

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, October 6, 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 and Assistant State's Attorney Samantha Nelson were present.

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

2. BUSINESS

A. AGENDA

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

B. MINUTES

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2026 meeting as corrected. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

C. FEES

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

D. PAYROLL

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the Regular Full-time Employee Classification for Brayden Olson with the R&B as a Roadworker I in the amount of \$32.86 per hour/\$68,340 per year. Upon roll call, Olson, Hollekim, Ruland, DeGroot and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

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

voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the salary increase for completing the satisfactory introductory period for Truman Sorensen with the Sheriff as a Dispatcher I to the amount of \$28.61 per hour/\$59,500 per year. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

E. QUOTES FOR SUV

Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor presented three quotes from Ryan Chevrolet, Prairie Ford and Puklich for the trading of a 2013 Chevrolet Suburban for a large SUV.

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the quote from Prairie Ford for the trade of the 2013 Chevrolet Suburban for a 2026 Ford Expedition Max totaling \$64,720.70. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice, Olson and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Hollekim, to approve amending the 2026 County Board Contingency Fund to \$54,720. Upon roll call, Ruland, Rice, Olson, Hollekim and DeGroot. Motion carried.

F. ND STATE FAIR DELEGATE

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the 2027 ND State Fair Delegate as Lynnette Vachal, Extension Agent. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

G. BILLS

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the bills totaling \$969,354.80 & August 30 through September 12 payroll, checks #20273-20276 and direct deposits #1-181 totaling \$618,411.84 & September 13 through September 26, checks #20277-20280 and direct deposits #1-182 totaling \$629,957.08. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Hollekim and Rice 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).

H. BOARD CONCERNS

Wade Enget, State's Attorney discussed the opinion from Rozanna C Larson, Ward County State's Attorney regarding if Rosen Place Assisted living facility, a "health care facility" such that the County can donate funds for a capital improvement project pursuant to NDCC 11-11-14(24). The opinion stated it would fall under the definition of a health care facility. More discussion will be held later regarding the monies.

3. APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED

9:15 A.M.

Melissa Vachal, P&Z Administrator presented the 2027 Planning & Zoning fees.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the following changes to the fees for the 2027 Planning & Zoning fees: Non Ag Outlot 0 to 15 acres \$250 change to \$375; zoning variance \$350; subdivision cemetery plats would be \$550 for 1 to 25 lots, \$750 for 26 to 50 lots, \$1,000 for 51 to 75 lots, \$1,250 for 76 to 100 lots; temp housing minor \$1,000 to \$1,500 plus \$100 to \$200 per bed over 10; temp housing major \$2,000 to \$2,500 plus \$100 to \$200 per bed over 10; animal feeding conditional use \$500; wind energy conditional use \$25,000 per application; commercial solar energy conditional use \$25,000 per application; commercial and public landfill conditional use \$25,000 per application; tenorm landfill conditional use \$25,000 per application; data center conditional use \$25,000 per application; battery storage conditional use \$25,000 per application and reclamation for both data and battery storage facilities is equal to reclamation cost as recommended by P&Z Administrator Vachal. Upon roll call, Rice, Olson, DeGroot, Hollekim and Ruland voted yes. Motion carried.

9:25 A.M.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Hollekim, to adopt minimum appraisal prices on tax deed sale properties to be offered for sale on November 17, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Hollekim, Ruland and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

9:35 A.M.

Jana Hennessy, Road & Bridge (R&B)

Engineer along with Scott Duerre, Road & Bridge Superintendent met to discuss Road & Bridge.

1. FRED EVANS/CR 10 ROW

Engineer Hennessy introduced the proposal from Fred Evans to improve visibility and safety on the driveway located on CR 10 right of way. The county will keep the 75' right of way and give back the remaining right of way by the approach of Fred Evans on CR 10.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve hiring John Sauber, Sauber Engineering to do a plat for the remaining right of way by the approach to Fred Evan's at his cost on CR 10. Upon roll call, Olson, DeGroot, Ruland, Hollekim and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

2. OLD HIGHWAY 2/CHANGE ORDER #1

Moved by Comm. Rice, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the signing of Change Order #1 with Central Specialties, Inc. for the approach on CR2 and intersection of 67th Ave NW totaling \$29,591.50. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Rice, Olson, DeGroot and Ruland voted yes. Motion carried.

3. CR10 & CR11/CHANGE ORDER #3

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve the signing of Change Order #3 with Martin Construction Inc for CR10 & CR11 totaling a decrease of \$153,003.40. Upon roll call, Ruland, Olson, Hollekim, Rice and DeGroot voted yes. Motion carried.

4. 2027 TOWNSHIP ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

NANCE CONTRACTS

Engineer Hennessy presented information on the township road maintenance contracts and the rates.

Moved by Comm. Hollekim, seconded by Comm. Olson, to approve the prices as \$175 per mile for summer contracts, \$200 per mile for snow removal and year-round contract \$300 per mile for all township road maintenance contracts for 2027. Upon roll call, Ruland, Olson, DeGroot, Rice and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. DeGroot, to approve increasing \$25 for all other additional services/contracts for townships, cities and subdivisions. Upon roll call, DeGroot, Olson, Hollekim, Ruland and Rice voted yes. Motion carried.

5. PLAZA SHOP/ENERBASE LP CONTRACT

Engineer Hennessy presented the Enerbase LP Contract for the Plaza Shop.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve signing the contract for propane at 10,200 gallons with Enerbase Cooperative Resources. Upon roll call, Hollekim, Ruland, DeGroot, Rice and Olson voted yes. Motion carried.

6. NEW TRACTOR TRADES & QUOTES

Engineer Hennessy presented the quotes for new tractors and mowers with trade ins.

Moved by Comm. DeGroot, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the quotes from Sourcewell for the purchase of two John Deere 6M 165 Cab tractors with trade

ins on a 2006 Challenger MT445B and mower and a 2018 Case IH Maxxum 150 and the purchase of a Degelman 10' mower and sidearm totaling \$470,623.06. Upon roll call, Rice, Ruland, Olson, DeGroot and Hollekim voted yes. Motion carried.

10:15 A.M.

Discussion was held on the 2027 Final Budget Hearing for the County. Stephanie A. Pappa, Auditor discussed the few changes from the preliminary to the final. The two added amounts were the \$3,000,000 under the General miscellaneous fund for donating to non-profit healthcare facility and the \$5,000,000 under the transfers for Job Development Authority.

Moved by Comm. Olson, seconded by Comm. Rice, to approve the 2027 Final Budget for Mountrail County totaling \$197,368,694 with a levied amount of \$668,757 (3.95 mills). Upon roll call, DeGroot, Hollekim, Ruland, Rice and Olson voted yes. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one had any comments.

5. ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 10:55 A.M. to meet in regular session on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. Accepted and approved this 20th day of October, 2026.

Trudy Ruland, Chairman

Mountrail County Commissioner

Stephanie A. Pappa

Mountrail County Auditor