

# MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

December 17, 2025  
The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Gene Wolf.  
Present were Commissioners Rick Bauman, Jamee Folk, Mark Pierce, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed, and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Others present during the meeting were Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt, HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteinner, Moore Engineer Tom Weigel, Treasurer Dawn Grannis, Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers, Tax Director/Land Use Administrator Jennifer Neumiller, Dakota Mornings Michael Bell, Energy Sands Solutions Andy Thomas, Coteau Freedom Mine Darren Hellman, Westmoreland Beulah Mine Rylan Sundsbak, Summit Carbon Solutions Amanda Hoffer, and Mercer County Resident Kevin Hafner.  
Pledge of allegiance was said.  
Folk moved to approve the amended agenda. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman moved to approve the December 3, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteinner requested approval of the Pery Weather Safety Alert System 1-Year contract for \$22,700. This system would be installed and used in the Beulah and Hazen Bay Areas, stating that both Hazen and Beulah Park Boards are in agreement to support this system. Mercer County Resident Kevin Hafner stressed the need and importance of this system. Commission requested that Park Boards need to pay for initial costs and put into writing their plan of continued support of this system. This item was placed on the January 7, 2026 meeting agenda.  
HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteinner presented the updated Holiday Policy. Chairman Wolf asked if there was a motion to approve the Holiday Policy. No motion heard. No change in Holiday Policy. Grinsteinner presented the updated Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy. Chairman Wolf requested a motion to accept the updated Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy.  
Voigt made a motion to discuss the updated Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy. Bauman seconded. Voigt retracted his motion. Chairman requested a motion to accept the updated Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy. No motion heard. No change to Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Policy.  
Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers presented the Audio/Video, Lawn Mower and Skid Steer Quotes. Pierce moved to accept the Blue Hawk Audio/Video Quote of \$46,732.46. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Folk moved to accept the RDO Lawn Mower bid of \$13,273.86 with a trade in of \$4,450. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The skid steer bids were discussed and item was placed on the January 7, 2026 agenda.  
Recessed at 10:06 a.m.  
Reconvened at 10:11 a.m.

Land Use Administrator Jennifer Neumiller presented to following items:  
• Temp Use # 657 Casey Voigt---Scoria Pit--NW4 31-143-88. Voigt recused himself. Folk moved to approve Temp Use #657 as presented without restrictions. Bauman seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use # 658 Antelope Creek Trucking--Scoria Crushing—E2 29-144-88. Folk moved to approve Temp Use #658 as presented without restrictions. Voigt seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #659 Randy Byrum-Sand Pit & Overburden Pit--20 Acres w/in the E2 of SE4 of 32-145-87. Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #659 as presented without restrictions. Folk seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #660—Randy Byrum—Scoria Pit—S2N2 of 33-145-87. Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #660 as presented without restrictions. Folk seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #661—Mercer Co Highway Department—SE4 & SW4 26-145-87. Pierce moved to approve Temp Use #661 as presented without restrictions. Bauman seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #662 Basin Electric—Laydown Yard—NE4NE4 20-144-84. Folk moved to approve Temp Use #662 as presented without restrictions. Bauman seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #663 Wayne Boeshans--Gravel Pit--SW4 21-146-88. Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #663 as presented without restrictions. Folk seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #664 Bechtold Paving—Asphalt Plant—NW4 14-144-88. Bauman moved to approve Temp Use #664 as presented without restrictions. Voigt seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #665 The Coteau Properties—Test Hole Drilling—Section 32 T145 R88; Sections 1,2,3,11,12 T144 R89; Sections 25&36 T146 R87; Sections 28,29,30,31,32,33 T146 R86; Sections 4 & 5 T145 R 86. Pierce recused himself. Folk moved to approve Temp Use #665 as presented. Bauman seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
Coteau Representative Darren Hellman gave a brief update.  
• Temp Use #666 Summit Carbon Solutions-Test Wells--NE4NE4 22-142-88--BK Fischer.  
Temp Use #667 Summit Carbon Solutions ---Test Wells--NE4 35-141-88--Milton Flemmer.  
Temp Use #668 Summit Carbon Solutions ---Test Wells--S2S2 12-142-88--Archie Erickson. Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #666, 667, and 668 as presented. Pierce seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
Temp Use #669 LeeRoy Fischer--Scoria Pit—SE4 3-143-89, Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #669 as presented. Folk seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
Folk recused herself.  
• Temp Use #649-2—Ramsey Hill Explora-

tion--Aggregate Materials Operations--NE4 23-144-86. Bauman moved to approve Temp Use #649-2 as presented. Pierce seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #650-2—Ramsey Hill Exploration--- Haul Road-W2 14-144-86. Pierce moved to approve Temp Use #650-2 as presented. Voigt seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #638-2 Energy Sand Solutions-Sand mining--S2 5-144-85. Folk moved to approve Temp Use #638-2 as presented. Bauman seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried.  
• Temp Use #651-2--North Dakota Proppant ---Sand and gravel mining--W2 10-144-85. Voigt moved to postpone permit approval until owner is compliant with bond requirements. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
• Planning & Zoning Board Applications received from Andy Thomas and Jennifer Gabel. Folk moved to appoint Andy Thomas to the Planning and Zoning Board. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
• John Bornemann abatement request due to property damage by fire. Folk moved to approve the John Bornemann abatement request as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
County Landfill Property Easement request for crossing of a SW water pipeline for Ryan Wolf was discussed. Item was postponed. Due to Public Notice stating appointments for the Planning & Zoning Board to be made at January 21, 2026 Commission meeting, Folk rescinded her motion and put this item on the January 21, 2026 meeting agenda. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman moved to reappoint Folk to the Western Plains Public Health (WPPH) Board. Pierce seconded. Folk recused herself from this vote. Bauman, Pierce, Voigt, and Wolf voted aye. Motion carried.  
States Attorney Todd Schwarz stated he would work on the utility easement documentation for the County Landfill Property Easement request from Ryan Wolf.  
Bauman moved to approve the Sundre Sand & Gravel bill of \$495,000 for the crushing of 90,000 tons of scoria at T145N-R87W Section 36 @\$5.50/ton. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman moved to approve the royalty payment of \$270,000 to Brad Gunsch for 90,000 tons of scoria at T145N-R87W Section 36. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Moore Engineer Tom Weigel presented the following resolution for approval:  
MERCER COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA  
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND PROJECT APPROVAL CONSOLIDATED COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING  
WHEREAS, Mercer County has identified the need to develop a Consolidated County Services Building to support the efficient delivery of county services and to meet current and future operational needs.  
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the

Board of County Commissioners of Mercer County, North Dakota, that:  
1. The Board hereby approves the proposed Consolidated County Services Building project.  
2. The Board affirms that the project satisfies the requirements of Mercer County and is consistent with County policies and regulations.  
3. The Board confirms that Mercer County shall own, or otherwise support and maintain, the public infrastructure developed as part of the project and has the capacity to support such infrastructure.  
4. The Board authorizes County staff to submit this resolution as documentation of local governing body approval in support of applicable funding applications and project implementation activities.  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners is authorized to execute any documents necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution. Folk moved to approve the Mercer County, North Dakota Resolution of Support and Project Approval Consolidated County Services Building as presented. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman moved to approve \$15,000 purchase of a 1,000-gallon fuel tank for the Sheriff's department. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman motioned to move the expense of the Back the Blue Fund Bonus from the following Sheriff Accounts: Elected Officials Salary #1001.42110.112, Deputy Salaries #1001.42110.113, Administrative #1001.42110.116, and Jailers & Dispatchers #1001.42110.131 and pay out of a separate account since this was a state payment and not in Sheriff's budget. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Bauman motioned to move the Sheriff's Agri-Bank Safety Grant funds of \$34,058.00 into the Sheriff's grant fund. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.  
Transfer sheet was discussed. When monies are transferred or grant monies actually received these items will be put on the agenda to keep commission updated.  
Folk moved to approve all bills as presented. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment: ASKIM, CRAIG \$524.10; AUTO VALUE \$176.70; BAUMAN, RICK \$3,281.80; BEULAH JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY \$1,196.67; BLOOM'N HOUSE \$57.00; Blue Hawk Audio Video \$180.00; BOBCAT OF MANDAN INC. \$1,049.41; CHARM-TEX, INC. \$47.60; CITY OF STANTON \$6,723.67; CIVICPLUS LLC \$5,309.98; CORE FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$27,550.00; D & E SUPPLY CO INC \$305.89; DAKOTA AWARDS, INC. \$49.98; DAKOTA FIRE EXTINGUISHER INC \$163.56; DONOVAN & KAFFAR PLLP \$13,401.00; EGGERS ELECTRIC MOTOR CO \$199.54; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$66,047.00; FITTERER OIL HAZEN LLC

\$153.72; FOLK, JAMEE \$1,098.80; GALLS \$115.87; GUNSCH, BRAD & CAMEY \$270,000.00; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$22.99; HAZEN HEALTH PHARMACY \$228.96; HAZEN MOTOR CO \$791.40; HAZEN STAR \$75.00; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT \$6,171.25; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL \$37,379.26; KIM'S APPLIANCE SERVICE, INC \$591.96; KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$12.64; KRIS ENGINEERING, INC. \$19,745.47; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES \$180.00; LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC \$680.37; MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT \$495.34; MID-CONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$183.17; MOORE ENGINEERING \$31,470.00; NAPA \$592.19; NATIONAL SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION \$125.00; ND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASS'N \$100.00; ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$11,390.52; NDSU CUSTOMER ACCOUNT SERVICES \$80.00; NEUBERGER OIL COMPANY \$32,758.84; NEXUS PLANNING & CONSULTING LLC \$8,402.50; NORTHWEST TIRE AUTO SERVICE INC. \$3,561.70; OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL \$1,130.00; PFLIGER, METTA \$547.10; PHARMCHEM, INC. \$543.15; PIERCE, MARK L. \$1,052.70; POSTMASTER \$440.00; PRESORT PLUS \$5,368.07; PRINT EVER \$1,004.40; PRO VISION \$62.40; QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC. \$2,079.44; REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY \$4.23; REVIZE LLC \$1,200.00; ROUGHRIDER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC \$863.14; RUD PROPANE LLP \$3,099.24; SEIFERT, BRADLEY Q \$78.00; SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$60.91; STERICYCLE, INC. \$22.90; SUNDRE SAND & GRAVEL, INC. \$495,000.00; T-MOBILE USA, INC \$85.47; TAYLOR PRINT & VISUAL IMPRESSIONS \$361.28; THE BEACON \$103.00; THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES, INC. \$217.55; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES \$5,624.75; VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC. \$5,939.40; VERIZON WIRELESS \$534.44; WEST RIVER EQUIPMENT \$98,500.00; WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$2,499.39; WESTERN PLAINS PUBLIC HEALTH \$3,755.85; WOLF, GENE \$358.20; WORKFORCE SAFETY & INSURANCE \$100.00; BIEBER, GERALD \$37.10 ; CITY OF GOLDEN VALLEY \$29.75; ESLINGER, MIKE \$30.10; HAFNER, KEVIN \$45.50; REED, CARMEN A \$132.20; RENNER, CHRIS \$32.20.  
(TOTAL: \$1,183,612.71)  
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at [www.mercercountynynd.com](http://www.mercercountynynd.com).  
Approved: Gene Wolf, Chairman  
Attest: Carmen Reed, Auditor

(01-01-2026)

# HAZEN CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

December 15, 2025  
Hazen City Hall  
Present: President Schiferl, Commissioner Folkerts, Commissioner Stern and Commissioner Wiedrich.  
Absent: Commissioner Haack.  
Others Present: PW Director Brousseau, Attorney Donovan, Chief Wolff, Jerod Klabunde & Aiden Kelly (Moore Eng), and Auditor Erhardt.  
President Schiferl called the meeting to order at 5:29 PM.  
President Schiferl led the pledge of allegiance and said the prayer.  
Minutes: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to suspend the reading and approve the minutes of the December 1st meeting, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved.  
Agenda: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the agenda, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Motion unanimously approved.  
CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY AND ENGINEER  
Engineer's Report: The commission reviewed the written engineer's report and Jerod Klabunde indicated there are no action items in the report.  
Executive Session Pursuant to NDDCC 44-04-19.1(5) – Attorney Consultation: President Schiferl indicated the next item on the agenda is Executive Session – Pursuant to 44-04-19.1(5) NDCC, Attorney Consultation/Guidance relating to Expedition Estates. This item must be discussed in executive session. Motion by Commissioner Wiedrich to enter executive session, in compliance with NDCC, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Stern, “Nay”, Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried. The executive session will be recorded, and all members of the commission are reminded to limit their discussion during the executive session to the

announced topic. Any collective decision, collective commitment, or other final action by the commission must occur after it reconvenes in an open meeting, unless final action is specifically required by law to be taken during executive session. The prohibition on taking final action during the executive session does not apply to providing guidance or instructions to our attorney. President Schiferl asks all members of the public who are attending the meeting to leave the room, and the commission anticipates adjourning the executive session and reconvening the open portion of the meeting as soon as possible. The minutes will show that the executive session began at 5:33 PM CT, and was attended by President Schiferl, Commissioner Folkerts, Commissioner Stern, Commissioner Wiedrich, Attorney Donovan, Jerod Klabunde and Aiden Kelly (Moore Engineering) and Auditor Erhardt. President Schiferl adjourned the executive session at 6:13 PM CT, with no formal action having been taken, and the public was invited to return to the meeting room, and the city commission is back in open session.  
REQUEST OF CITIZENS  
Local Permit-Bingo – Hazen Public School – Health Task Force: Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve local permit #2025-18, as requested by Hazen Public School Health Task Force to conduct Bingo games at school events from December 2025 to March 2026, second by Commissioner Wiedrich. Motion unanimously approved.  
INTRODUCTION, READING, AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES  
Floodplain Ordinance Amendment (Compliance with NDCC): Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the second reading and adopt the proposed amendment to the Floodplain Ordinance, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye” Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND BUILDING PERMITS  
Liquor License Applications: The commission reviewed liquor license applications of Bison Sports Bar, Box's Bar, Jimmy's Lounge, Long Shots Bar and The Hub for calendar year 2026. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the liquor licenses, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Upon discussion, Commissioner Folkerts asked about any concerns of establishments selling alcohol after closing time and Chief Wolff indicated that he was not made aware of any concerns. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.  
REPORTS  
Water/Sewer/Garbage: Commissioner Stern had nothing to report at this time.  
Street/Cemetery: Commissioner Haack absent. PW Director Brousseau reported that city staff are working to remove ice from the streets during warmer weather. Several commissioners commented on the good work of the staff to keep the streets clear and passable.  
Finance/Busing/Library: Commissioner Folkerts had nothing to report at this time.  
Police/Fire/Forestry: Commissioner Wiedrich had nothing to report at this time. Chief Wolff commented that vehicles that were tagged during snow removal have been addressed. Commissioner Folkerts asked about a vehicle on 2nd Ave NW and was advised that it has been moved within the forty-eight-hour parking period. Commissioner Wiedrich spoke of sharing the forester position with Hazen Parks and Recreation. This will be discussed further when more information is available.  
HCD: Myra Savelkoul absent. No report.  
President: President Schiferl informed the board that he was not aware of the amount of special assessments remaining on the water plant building and the commission

was advised that the offer to purchase the property has been withdrawn.  
CORRESPONDENCE  
Election Agreement – Mercer County: The commission reviewed the joint election agreement with Mercer County to conduct the city election in 2026. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to accept the agreement, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Motion unanimously approved. The lone polling location for the 2026 elections will be in Beulah.  
NEW BUSINESS  
Arbor Day Proclamation: Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve a proclamation designating December 23, 2025, as Arbor Day in the City of Hazen, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved. The city celebration will be incorporated with story time at the Hazen Public Library at 10:00 AM.  
Copier Replacement Proposals: The commission reviewed proposals to replace the current copier/fax/printer at city hall. The current copier lease is with Marco Technologies, and a proposal was also received from Fireside Office Solutions. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to proceed with the lease of Marco Technologies at a proposed cost of \$277.36/month, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.  
Christmas Eve – Early Closure: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to authorize closure of city offices at 12:00 PM on December 24th, second by President Schiferl. Motion unanimously approved.  
FY2027 Transit Grant(s): Commissioner Wiedrich moved to authorize the Transit Director and City Auditor to complete the FY2027 transit grant and address any questions that may arise, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Schiferl, “Aye”,

motion carried.  
PUBLIC COMMENTS  
No public comments were received.  
Approval of Bills and Financial Statements: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the bills and financial statements, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Pre-paid and bills approved for payment are as follows: Elan Financial, 682.40; Verizon, 462.68; Cenex, 3707.94; City of Hazen, 953.26; Cory Beery, 300.00; D&E Supply, 273.39; Donovan & Kaffar PLLP, 1750.00; Evolv Inc, 19.95; Further, 3.25; Global Safety Network, 76.05; HCD, 433.41; Hazen Motor Co, 309.95; Hazen Star, 927.86; ITD, 34.50; KDKT Radio, 150.00; Loren Wiest, 300.00; Lucky's Towing, 350.00; Meissner Contracting, 1600.00; Menards, 89.80; Mercer Co Treasurer, 5779.85; Mercer Co Weed Board, 445.00; MDU, 4563.06; Mosca Design, 2460.85; ND Dept of Health, 54.00; ND League of Cities, 1000.00; OK Tire, 684.20; Power Plan, 2313.76; Radar Shop Inc, 128.00; Ronnie Blekestad Jr, 8.51; Roughrider Electric Coop Inc, 3832.76; Safe-guard Business Systems, 245.32; Sletten Excavating, 12560.00; Stamps.com, 115.73; Stein's Inc, 402.94; The Hub, 1305.90; Vanguard Appraisals Inc, 2770.65; Vestis, 429.09; West River Telecommunications, 925.68. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.  
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM CT. The next regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for Monday, January 5, 2026, at 5:30 PM CT in the Commission Room of the Hazen City Hall.  
Approved: Jesse Schiferl, President  
Attest: Monte J. Erhardt, Auditor

(01-15-2025)