

Baesler confirmed to US Dept. of Education post and Chase to US attorney for North Dakota

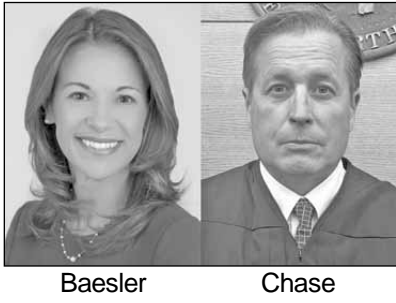
By Michael Achterling
North Dakota Monitor

North Dakota is about to lose its superintendent but gain a U.S. attorney after the U.S. Senate confirmed dozens of federal nominations Tuesday.

North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler was confirmed as the next assistant secretary of elementary and secondary education at the Department of Education. The Senate voted 51-47 to confirm more than 100 nominees.

Baesler was nominated to the position in February and was advanced out of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to the Senate floor in May.

Nicholas Chase was also confirmed as part of the U.S. Senate's approval vote on Tuesday and



Baesler Chase

will serve as the U.S. attorney for North Dakota. Chase served as a judge in North Dakota's East Central Judicial District with chambers in Fargo after being appointed to the position by then-Gov. Doug Burgum in 2022.

He was nominated for the position in May and was advanced to the Senate floor out of the Judiciary Committee in September.

North Dakota Republican

Sens. John Hoeven and Kevin Cramer supported the nominations.

Hoeven called Baesler's confirmation "long overdue."

"She will be a great partner as we work to both improve outcomes for students and return decision-making to the state and local levels," Hoeven said in a statement.

Cramer joined Hoeven in commending Chase's experience and background.

"Over his career, he has tried cases ranging from trafficking and child exploitation to fraud and money laundering, and will bring strong expertise to the role," the senators said in a joint statement.

In a social media post after his nomination, North Dakota Attorney General Drew Wrigley wrote that Chase was a "dedicated public

servant with deeply held constitutional and patriotic principles."

Chase had previously served for 20 years in North Dakota's U.S. Attorney's Office and rose to the rank of first assistant U.S. attorney and acting U.S. attorney. Jennifer Klemetsrud Puhl had been serving as acting U.S. attorney for North Dakota.

Terry Van Horn, spokesperson for the North Dakota U.S. Attorney's Office, said he didn't believe the government shutdown would affect a swearing-in ceremony for Chase.

In a statement last week, Baesler said she anticipated the federal government shutdown would delay the Department of Education's ability to administer her oath of office.

Baesler's new position comes during a time when Trump's ad-

ministration is trying to eliminate the Department of Education and send its programs to other federal agencies or back to the states to administer.

In May, the department announced it reduced the number of staff members at the department nearly in half before a federal judge temporarily blocked its reduction in force plan. The Supreme Court allowed the department's downsizing efforts to continue in a 6-3 decision in July.

It will be up to Gov. Kelly Armstrong to appoint a new superintendent once Baesler officially resigns. An election for the office will be held in 2026.

"It's a major win for North Dakota and the entire country when we send common-sense leaders like Superintendent Baesler to Washington – leaders who under-

stand that students and families are best served when we empower decision-making at the local level with guidance from the state and limited involvement from the federal government," Armstrong said in a statement Tuesday.

Baesler was reelected to her fourth, four-year term in 2024 and has served as the state's superintendent since 2013.

During last month's ceremony for North Dakota Teacher of the Year, Baesler said she was ready to get started at the department.

"I'm excited about going out there and doing the work for all of our nation's children," Baesler said.

Baesler said her actions on education in the state have been rooted in what is best for all children in North Dakota "regardless of their zip code."

Public Notice

City of Kenmare Council Meeting September 8, 2025

Call to order: Meeting called to order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7pm. Roll Call: Mayor Gartner, Jim Burud, Duane Dockter, Tim Nelson, Justin Patterson, Miles Mibeck. Also present: Allen Hall – Chief of Police, Rob Shelton – Public Works Director, Dominick Haux – Public Works, Tammy Knutson – Auditor, Marianne Nelson – Deputy Auditor, Josh Reiner & Mallory Donofry – Moore Engineering, Doug Diedrichsen (by phone) – Planning & Zoning and members of the public.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Burud. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Approval Meeting Minutes: Motion by Burud to approve September meeting minutes. Second by Patterson, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Planning & Zoning:

Public Hearing Resolution to Amend City Ordinance Chpt 6 – Fees: Public hearing opened by Mayor Gartner. Following no questions/comments from Council or the Public the Public Hearing was closed. Motion by Nelson to adopt the Resolution to amend City Ordinance Chapter 6 with immediate effect. Second by Mibeck. Roll call vote: Dockter – Y, Nelson – Y, Patterson – Y, Mibeck – Y, Burud – Y. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing Ingerson Preliminary Plat: Planning staff report presented to Council with a recommendation to approve the plat with no conditions. Public hearing opened by Mayor Gartner. Following no questions/comments from Council or the Public the Public Hearing was closed. Motion Dockter to approve the Preliminary Plat request as presented. Second by Nelson. Roll Call: Nelson – Y, Patterson – Y, Mibeck – Y,

Burud – Y, Dockter – Y. Motion carried unanimously.

Moore Engineering: Engineer's Report:

Water Main Construction update – Pipe bursting in the East/West alley off Division St. & the pipe boring by the school has been finished. CTPS started today & will continue through next week. Services will hopefully be restored by the end of next week with some service connection work continuing after that.

DWR funding Request #3 – This request will include just the engineering invoice as no construction invoices have been received. Motion by Burud to submit the funding request. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

CWSRF Questionnaire: Sanitary Sewer Improvements – Questionnaire is for Clean Water State Revolving Fund giving an overview of the USACE grant project saying we are going to be on the CWSRF project list for next year & eligible for funding. Also needed is a 'Non-Federal Sponsor's Self Certification of Financial Capability' document. Motion to sign the documents for CWSRF pertaining to the Sanitary Sewer Project by Dockter. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Holiday Train is scheduled for Dec 18th and will be the 27th Season it has stopped in Kenmare. Time of the event will be posted when the information becomes available. A Micro-Bakery will open in town Oct. 23rd next to the Food Pantry. The ND Envelope Company has been sold. Mayor Gartner has asked Superintendent Alex Hennix if there would be a student interested to take part in the City Government & attend council meetings. Some of the drainage work at the Firehall as been done but the drainage project is not complete. There will be a benefit for the family of Luke

Chandler at the Memorial Hall. Mayor Gartner asked if the council would consider waiving the rental fee. Motion by Patterson to waive the fee for the Chandler benefit. Second by Burud, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Financials:

Motion to approve September 2025 financials as presented by Burud. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Knutson requested that she transfer \$40,000 from the Credit Card account to the General checking account for interest earning benefits. Motion by Burud to make the transfer of \$40,000 from the Credit Card account to General checking. Second by Patterson, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Special Assessments: Knutson presented the list of properties that have special assessments for approval by the Council before she certifies them to the County. Motion by Mibeck to approve the listed Special Assessments. Second by Dockter, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Vet's Gaming Site Authorization change: Motion by Burud to approve the addition of poker at Beer Bob's. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Ward County Jail Contract: Motion by Burud to approve the contract with Ward County jail for boarding Kenmare inmates. Second by Dockter, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Pittsburg Tank & Tower Inspection: The water tower is past due on its inspection. Rob received a quote from Pittsburg Tank & Tower for \$2,125 for the needed inspection. Motion by Mibeck to accept the quote from Pittsburg Tank & Tower. Second by Nelson, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Personnel – Finance:

PD applicant: Previous applicant Austin Satcho was brought by Chief Hall for consideration by the committee. Motion by Patter-

son to make a conditional offer of employment to Mr. Satcho. Second by Burud. Roll Call: Patterson – Y, Mibeck – Y, Burud – Y, Dockter – Y, Nelson – N. Motion carried by majority.

Loan Reserve Funds: Knutson requested that the reserve funds required for the BND loan #10 reserve of \$26,468 and #11 reserve of \$62,750 as well as the amount needed for the 2025 Water Main DWSRF loan reserve be pulled from the 'Infrastructure Fund' specifically noted & put in separate CD's as these reserve amounts are not currently notated. Once the loans are paid off the funds can be returned to the Infrastructure Fund. Motion by Burud to pull BND 10 & 11 reserves now and 2025 Water Main DWSRF loan when the reserve amount is finalized from the Infrastructure Fund and invest in Certificates of Deposit. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Water – Sewer – It was brought to the attention of the committee that Duane Sandberg has been caretaking at the 'Welcome to Kenmare' sign in the corner of Hwy 52 & Division St, hauling water from his home in a tank to take care of the plants. The committee would like to reimburse him for his water usage. Motion by Dockter to give Mr. Sandberg a \$200 credit on his water bill. Second by Nelson, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Clerk of Court – September deposits include 24 Citations with deposit funds of \$1651.00

Police Dept – 95 calls for service including 35 traffic stops resulting in 32 citations

Public Works – Shelton wished to recognized Recon Oilfield Services & MW Industries for the help in capping the city water well. Their assistance was very much appreciated & saved the city substantial funds allowing Public Works to complete the project. He also informed the Council that they have been working on the bath house & are now waiting for materials. Haux has been working side by side with Shelton as well as working on the Water Meters that are not reading by replacing meters & smart points.

Auditor's Office – Nelson sent out 5 certified letters with a past due amount totaling \$2,344. She also mailed out 3 courtesy payment reminder letters. Knutson has pulled information for the DWSRF rate study, gathered the information needed for the Special Assessments among other items. Knutson received a request regarding the waiving of the Memorial Hall rental fee for the Vendor Show on Light up Night. Motion by Mibeck to waive the Memorial Hall fee providing everything is left in a clean state. Second by Patterson, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Knutson requested that the City Office be closed the day after Christmas this year. Christmas is on Thursday this year. Motion by Patterson to allow the Auditors Office to be closed Friday, December 26th. Second by Mibeck, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Bills: Bills were presented to the Council. Motion to pay the bills as presented by Mibeck. Second by Dockter, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Mibeck. Second by Nelson, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

MDU: Landfill.....	52.54
MDU: Memorial Hall.....	367.02
MDU: RV South.....	133.33
MDU: Water Tower.....	110.06
MDU: Street Lights.....	1,625.32
MDU: Warning Siren 219 5th Ave NE	36.73
MDU: Bath House and RV	154.18
MDU: Warning Siren, NW 9th St	36.82
MDU: Water.....	190.12
MDU: RV Original.....	303.57
Advanced Business Methods, copier lease	191.05
Arntson Stewart, Wegner PC, Bond Attorney, 2025 water main.	5,000.00
Carol Hanson, Oct. 2025 Hall cleaning.....	125.00
Circle Sanitation, City Acct	8,395.25
DXP, INV# 55396920	9,812.09
Farmers Union Hardware, Sept. Statement	650.27
Farmers Union Lumber, Sept. Stmt	1,353.40
Farmers Union Oil Co., City Acct	2,276.54
Farmers Union Oil Co., Police fuel	247.44
Farden Construction, Excavating RV Park & Well-Street Patching	5,538.10
First District Health Unit, Sept. water test	30.00
Jack & Jill Groceries, Sept. Statement	16.79

Jerry's Transfer Service, Sept. Water Delivery	24.00
Kenmare Park District, Sept. 2025 State Aid Payment ..	822.64
Kenmare News, Minutes, Public Notice	461.36
Maxson Law Office, PC, Review Ordinances	180.00
Moore Engineering, Inc. Inv. #SIN005143	21,733.50
North Country Merc., Blades & Filter	62.29
ND Department of Water Resources Sept. 2025 NAWS Water	16,656.57
ND Information Technology, PD Office 365 & Netmotion VPN Service	116.20
ND One Call Inc., Sept. 2025 One Call.....	46.05
Ralph's Plumbing, Pioneer Village sewer	679.00
Ralph's Plumbing, Library A/C	2,894.16
Sandberg Redi-Mix. Inv. 17042 & 17060	2,312.75
Schultz Property Maintenance, Campground Fertilizer	750.00
Raghorn Electric, Bath House Wiring	9,960.27
US Bank, Cusip 489098CQ4 Interest Payment	1,400.00
Verizon Wireless, Phone Service Acct 842630399	387.28
Visa, Visa Chrges	981.26
Ward County Auditor, Siren Payment 28 of 30	533.33
Total	99,777.29

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES:
25 Words/\$6.25 First Week; \$5 each succeeding week.
Additional Words: 25¢ First Week; 20¢ each following week.
\$1 extra fee for charging.
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS: \$7.00/Column Inch
DEADLINE: 5:00 pm, Monday.
Phone 701-385-4275 or email: news@kenmarend.com

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SERVICES

The Kenmare Theatre is available for Private Parties with your choice of movies. A great idea for birthdays or other parties. Also available for business meetings. Please contact Becky at 385-4263 for more information. If

FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY OF KENMARE

MEGA CLEAN-OUT SALE

WED, OCT 22 - SAT, OCT 25, 2025
8:00 AM - 5 PM

FUO is Selling Many Misc Items

- Ag- Flex-i-coil, New Holland, Briggs & Stratton, Morris and many other items
- C-Store- Display Stands, Kitchen Equip, Coolers, Freezer and More
- Misc- Generator, Ag & Service Books

Live Auction

TUES, OCT 28, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

Anhydrous Tanks & Parts, John Deere Drill, 2010 Dodge Pickup, Semi, Tractor Tires, Implement Tires, Light Truck/Passenger Tires, Machinery Hoist, Alignment Machine, Tire Balancer, Tire Machine (reverse only), Oil Truck, Fuel Trailer, Machinery Shovels, Shipping Container, Parts & Many Other Items

49211 Hwy 52 N
Kenmare, ND 58746
(701) 385-4277



Lunch avail at Auction
Chili & Hot Dogs

Free Will Donation
Proceeds to KHS Athletics

www.kenmarefarmersunion.com

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BILLS

Professional Solutions: Sept. Credit Card Fees

254.39

Clover: Credit Card POS.....29.95

Burke Divide Electric Co. Lift Stations

1,452.97

RTC (Main): Auditor, Cameras, Shop

615.70

RTC (PD) phone internet intox-iliz

259.62

MDU: Sewage Lagoon

277.48

MDU: Warning Siren 702 NE 2nd Ave

36.73

MDU: City Shop.....127.78

MDU: Warning Siren,109 3rd St. NW

36.89

FARM LAND FOR CASH RENT IN WARD COUNTY REE TOWNSHIP

Sec. 3 T157 N R87W - 155.85 acres
Sec. 8 T157 N R87W - 123.55 acres
Sec. 10 T157N R87W - 143.78 acres
Sec. 15 T157N R87W - 101.55 acres
Sec. 17 T157N R87W - 180.00 acres

704.73 total acres. One bid for entire parcel.

Bids must be postmarked by 10/17.
Top bidder will be notified.
We have the right to accept or reject bids.

Send Bids to:
Roger Johnson
418 1st Avenue NW
Kenmare, ND 58746

NOTICE - MOWING Ivanhoe Township

Notice to all landowners and tenants:
All road ditches must be mowed by October 15th, 2025. No swathing on road top allowed. If mowing is not done by October 15th, it will be hired done with cost assessed to taxes.

By Order of the Township Board
Kim Johnson, Clerk