

PUBLIC NOTICES

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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. Mrs. Malard went through and explained some of the bills. Board member Baumgartner had some questions about how the Carl Perkins and the Principals insurance is listed on the expenditure sheet. Mrs. Malard will change the Carl Perkins supplies listing however the insurance will remain as is since the change did not take effect until October.
 Board member Will wanted to express his gratitude to the organizations that donated money to help fix our bleachers. Motion to approve the financial reports and bills was made by Will and seconded by Small.

Superintendent’s Report
 District Update Mr. Barry provided his Superintendent’s report to the board for them to review. He talked about the annual convention, the Infinite Campus training that is taking place, a parent survey that was sent out and the UND Band trip to Grand Forks. The band trip to Aberdeen and the issues with the hotel and chaperone were discussed with several parents expressing their concerns about the cleanliness and safety of the hotel. Mr. Barry has drafted a new policy with the responsibilities and expectations for all future trips. The board will look over it and bring any changes they would like to see to the next meeting.
 Enrollment Current enrollment is 129.
 Principal/AD Reports
 K-12 Principal Reports Mr. Larson presented his report to the board. It included the Career Fair, the ASVAB testing, Market Day and the FBLA chili cookoff. The elementary Christmas concert and the Sophomore supper are on December 1st starting at 5:30pm. Donuts for Dads will be held on December 3rd. Mr. Larson informed the board of the generous donations we received. BEK donated money to help with our bleachers and Lions Club provided a donation to assist with Academic and Tiger time.

On November 4th a zoom meeting was held with the Child Safety Liaison and attending the meeting were John Barry, Tad Larson, Lisa Keidel, Jamie Nelson and Barb Ritter. This was an informative meeting to share the roles of the Child Safety Liaison services.
 Co-op Update The co-op committee met on October 28 to review the policies and review the upcoming season.
 Facility/Transportation Report We are looking into upgrading our minibus that is used mainly for activities. Board member McCormick asked that we investigate possible grants that could help with purchasing a bus. Mr. Malard has completed the new borders around the playground equipment.
 New Business
 Open Enrollment/Tuition Agreement One open enrollment/tuition agreement was presented to the board and a motion to approve it was made by McCormick, seconded by Baumgartner.

Old Business
 Business Manager Evaluation The Evaluation has been completed and was reviewed at the meeting. A motion to accept the evaluation was made by Will and seconded by Small.
 Superintendent Evaluation The Superintendent’s Evaluation Summary was presented, and the board went through each category. An overall total satisfactory rating was received in each category with a roll call vote recorded for each. A motion was made by Baumgartner and seconded by McCormick to accept the formative evaluation.

Other Business
 Public Comment Board member Baumgartner questioned the use of the Schools Van to attend sporting events. Marlina Gunia and Justin Long both expressed their concerns with the music trip to Aberdeen.
 Next Meeting Date December 8th, 2025 @ 6pm
 Adjourn Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21pm made by Will and seconded by McCormick.

Cindy Schmidt, Board President
 Renae Malard, Business Manager

GENERAL FUND
 ADVANCED FLEET SERVICES.....
2,643.74

AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP164.80
 BARRY, JOHN.....370.40
 BEASTROM OIL COMPANY.....3,153.17
 BEK COMMUNICATIONS COOP499.71
 BEULAH HIGH SCHOOL.....75.00
 BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS ...75.00
 BURLEIGH COUNTY SPECIAL ED UNIT, INSURANCE SHARE DAWN HENRICKSEN.....401.30
 CENTRAL REGIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION2,400.00
 CHILSON, WEYLAND.....50.00
 CITY OF HAZELTON, UTILITIES-WATER-SEWERGARBAGE.....522.45
 COLE PAPERS, INC319.60
 COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS
6,606.87
 COUNTY OF BURLEIGH.....47.86
 D & E SUPPLY CO, INC.....1,151.71
 DAKOTA DUST-TEX, INC.....378.05
 DAKOTA FRONTIER COOPERATIVE, FUEL-HARDWARE-AUTOMOTIVE
9,693.56
 DRN READI TECH10,280.00
 ECKROTH MUSIC81.37
 EMMONS COUNTY RECORD, PRINT ADS & MINUTES.....303.02
 FRAY, JACOB.....50.00
 H2I GROUP.....3,270.00
 J.W. PEPPER &SON, INC.....626.70
 JOHNSON CONTROLS FIRE PROTECTION LP.....1,686.68
 K & M TIRE1,462.60
 LABORE, HENRY200.00
 LAKES COUNTRY SERVICE COOPERATIVE.....200.00
 LARSON, TAD15.00
 LINTON PUBLIC SCHOOL501.25
 MALARD, JOSH.....50.00
 MARCO TECHNOLOGIES, LLC
1,549.36
 MENARDS.....2,179.18
 MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES COMPA2,825.97
 NDCEL250.00
 NDUC GROUP ACCOUNT385.11
 NORTH DAKOTA STATE TAX COMMISSIONER.....375.00
 NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY240.00
 POPP BINDING & LAMINATING INC. ..
183.59
 POPPLERS MUSIC, IN.....22.55
 REBENITSCH, WESTIN50.00
 REGION VII SPEECH/MUSIC/DRAMA .
450.00
 REMIND101, INC.831.60
 SANFORD HEALTH OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE.....200.00
 SHEA’S REPAIR AND SERVICE2,961.63
 SHILOH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.....40.00
 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA350.00
 VCSU MUSIC DPT.....42.00
 VETTER, ALVIN50.00
 WASHBURN SCHOOL.....60.00
 WEISER, CASSIE50.00
 WILKERSON, BRIDGETT50.00
 WILL, ALLEN.....161.81
 Fund Total: 60,587.64
 Checking Account Total: 60,587.64

FOOD SERVICE
 CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING CO OF FARGO, LLC8,782.68
 DAKOTA DUST-TEX, INC.170.00
 EICHELE, NICOLE8.23
 MAIN STREET MARKET27.12
 SAMS CLUB MASTERCARD/SYNCB ..
213.19
 Fund Total: 9,201.22
 Checking Account Total: 9,201.22

ACTIVITY FUND
 COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS
1,157.94
 FRAY, JACOB.....120.00
 FRESH ALTERNATIVES FUND RAISING.....7,247.00
 H2I GROUP.....15,250.00
 HELD, LANA.....20.00
 KALBERER, HEIDI.....158.88
 LARSON, TAD200.00
 MACDONALD, TERRY.....258.36
 MAIN STREET MARKET657.05
 NIEUWSMA, HEATHER.....10.00
 SAMS CLUB MASTERCARD/SYNCB ..
438.88
 VANDER WAL, DANLYN.....80.00
 WEISER, CASSIE60.00
 Fund Total: 25,658.11
 Checking Account Total: 25,658.11
 (01-15-2026)

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF EMMONS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
 AT IT’S REGULAR MEETING
 DECEMBER 2, 2025

Chairman Dan Materi called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with Commissioners James Gartner, Erin

Magrum, Craig Miller and James Vander Vorst being present. Also present was States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 The November, 2025 end of month fund balance report and the year to date expenditure reports were distributed to the board.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Old and Unfinished Business:
 GIS Coordinator, Josh Odden, reported that he researched for a road easement on 101st St. SE as requested by the Commission at the November meeting, and found that the width of the road right-of-way is sixty-six feet which provides thirty-three feet on both sides from the centerline. Then a half mile before the end of the road, it turns to thirty-three feet on the south side. It’s a county road right of way that was established and signed back in the 1940’s. There is no easement nor a lease with the Game and Fish filed in the recorder’s office on Jake’s Lake. Road Superintendent, Russell Lawler, will inspect the road and report back to the board.

New Business:
 Director of Tax Equalization, Christina Seppanen, provided information on assessing battery energy storage systems and stated that she felt that the Emmons-Logan Energy Storage project should be centrally assessed by the state based on kilowatt and megawatt usage. According to the state, ownership is the key factor in determining whether a battery energy storage system is centrally or locally assessed. If a centrally assessed utility company owns the battery energy storage system, and it’s on their plant site, it is centrally assessed as operable property. If a centrally assessed utility company owns the battery energy storage system and leases it out, it is still centrally assessed and the lease income is reported and included in their central assessment. If a non-centrally assessed entity owns the battery energy storage system, it is locally assessed, and the valuation is determined by the local jurisdiction. If assessed locally, there’s nothing to access except the land. Christina Seppanen also provided key valuation considerations stating that the county would have to determine how to classify the land as either industrial or commercial. If set as industrial, the county can determine a cost per acre. Without the state centrally assessing the plant, Emmons County will only be able to locally access the land as the batteries are considered personal property. The containers that the batteries are in are also considered personal property.

Discussion was held regarding the three homes forfeited to the county for delinquent taxes that did not sell at the November 18, 2025 auction. Commissioner Gartner recommended that the county sell the homes to the cities for \$1.00. After discussion, Commissioner Magrum motioned to offer the delinquent properties to the cities there in for \$1.00. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.
 The agenda included an opportunity for an individual in attendance to provide public comment pursuant to Senate Bill No. 2180.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to table a request from the Emmons County Weed Board President to increase the board members compensation by \$50.00 per meeting pending further research. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Roger Martin, Linton Municipal Airport Authority board member, appeared and reported that Craig Schiermeister has expressed appreciation for wanting to serve on the Linton Municipal Airport Authority board. The existing Airport board members and the Linton City Council approved for Craig Schiermeister to be appointed to the board. Commissioner Gartner motioned to appoint Craig Schiermeister to the Linton Municipal Airport Authority Board. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Further discussion was held and noted

was that Craig Schiermeister would fill the current vacancy previously held by Kenny Wikenheiser. The term is a four-year term beginning on December 1, 2025. Chairman Materi asked Roger Martin if he’s done any homework on checking to see what sprayers that do spraying for farmers are being charged at the surrounding airports? Roger Martin stated that they charge businesses like spray services to operate at their airport, and also charge rent for the physical space they use. Most other airports do not charge the businesses. They operate on tax revenue generated from the city and county airport mill levies. The funding for the capital improvement projects are from grants through the Federal FAA grant system which is 90% federal funded, 5% state funded and 5% local cost share. Roll Call vote in the motion was “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried. Roger Martin asked the Commission to choose a committee to assist with getting the merger going deciding on the number of board members needed, and how the board will be structured. This committee would be coordinating with the State Aeronautics. Roger Martin also answered a previous question of how many airplanes land and take off from the airport. According to the Airport Coordinator, in 2024 there was approximately 6,350 operations at the airport. One operation is landing and taking off is another operation.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to keep the Sheriff department’s 2018 Chevy Tahoe SSV for the agreed upon price of \$12,000.00. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

There was brief discussion on whether to sell the 2013 Ford Explorer where the commission concluded to table the matter until the January 2026 meeting.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to establish polling places (Voting Centers) at the Emmons County Courthouse, Hazelton City Hall and the Strasburg Blue Room and divide the county into the following precincts and boundaries:

Precinct 1: Townships 135 and 136, Ranges 74, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79, Township 134, Ranges 76, 77, 78 and 79, including the Cities of Hazelton and Braddock.

Precinct 2: Township 133, Ranges 76, 77, 78 and 79, Township 132, Range 76, all of Ward III in Linton City and residents West of South Broadway in Ward II in Linton City.

Precinct 3: all of Ward I in Linton City and residents East of South Broadway in Ward II in Linton City.

Precinct 4: Townships 134, 133, 132, Ranges 74 and 75 and Township 131, Range 75 and 76 including the City of Strasburg.

Precinct 5: Township 132, Ranges 77, 78 and 79, Township 131, Ranges 74, 77, 78 and 79, Townships 130 and 129, Ranges 74, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79 including the City of Hague.

Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Travis Schafer appeared to discuss the adopted grade/step salary structure recommending that employees that have experience working at another county be taken into consideration when determining the steps.

Russell Lawler, Road Superintendent, provided a monthly update on activities for the county road department. The department is moving snow and should be caught up by Wednesday, and then working on maintenance items. There was some discussion on purchasing a S76 Skid Steer with the income received from selling other equipment. Briefly discussed the road on 93rd St. SW, Section 14, Township 130, Range 79. Russell Lawler will contact Wold Engineering, P.C. and work with Dave Twardoski to come up with a plan and report back to the board.

Brady Adams, Chief Operating Officer for (IIG) Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC, appeared to discuss and answer any questions relating to the building permit application and the conditional use application submitted to install new fenced gravel compound expansion, (2) new prefabricated equipment shelters, (2) new generators, (1) new CT rated meter with test switch and 400A fused disconnect, new conduit and conductors for power to factory installed ATS and panels in shelters

located on Lots 3-4 & S ½ SW ¼ Less Par #44, Section 2, Township 132, Range 77.

Chairman Materi asked Brady Adams to explain the project and asked where the fiber optic conduit lines that they are installing are coming from and where they are ending. Brady Adams explained that the network is broken into segments and the first was completed in 2024 across Montana to the Idaho border. IIG, a privately funded company is a wholesale network infrastructure provider that builds and maintains fiber optic networks, providing services like high-speed internet and fiber connectivity to other carriers and public/private organizations. Signal regeneration or amplification is necessary every 60 miles and this is why IIG is applying to construct (2) two shelters that will house the necessary electronic components in a secure, climate-controlled environment to protect the equipment. Other areas that have approved and issued permits for these shelters in North Dakota include Elgin, Lehr, Lidgerwood, Monango, Oakes, Regent, Scranton and Missouri Township in Burleigh County. States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson, informed Brady Adams that the Commissioners amended the conditional use permit process for industrial projects and one of the changes was a 3% permit application fee. The Commission concluded that they would not approve the building permit application nor the conditional use permit application that was submitted by Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC until the zoning process to amend the conditional use permit application is completed.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to appoint Wayne Ehley, Eric Schmidt, David Moch, Dean Deis, Dan Weber, Aaron Leier, Loren VanderVorste, Craig Miller and James Gartner as Charter Members to the Zoning Commission to be effective January 1, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi and Vander Vorst. “NO”: Miller. Motion carried.

The Commission reviewed a proposed Resolution with amended changes to the conditional use permit application as suggested by Commissioner Magrum and State’s Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson. Commissioner Gartner motioned to adopt the first reading of Resolution 25-12-01, and the application for Emmons County’s conditional use permit. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned for setting the public hearing date for the second reading of Resolution 25-12-01 on January 6, 2026 at 5:30 P.M. at the Emmons County Courthouse (courtroom). Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motion to schedule the public hearing for the conditional use permit application for Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC for February 3, 2026 at 5:30 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum volunteered to serve on the Linton Municipal Airport committee to assist with the transition of the board.

Commissioner Gartner reported that he had a conversation with an agronomist at Agtrega regarding charging landowners for spraying crops at the Linton Municipal Airport as requested by some citizens at the county budget hearing. The landowner contacts their fertilizer company or spray company of their choice and have pilots that they use on retainer. The fertilizer company invoices the landowners. If the city/county would decide to charge the airport so much an acre, they would have to work through the fertilizer companies as they work with the pilots.

Commissioner Magrum suggested that the commissioners revisit the county’s haul road use agreement recommending that a fee be added to defray the cost of hiring someone temporarily to supervise the project on the county’s behalf. Discussion will be held at the January 6, 2026 commission meeting.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the building permit for Matthew