

Minutes of

Logan County Commissioners

REGULAR MEETING
Board of Logan County
Commissioners
Napoleon, ND
February 11, 2026
(unofficial or subject
to approval)

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Logan County Commissioners was called to order at 1:00pm in the meeting room of the Logan County Courthouse by Chairperson John Wald. Present were Commissioners Bryan Batsch and Blanche Schumacher, Auditor Jody Kristiansen, Assistant State's Attorney Grant Walker, and Jessica Wald representing the Napoleon Homestead. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Schumacher moved, seconded by Batsch, to approve the agenda with the addition of ATV update and Badger Wind field access approaches. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Batsch motioned, seconded by Schumacher, to approve the January regular meeting minutes. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher motioned, seconded by Wald, to approve the auditor's list of vouchers prepaid during the months of January and February, vouchers payable for February as well as the following payroll vouchers: County General for \$45,810.12 VSO for \$822.00, E911 for \$425.00, Agent for \$2,940.00, and Highway Dept for \$16,498.33. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The following is a list of the vouchers with invoices attached which were authorized for payment by the Board:

16112-ND Dept of Emergency Services deobligation of FEMA funds.....\$51,307.66
 16113-Butler Machinery, coolant leak repair & engine and transmission work..15,441.70
 16114-RDO Equipment windowpane for 772GP grader546.38
 16115-ND Dept of Emergency Services deobligation of FEMA funds.....65,305.03
 16116-Blanche Schumacher, reimburse mileage95.70
 16117-Logan County Auditor, snow removal on FTM & FAS roads.....3,700.00
 16118-Martell's Carquest, fuel filters, clamps, tubing, batteries & spark plugs.....368.89
 16119-Sayler Implement, oil filter92.36
 16120-City of Lehr, water on empty lot & water, sewer & garbage at Lehr shop93.73
 16121-Martell's True Value, A/C foam.....7.49
 16122-Napoleon Oil Co., agent travel & gas for Napoleon shop91.92
 16123-Northside Napa, oil & clutch brake167.53
 16124-Josh Becker, reimburse 2 gas fills.....39.65
 16125-Rebeca Hulme, reimburse registration cost & meals.....48.00
 16126-E & H Communications, Ashley Tribune subscription55.00
 16127-Fireside Office Supplies, paper towels, office supplies126.87
 16128-ND Association of Counties, annual drug & alcohol testing fees.....1,058.40
 16129-Napoleon Homestead, newspaper subscription & printing minutes431.31
 16130-Farmers Union Insurance, Inland marine insurance premium.....9,998.00
 16131-Farmers Union Insurance, Auto Insurance premium.....21,227.00
 16132-North Dakota One Call 4 calls6.00
 16133-Farmers Union Insurance, General Liability Insurance premium-.....7,649.00
 16134-South Central Regional Water Dist., water at Napoleon shop.....44.60
 16135-Allied Energy, LP Heating, Lehr shop604.81
 16136-City of Gackle, water & garbage at Gackle shop.....40.50
 16137-ND Dept of Emergency Services, deobligation of FEMA funds12,080.72
 16138-Main Street Hardware, extension cord, batteries, spray paint, chain201.03
 16139-ND Dept of Emergency Services, deobligation of FEMA funds9,332.17
 16140-ND Dept of Emergency Services, deobligation of FEMA funds553.63
 16141-ND Dept of Emergency Services, deobligation of FEMA funds4,746.28
 16142-Ecolab, pest control Napoleon shop150.00
 16143-Ecolab, pest control Lehr shop150.00
 16144-Lehr Economic Development, 2026 Storage rent800.00
 16145-Avid Hawk, website setup & development.....400.00
 16146-MDU, Courthouse electricity1,505.55
 16147-Dakota Valley Electric Coop, Gackle shop electricity374.74
 16148-KEM Electric,250.00
 16149-KLJ Engineering engineering services for Burnstad road project...12,325.00
 16150-KLJ Engineering, engineering services for Blue Ball Twp project2,625.00
 16151-Quill Corporation, labels72.96
 16152-Pfeifle Chevrolet alignment on sheriff pickup unit 4381159.50
 16153-Central Dakota Frontier Coop, official travel & bulk fuel2,766.32
 16154-Dustin Hammond, reimburse residential internet February 202696.50
 16155-Information Technology Dept., WAN/VPN/ Office 365/Adobe1,089.20
 16156-Visa, headset for recorder's office119.99
 16157-Computer Express, monthly service contract January 2026 & Office 365900.00
 16158-Zimmerman Law, Printing 2025 1099s185.00
 16159-Advanced Business Methods, base rate & overage257.82
 16160-ND Association of Counties, Special Operations fund county share200.00
 16161-Quill corporation, office supplies124.73
 16162-NDEMA, Emergency Manager 2026 dues50.00
 16163-ND Sheriff's & Deputies Association, 2026 dues400.00
 16164-Central Dakota Six County Organization, 2026 membership dues280.00
 16165-Visa, postage for evidence10.19
 16166-Verizon, 5G mobile broadband54.01
 16167-BEK Communications, EOC TV & Internet122.25
 16168-Local's Convenience Center, sheriff & agent travel185.63
 16169-BEK Communications, phone service for several offices837.92
 16170-Gackle Coop Oil Co., sheriff travel, gas & shop supplies690.65
 16171-ESRI, annual subscription950.00

The monthly fund report, highway worker logs, and statements of fees were reviewed.

Committee reports were given. Batsch shared that Central Valley Heath's audit had been completed and one of the findings was that unauthorized overtime was paid out and they are looking into fraud.

Sean Kelly, KLJ Engineering, addressed the Board to provide funding updates and report on the progress of county projects. He reported that funding is not likely to be provided early for the Burnstad Road Project and is still on track for 2028. Mr. Kelly provided a preliminary engineering contract for repairing the "Turner" bridge. Schumacher motioned, seconded

by Wald, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the contract. All in favor, motion carried. Kelly also provided updates on the project in Blue Ball Township and will update the Board on what will be required for right of way acquisition at a later date.

Recorder/Clerk of Court, Laura Henry, informed the Board that her email had been hacked and that Jamie Nelson, Computer Express, was able to get the situation resolved in about two days. Nelson suggested that the county should have multifactor identification when staff log onto their computers in the morning and that it could be provided with no cost to the county. The Board agreed to the addition of the extra protection for the workstations.

The removal of the fuel tank containment shed on the courthouse grounds was discussed. It was agreed upon that the ground most likely will not be freezing any harder and the ground is just going to have to incur some damage while it is being removed.

Approval of updates to the employee handbook was tabled to the next regular meeting to allow more time for the Board to go through it. Schumacher suggested Kristiansen contact NDACo and NDIFR to see if they have HR staff that could go through it as well.

Schumacher motioned, seconded by Batsch, to amend Article 12, Amendment (01) of the Floodplain Management ordinance and hereby adopt floodplain regulations designed to promote public health, safety and general welfare of its citizenry and to also appoint Jody Kristiansen as the current Logan County Floodplain Administrator. All in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher provided an update on the asbestos status of the old Lehr shop and the former Sperling Service Station. As there was no asbestos present in the old shop building, Wald motioned, second by Schumacher, to have Commissioner Batsch contact the Lehr fire department to see if they would be interested in using it for a drill. All in favor, motion carried.

An abatement hearing for a homestead credit was held at 2:15pm for parcels 07079000 and 07076010 for tax year 2025. Wald motioned, seconded by Batsch, to approve the abatements. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher requested Walker advise the county regarding a permit from Bartlett West to install buried PVC pipeline on private property. Walker suggested they submit a utility permit and the county charge \$250 for the application fee, stating he felt it didn't fall under the industrial permitting parameters.

Schumacher motioned, seconded by Batsch, to purchase a used Summers Rock Picker from Ardell Ivanov in the amount of \$8,000. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Schumacher reported she received a response from Finn Township regarding the letter sent by the Board last month. She reported that the township agreed to allow the highway workers to provide road maintenance and snow removal on a more regular basis. The township was unsure how they would go about completing the requested road repairs. The Board suggested the township apply for grant funding. No response was received from Gutschmidt Township.

Kristiansen shared she received a call from Travis Jensen requesting assurance that he could still make section line improvements at his own expense so he could access his land without any permits. The Board affirmed that he could make the improvements at his expense, with no permit, as long as he stays within the county right of way for the section line.

Commissioner Batsch shared that the ATV has been cleaned up and is now at the Lehr shop.

Schumacher shared that Amanda Coletti, Orsted, got back to her and confirmed that wind tower field

access approaches can be left intact.

Three public comment cards were submitted, as per the county's policy. Paulette Jacobson addressed the Board via phone expressing safety concerns regarding the wind towers and requested the Board revise its ordinances and extend the setbacks for wind towers and to treat all housing the same and not differentiate between a primary residence or an unoccupied residence. Tim Rath addressed the Board with a request to amend the setbacks for wind towers in the zoning ordinances to three miles from any primary or secondary residence and two miles from the residence of a participating landowner. He also submitted a petition for zoning amendment with the same request. Frank Braun addressed the Board with a request to gravel a three-mile stretch on 27th Ave SE. He stated it was a minimum maintenance road and has only had spot graveling done over the last 50 years.

The Board agreed to look into zoning amendments and suggested the group of taxpayers present at the meeting could meet with the Board to provide feedback before the next meeting.

Risk manager, Lisa Weigel, met with the Board to inform them of the requirement of highway supervisors to take a course on reasonable suspicion and that a membership in the NDACE would be required to complete the course. Wald motioned, seconded by Batsch, to approve the \$50 membership fee. All in favor, motion carried. Wald agreed to take the course.

Batsch motioned, seconded by Schumacher, to approve the following building permits: Shanon Erbele - calf shelter; Brooks Becker - shophouse building. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher motioned, seconded by Batsch, to authorize the Chairman's signature on an agreement with Avid Hawk to update the county's website for ADA compliance and continued maintenance at a monthly cost of \$145. All in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher shared that she feels the county needs to adopt data center, solar and possibly battery storage ordinances. The Board agreed. Walker suggested the Board not be in such a rush to amend the wind tower setbacks and to take their time and complete the zoning amendments at one time instead of individually. The Board agreed.

Batsch motioned, seconded by Wald, to enter into a funding agreement for the 2027-2029 biennium to receive reimbursement for pro-

viding clerk of court services. All in favor, motion carried.

Schumacher motioned, seconded by Wald, to appoint Barbara Opp to the South Country Human Services Board for a three-year term that would end 12/31/2028. All in favor, motion carried.

Roads in Sealy Township were not discussed. The item was put on the agenda to allow Frank Braun the opportunity to speak.

Informative materials were handed out that included the accounts receivable report for the highway department, general accounts receivable report and information from NDACo regarding tractor leasing.

Schumacher shared a FEMA report regarding de-obligated funds, a possible section line safety concern, a memo she would like distributed to all county offices and a bridge inspection summary.

Schumacher stated she was approached by a taxpayer wanting to know who was responsible for appointing the economic development coordinator in Logan County and that two people have expressed interest in the position. Wald thought the JDA Executive Board was responsible for the appointment, but will check into it.

Kristiansen requested clarification on the overtime issues with Central Valley Health because Kristiansen has reminded the Board that the policy book states the highway workers and their supervisors are supposed to be signing off on the highway worker time sheets and all overtime is supposed to be signed off on individually as well and, even after several attempts by Kristiansen to get everyone to follow the policy – it is not being done. Kristiansen's concern is that the highway worker's overtime would be considered "unapproved" if the commissioners don't sign off on it and had concerns that the county could end up in the same situation. Batsch clarified that the person doing payroll for CVHD paid themselves unapproved overtime and the Board agreed that even if they don't sign off on the highway workers' timesheets, they would not accuse Kristiansen of paying out unapproved overtime.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11pm.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Logan County Commissioners will be held March 11, 2026, at 1pm.

John Wald, Chairperson
 Board of Logan County
 Commissioners

Attest:

Jody Kristiansen
 Logan County Auditor

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