scanson will now serve on the South Central Human Service Board and Commissioner Copenhaver will now serve on the NDSU extension board. Commissioner Roller motioned to approve the portfolio changes along with appointing Pat Copenhaver as Commission Chairman and Alan Scanson as Commission vice-chair, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer
Becky Sue Hagel,
Madam Chair,
Foster County
Board of Commissioners
(Publish December 08, 2025)

Business and Professional Directory

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