

## Ransom County Commission

RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
Regular Meeting – August 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Todd Anderson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Greg Schwab, Neil Olerud, Kevin Bishop, and Todd Anderson. Also present from the Ransom County Gazette Lynn Kaspari via phone. Absent: Sye Olson.

Agenda – was reviewed. Bishop moved to approve the agenda with additions. Schwab seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

David Klein – with the Ransom County Housing Authority was on the phone regarding the Ransom County Housing Authority bank account. Klein needed Anderson to sign a new resolution to have David Klein added and to remove anyone at the Cass County Housing.

Darren Benneweis – Sheriff Benneweis and ND Highway Patrol Bryan Niewind appeared before the board to discuss scales for heavy trucks. Sheriff Benneweis is looking at purchasing scales for the county to weigh trucks to see if they are within the road weight limit. The ND Highway Patrol will provide the training if the sheriff's office gets the scales, which is a free training and certificates. Niewind recommends the county to get at least six scales. Benneweis would have all the deputies trained on how to use the scales. The cost for six brand new scales would be \$35,000. Benneweis is going to check with Barnes County to see if the scales they are not using can be purchased. If people are hauling on county roads they need a county permit, and if they are hauling on state roads, they need a state permit as well.

Coroner – Charlie Armstrong would like to step down from being the head coroner and Benneweis would like to become the head county coroner. He will have to attend a training to become the new coroner. The board will have to sign off on for Benneweis to become the new coroner. Bishop moved to approve Benneweis to become the coroner, and to have a letter to be drafted. Schwab seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Adam Schultz – will write a letter in correspondence to the environmen-

tal quality that Anderson received regarding the trailer house burning.

Fallon Kelly arrived at 10:00  
10:00 Bid Opening  
The county received a bid from Castle Rock for the Englevale/Fort Ransom shop. Castle Rock submitted a bid bond, contractor license, and bid for \$489,000. The completion date would roughly be between November 20, 2026 – December 1, 2026. Bishop moved to approve the bid from Castle Rock. Olerud seconded. Discussion was had. The board will need to look at where to pull the excess dollars from and potentially get a bond. Roll call: Schwab – yes, Olerud – yes, Bishop – yes, and Anderson – yes. Motion carried.

Fallon Kelly reviewed the current road haul agreement. The board would like to have a standard road haul agreement drawn up that can be more specific if they wish. The board is worried about the trucks destroying the roads. Kelly will draw up a couple drafts and present to the board.

Bryar Penberthy – provided a quote from Sandvig Construction regarding the front steps. The cost of the project is \$29,000. Penberthy is looking into grants, and ARPA funds can also be used. Bishop moved to approve the bid for redoing the front steps, pending the historical society. Schwab seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Joe Mathern – Mathern has been attending meetings regarding AI centers. Counties and League of Cities are trying to figure out ordinances for AI centers. Kelly is encouraging the board to use Ohnstad Twitchell to write up the ordinance. The county did a moratorium for 18 months to set ordinances in place. Ransom County can only zone the county and the zoning process will go through notices and public hearings. Fallon

Kelly suggests to hire a firm and have them come in to present some options.

Enderlin Lions Letter – submitted a letter to the board and would like to see a dedication to a sheriff that has passed away. By law the county can't make a donation. The only exception to that per Fallon Kelly is if it is a military/federal memorial donation.

Bills – were reviewed. Olerud move to approve the commission audit

listing in the amount of \$70,304.15. Seconded by Bishop. Discussion was had. All aye. Motion carried.  
BRI-TON 46.08  
CAMAS SAND & GRAVEL 72.45  
CHAMP SOFTWARE, INC.

15,376.00  
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOL-  
OGY 3,207.00  
DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC.  
1,196.77  
FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS, LTD  
810.00  
FAT MAN TRASH 225.75  
GENTZKOW, NICOLE 326.20  
GEYER, WYLIE 750.00  
HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES, INC. 193.73  
HEFTY SEED COMPANY

10,018.20  
HEGLE, KELSEY 194.68  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DEPT. 2,383.40  
JONES, CHELSEY 67.00  
KENYON, LARRY 10,000.00  
L&M CONTRACTORS 500.00  
LARSON, MEGHAN 434.08  
LEXISNEXIS MATTHEW BENDER  
325.99  
LISBON BODY SHOP 204.00  
LISBON TRUE VALUE 691.30  
NAPA PARTS SUPPLY-LISBON

68.59  
NEXUS 7,250.00  
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENER-  
AL-1250 770.00  
PLAINS GRAIN & AGRONOMY  
LLC 4,073.75  
PUKLICH CHEVROLET BUICK  
GMC 116.65  
QUAL, ANGELA 250.00  
QUILL CORPORATION 123.57  
RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE

714.96  
RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO 1,177.37  
RECORD KEEPERS, LLC 55.00  
RIPLINGER, PAUL 64.80  
SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT  
HEALTH UNIT 770.90  
SPRAYSYNC 800.00  
STUTSMAN COUNTY CORREC-  
TIONAL CENTER 1,100.00  
TRUENORTH STEEL 4,160.00  
VESTIS 40.66  
WELTON, BRENNIA 228.00  
WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE 50.00  
WEST SIDE AUTO BODY SHOP

607.00  
WEX HEALTH, INC. 75.00  
X-STREAM CLEAN CAR WASH  
LISBON 160.00  
ZEP SALES AND SERVICE 625.27

Total 70,304.15

ASSURITY 583.69  
 BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF  
 NORTH DAKOTA  
 51,675.95  
 COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT  
 INSURANCE 201.12  
 COMPANION LIFE 2,815.96  
 NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT  
 SOLUTIONS,PEBSO 9,425.90  
 ND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIRE-  
 MENT SYSTEM 32,559.77  
 NDPERS,GROUP LIFE INSUR-

ANCE 1,049.86  
 OFFICE OF STATE TAX COMMIS-  
 SIONER 929.00  
 STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT,ND  
 CHILD SUPPORT 427.49  
 UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPA-  
 NY OF AMERICA 556.50  
 WEX HEALTH, INC. 2,304.30  
 Total 102,529.54

Minutes – were reviewed. Bishop  
 moved to approve the August 4, 2026

minutes from the previous regular  
 scheduled meeting. Olerud seconded.  
 All aye. Motion carried.  
 Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab  
 to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 p.m.  
 All aye. Motion carried.

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