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, August 18, 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. Olson, to review and approve the agenda as corrected. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

B. MINUTES

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2026 meeting as corrected. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

C. FEES

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

D. PAYROLL

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the time off requests for Appointed Officials for the month of July. Upon roll call, Rice, Hollekim, Ruland, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the promotion for Rachel Riepl as a Child Protection Services (CPS) Supervisor with the Mountrail McKenzie Human Service Zone to the amount of $41 per hour/$85,280 per year. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

E. TRANSFER

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Hollekim, to approve the transfer for Overweight Fines from April to June 2026 from General Fund to R&B Fund in the amount of $575. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

F. COUNTY VEHICLE POLICY

Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor along with Randi Schumaier, HR Generalist and Wade Enget, State's Attorney presented the County Vehicle Policy and personal vehicle waiver. More discussion will be held with the Human Resource Advisory Committee.

G. LEASE

Discussion was held on the 3-year lease with Parkway Property Management for the Veterans Service Officer. Comm. Hollekim suggested an opt out clause or a yearly contract. More discussion will be held at the next commissioner meeting.

H. DIVISION ORDERS

State's Attorney Enget stated per the NDCC 47-16-39.3 on division orders that the royalty payments may not be withheld because an interest owner has not executed a division order.

Moved by Comm. Rice, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, not to sign the renewal division orders from Slawson for all of Section 5, Township 151 North, Range 91 West, all of Section 17, Township 151 North, Range 91 West and all of Section 32, Township 152 North, Range 91 West per ND Century Code 47-16-39.3. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Rice and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

I. BILLS

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the bills totaling $8,835,437.02 & July 19 through August 1 payroll, checks #20258-20260 and direct deposits #1-198 totaling $684,083.89. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Hollekim, Olson, Rice 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).

J. BOARD CONCERNS

Comm. DeGroot discussed the potential to call for an extended burn ban. Comm. DeGroot will discuss with Warren Bogert and Corey Bristol with Disaster Emergency Services.

3. APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED

9:15 A.M.

Jessica Niemitalo, Treasurer met with the board to discuss the renewal of four certificate deposits (CD's), one for $10 million, one for $1,225,000, one for $375,000 and one for $226,502.39. Also present were Bonnie Nichols and Heath Hetzel with Bravera Bank.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve renewing the four certificate of deposits (CD's), one for $10 million for 12 months at Bravera Bank, one for $1,225,000, one for $375,000 and one for $226,502.39 for 12 months at Cornerstone Bank. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Ruland, Rice, Olson and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

9:20 A.M.

Kim Savage, Tax Director presented the TY Pickett Contract.

Moved by Comm. Rice, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve signing the TY Pickett Contract totaling $80,700. Upon roll call, Ruland, Hollekim, Rice, DeGroot and Olson voted yes. Motion carried.

9:30 A.M.

Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor along with Javayne Oyloe with Upper Missouri District Health Unit (UMDHU) presented the 2027 preliminary Upper Missouri District Health Unit budget.

9:40 A.M.

Laurie Johnson, Correctional Administrator met to discuss the IGA rates with United States Marshall at $100 daily and $45 per hour for transporting officers and request for out of state travel.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the out of state travel for Sandra Abrahamson and CeCe Schueneman to attend the Correctional Health Division in St. Cloud, MN on October 6th-8th and for Laurie Johnson to attend the Turnkey User Conference in River Falls, WI on September 23rd & 24th. Upon roll call, Hollekim, DeGroot, Olson, Rice and Ruland voted yes. Motion carried.

9:45 A.M.

Jana Hennessy, Road & Bridge (R&B) Engineer met to discuss Road & Bridge.

1. 40TH ST/BASIC DATA BOOK

Engineer Hennessy discussed the basic data book from CBRE Valuation & Advisory Services for 40th St NW.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the reimbursement of right of way acquisition as follows: $2,500 for cropland, $1,700 for pastureland, $5,000 for residential, $4,000 for commercial and temporary for $300 for the 40th St NW Project. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice and Olson voted yes. Motion carried.

2. PM2025 CHIP SEAL/FINAL PAYMENT

Moved by Comm. Rice, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve balancing change order #1 to Asphalt Surface Technologies Corporation for PM2025 Chip Seal a decrease in the amount of $6,426.37. Upon roll call, Rice, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve paying the final progress estimate #4 to Asphalt Surface Technologies Corporation for PM2025 Chip Seal in the amount of $233,484.15. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

3. CR3 PALERMO NORTH/PROJECT NO. 03(71)23

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve change order #1 to Jenson Brothers Construction Inc for CR3 Palermo N/Project No. 03(71)23 in the amount of $1,500. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Rice and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

Engineer Hennessy stated Jenson Brothers Construction is behind on the project and has established steps to hire subcontractors to be able to complete the job. The action plan for Jenson Brothers Construction will be filed in the Auditor's Office.

4. PROPOSAL FOR EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HYBRID WORK SCHEDULE

Engineer Hennessy discussed the possibility of allowing Alexis Hill to be able to work from home ¾ time until a babysitter is found. State's Attorney Enget along with Human Resource Generalist Schumaier discussed how benefits would change by dropping down to ¾-time instead of full-time. Discussion was held on utilizing the Employee Policy 214 for telecommuting and continue to work fulltime. More discussion will be held at the next commissioner meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one had any comments.

5. ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 11:03 A.M. to meet in regular session on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. Accepted and approved this 1st day of September, 2026.

Trudy Ruland, Chairman
Mountrail County Commissioner

Stephanie A. Pappa
Mountrail County Auditor