

Proceedings Of The Board Of County Commissioners

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MOUNTRAIL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

1. OPENING & ROLL CALL

The Board met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. in the Emergency/Community Room, Mountrail County Courthouse, Stanley ND with Commissioners Trudy Ruland, Wayne Olson, John DeGroot, Joan Hollekim and Jason Rice present. State's Attorney, Wade Enget was present.

Chairman Ruland called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. BUSINESS

A. AGENDA

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Rice, to review and approve the agenda as corrected. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

B. MINUTES

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2026 meeting as corrected. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

C. FEES

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the June fees for Corrections, Clerk of Court & Sheriff and July fees for grant reimbursement for the Correctional Center. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Olson, Hollekim, Ruland and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

D. PAYROLL

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the time off request for the month of June for appointed officials. Upon roll call, Rice, Ruland, Hollekim, DeGroot and Olson voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the Regular Full-time Employee Classification for Erica Taylor as a Correctional Officer I with the Corrections in the amount of \$28.61 per hour/\$59,500 per year. Upon roll call, Ruland, Rice, Olson, Hollekim and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Rice, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the promotion for Desta Woods as an Eligibility Worker

II with the Mountrail McKenzie Human Service Zone to the amount of \$27.36 per hour/\$56,908.80 per year. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Ruland, Rice, Olson and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

E. QUIT CLAIM DEED

Wade Enget, State's Attorney discussed a Quit Claim Deed to clear up title on a tax deed property.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the signing of the Quit Claim Deed between Mountrail County and Todd Nohr & Misty Zuchara on Lot 11, Block 21 Wilson's Addition to the City of Stanley. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Hollekim and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

F. RAFFLE PERMIT

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the raffle permit for Coyote Wrestling Club Inc to be held at White Earth Bay on July 25th & 26th. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Rice, Olson, DeGroot and Ruland voted yes. Motion carried.

G. TRANSFER

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the transfer for Overweight Loadpass Permits for 2nd Quarter from the R&B Fund to Unorganized Townships 155 North, Range 94 totaling \$5,274.05; 154 North, Range 94 totaling \$9,973.54; 153 North, Range 93 totaling \$2,158.30; 152 North, Range 93 West totaling \$396.42 and 150 North, Range 92 West totaling \$1.05 with a grand total of \$17,803.36. Upon roll call, Olson, Rice, DeGroot, Ruland and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

H. MEMORIAL BUILDING PARKING

Wade Enget, State's Attorney gave an update on the Stanley City Council meeting on the parking on the north side of the Memorial Building.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the signing of the letter to employees at the Memorial Building asking employees to no longer park on 2nd Ave SW, along the north side of the Memorial Building so the street remains available for full client and public access only. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ol-

son, DeGroot, Ruland and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

I. VISION WEST DONATION

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve donating \$1,000 to Vision West for the upcoming conference on October 27th. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Rice and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

J. WARD COUNTY BOOKMOBILE

Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor discussed the minutes from a petition establishing a County Public Library from October 1, 1958. Comm. Hollekim requested the Auditor research the ballot question that was approved by the voters on whether it's just for the bookmobile or how the wording was stated when passed by the voters. More discussion will be held in the upcoming meetings.

K. BILLS

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the bills totaling \$4,544,670.98 & June 21 through July 4 payroll, checks #20248-20252 and direct deposits #1-194 totaling \$637,156.39. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Olson, Rice, DeGroot and Ruland voted yes. Motion carried. (A complete list of bills is posted on

a regular basis on the Mountrail County website @ www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the County Commissioner heading and/or are available for review in the Auditor's Office during normal business hours).

3. APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED 9:20 A.M.

Chairman Ruland opened the 9:20 A.M. public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on an amendment to zoning request filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn, Landowners for an amendment to change land zoned Commercial to Agricultural property on a tract of land 10 acres, more or less, known as north 10 acres of Outlot 1 of the SE1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (McGahan Township).

Melissa Vachal, Planning & Zoning Administrator, presented the information from the June 22, 2026 Planning & Zoning Commission recommending to the Moun-

trail County Commissioners to approve the zoning request filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn, Landowners for an amendment to change land zoned Commercial to Agricultural property on a tract of land 10 acres, more or less, known as north 10 acres of Outlot 1 of the SE1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (**McGahan Township**).

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the zoning request filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn, Landowners for an amendment to change land zoned Commercial to Agricultural property on a tract of land 10 acres, more or less, known as north 10 acres of Outlot 1 of the SE1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (**McGahan Township**) as Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn, landowners has met all criteria as set forth in the Mountrail County Land Development Code and is further contingent upon Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn complying with all other terms and conditions of the Mountrail County Land Development Code. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

9:25 A.M.

Jana Hennessy, Road & Bridge (R&B) Engineer met to discuss Road & Bridge along with Rebecca Chambers, Yvonne Gunderson, Bruce Gunderson, Ronald Gunderson, Starla Norstedt, James Holmen, Beverly Neset and Gary Raan.

1. WHITE EARTH BAY COTTAGE SITE ROADS

Engineer Hennessy presented a letter of concern from property owners for the roads within the White Earth Bay Cottage Site. The concerns appear to be on

A, B and C streets within the cottage site which are in poor condition with no upkeep from the County or Unorganized Township 154-94. Discussion was held on who is liable for the upkeep of the roads. Yvonne Gunderson spoke for the White Earth Bay Cottage sites owners. Starla Norstedt discussed that this is in Unorganized Township 154-94 with monies within the fund and believes the Township is responsible to maintain the roads. The main concern is safety within the park. Discussion was held on the importance of more policing within the White Earth Bay. Wade Enget, State's Attorney discussed the options: become an organized township or develop a Homeowners Association just to do the roads. Once a homeowners' association is created, a request for assistance with gravel etc. could be made to the Unorganized Township for monies. More discussion will be held once the Homeowners' Association is established and the request is brought to the board.

2. CR10

Engineer Hennessy & State's Attorney Enget discussed the request made by Fred Evans concerning improving the approach on the North side of CR10, one mile west of ND 8 and is requesting to use the material from the County right of way for better visibility to the east. Discussion was held on giving back a portion of the excess right of way and utilize his private dirt. Engineer Hennessy & State's Attorney Enget will bring back the plans for the next commissioner meeting.

3. MCALMOND TOWNSHIP

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded

by Comm. Olson, to approve signing the Loadpass Agreement with McAlmond Township. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

4. CR4

Discussion was held on the road conditions and the safety concerns.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve dropping the weight limit to 6 ton/80,000 per axle for CR4 effective Monday, July 27, 2026. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

Comm. Rice discussed the applying of the dust control and the possibility of giving notice of when and where it will be applied. Comm. Rice also suggested a notice for gravel and mowing road ditches. Engineer Hennessy will use Loadpass as a means for the public to be notified.

10:15 A.M.

Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor reviewed the 2027 budgets.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one had any comments.

5. ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 12:13 P.M. to meet in regular session on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. Accepted and approved this 4th day of August, 2026.

Trudy Ruland, Chairman

Mountrail County Commissioner

Stephanie A. Pappa
Mountrail County Auditor