

Official Proceedings of the Board of Burke County Commissioners

September 14, 2026
Special Meeting

The Board of County Commissioners met in special session at 7:00 p.m. with Chairman Van Berkorn, Commissioners Holter and Koppelsloen presiding.

The sole purpose of the meeting was to conduct a public hearing for the 2027 Preliminary Burke County budget.

No one appeared for the hearing.

No changes were recommended for the 2027 County Budget as presented. No action was taken.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Van Berkorn at 7:42 p.m. to meet again in regular session on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes read and approved this 6th day of October, 2026.

Jarret Van Berkorn
Chairman, Burke County Board
of Commissioners

Amie Vandegraft
Burke County Auditor

October 6, 2026
Regular Meeting

1. OPENING & ROLL CALL

The Board met in regular session on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at the Burke County Courthouse, Bowbells ND with Chairman Jarret Van Berkorn, Commissioner Shannon Holter and Commissioner Kurt Koppelsloen presiding. Also present were Lyann Olson, Burke County Tribune. Amber Fiesel, State's Attorney, joined after the meeting began.

Chairman Van Berkorn called the County Commission meeting to order at 8:04 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. BUSINESS

A. MINUTES

Motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Koppelsloen to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2026 regular meeting. Upon roll call, all

present voted yes. Motion carried.

B. BILLS

Motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Koppelsloen to approve the bills list and that the County Auditor be instructed to pay the bills out of the proper funds and accept the following reports for the month of October; Burke County Sheriff \$43,464.37; District Court \$4,963.00; County Recorder \$43,969.00. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

GENERAL

County Employees \$1,389.89
TOTAL \$1,389.89

HWY TAX DIST.

County Employees \$34,923.59
TOTAL \$34,923.59

WEED CONTROL

County Employees \$401.50
TOTAL \$401.50

HOMELAND SECURITY

County Employees \$5,570.90
TOTAL \$5,570.90
GRAND TOTAL \$42,285.88

ROAD & BRIDGE

Brosz Engineering, Inc \$1,780.00
Burke County Treasurer 59.98
Burke County Treasurer 834.85
Burke County Treasurer 76.97
Central Specialties, Inc.. 4,621,392.56
Circle Sanitation Service 81.25
City of Bowbells 292.25
City of Columbus 43.73
City of Lignite 139.00
Dakota Truck & Farm
Service..... 1,891.80
John Deere Financial 5,222.35
Linde Gas & Equipment Inc.....235.25
Lucy Trucks 36,120.39
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.... 727.66
NDLTAP 50.00
The Country Store 73.86
Verizon Wireless..... 127.59
Wold Engineering P.C..... 455,000.00
TOTAL 5,124,149.49

GENERAL

Barry Jager \$457.52
Kurt Koppelsloen 74.48
Lynette Nelson..... 30.40
Stephanie Black..... 546.64
Tracy Stover 146.40
Advanced Business Methods.. 274.61
Burke County Treasurer 839.11

Burke County Treasurer 49.10
Burke County Treasurer 91.05
Burke County Tribune..... 1,770.92
Circle Sanitation Service 715.00
City of Bowbells..... 467.88
Computer Express Inc..... 1,384.99
Don Flaherty..... 516.00
Election Systems &
Software, LLC..... 50.98
Farmers Union Oil Company ... 315.48
Gaffaney's of Minot Inc..... 1,021.61
Global Safety Network, Inc..... 216.35
Lignite Service & Repair..... 1,635.63
Matthew Bender & Co 87.31
Menards- Minot..... 1,009.94
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.. 2,417.92
Morelli's Distributing, Inc..... 76.20
Next Level Excavating..... 37,450.00
Northwest Communications.... 514.60
Northwest Veterinary Services .. 25.85
Post Board..... 45.00

Sandberg Redi-Mix Inc 937.50
Tecta America Dakotas LLC 3,232.00
Thomson Reuters- West..... 438.00
TK Elevator Corporation 100.00
Verizon Wireless..... 545.15
Vestis..... 1,030.14
Visa 206.96

Watterud Oilfield Spraying
& Mowing LLC 1,400.00
TOTAL \$ 60,120.72

ABANDONED CEMETERIES

Gordon Brenno \$ 300.00
TOTAL \$300.00

COUNTY AGENT

Daniel Folske \$844.48
TOTAL \$844.48

FIRST COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT
Lucy Trucks \$1,393.24
TOTAL \$ 1,393.24

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER

Verizon Wireless..... \$42.57
TOTAL \$42.57

WEED CONTROL

City of Bowbells \$180.00
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co..... 52.27
TOTAL \$232.27
GRAND TOTAL \$5,187,082.77

3. APPOINTMENT SCHEDULED

No one appeared for public comment.
Spencer Goodman, County Road
Supervisor, met with the board.

The Road Foreman provided updates

on a fuel adjustment request, staffing changes, and Road & Bridge projects. Contractors requesting fuel adjustments due to high fuel prices; commissioners agreed to contractors submitting a proposed adjustment (specific amount) so the county can treat requests consistently and evaluate case-by-case. Discussion included County Road 8, paving over the culvert on Soo St., mowing ditches on Coal Mine Rd., leveling & hydroseeding the Flaxton gym parcel, gravel hauling, gravel pit operations, and work in Lucy Twp. Spencer also reported on upcoming training in Williams County. Also discussed were end of year inventory for the gravel pits & the NDDOT Planning & Rail solicitation request. Chairman Van Berkorn would like to obtain the railroad crossing identification numbers (e.g., County Road 17 / Powers Lake crossing) so a formal letter can be prepared requesting flashing signage or crossing exemption.

Stephanie Black, Planning & Zoning, met with the board.

A motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Kopplesloen to approve the bore crossing and Utility occupancy permit application for a Natural Gas 6" Steel Pipeline in Keller Twp T162N-R94W, Section 23: N2NW4 to Sec. 22: NE4. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

Michael Herman, Assistant Tax Assessor, met with the board.

Commissioners reviewed many tax-forfeiture parcels (multiple towns: Flaxton, Portal, Columbus & Twps. Keller, North Star & Short Creek) and set reserve/appraisal values for the annual sale.

At 10:00 a.m. a motion by Comm. Kopplesloen, second by Comm. Holter authorized the Chair to open the Motor grader bids. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried. Comm. Holter suggested accepting both bids to allow time to compare equipment bids and total-cost side-by-side comparison of the Butler and RDO equipment bids (include trade-in, warranties, and walk-in roll options) and present a recommendation at the Oct. 20 meeting. A motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Kopplesloen to accept both bids by RDO and Butler. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

Tracy Stover, Maintenance/Custodian, met with the board.

Two proposals reviewed for annual HVAC maintenance and filter service. The commissioners all preferred the H.A. Thompson proposal. Tracy will arrange for H.A. Thompson to phone in at the next meeting to answer questions. ProTech proposal reviewed and accepted to address recurring wireless panic-button and supervisory trouble signals (batteries/repeaters aging; some devices >15–20 years old). Tracy is looking into a local painter to paint the original section of the fire escape and reported the new section was being painted this week. A quote to repair the hallway plaster was reviewed and it was decided to wait until the end of the year to revisit depending on the budget. Tracy reported on the floors being waxed and having the weeds sprayed around the building.

Jason Mayfield, Wold Engineering, met with the board.

Jason provided updates on Burke

County 8, including approaches and the bumps. Contractor still needs to correct about two rough eastbound spots; contractor will flat-line/plane and fog-seal afterward. Permanent striping expected by end of week (epoxy centerline, painted edges). A motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Kopplesloen to authorize the chair to sign the contract for SRF-0707(002) PCN 2511. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried.

4. DISCUSSION

Discussion was held on the 1 applicant received for the Emergency Manager position and a drop box for Human Service door. Motion by Comm. Holter, second by Comm. Kopplesloen to authorize the Chairman to sign the reimbursement request from NDDOT for FXCA-0716(081) in the amount of \$3,858,058.35. Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion carried. Comm. Holter volunteered to be the State fair delegate for 2027. The Auditor presented the 2027 federal aid program sheet and the Oil & Gas report.

5. ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 11:58 a.m. to meet again in regular session October 20, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes read and approved this 20th day of October 2026.

Jarret Van Berkorn
Chairman, Burke County Board
of Commissioners

Amie Vandegraff
Burke County Auditor

October 28, 2026