

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING NELSON COUNTY COMMISSION
March 3, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cody Johnson. Roll call was taken and the following members were also present: Commissioners Doug Flaagan, Mike Haugland, Cameron Swenson and Aaron Mork. Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Amanda Klemetsrud joined the meeting to interview for the vacant Nelson County state's attorney position.

Discussion was had on candidate Amanda Klemetsrud. The commission took a brief recess to prepare for the next interview.

Josh Frey joined the meeting to interview for the vacant Nelson County state's attorney position.

Discussion was had on candidate Josh Frey.

The commission took a brief recess to prepare for the next interview.

Tim Lamb joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams to interview for the vacant Nelson County state's attorney position.

Discussion was had on candidate Tim Lamb.

Discussion was had on all state's attorney candidates.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to extend an offer to Josh Frey for the Nelson County state's attorney position.

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Swenson and seconded by Commissioner Mork to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Nathan Parks
Nelson County Auditor
Cody Johnson
Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NELSON COUNTY PARK BOARD
March 4, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cody Johnson with the following Park Board members also present: Doug Flaagan, Mike Haugland, Cameron Swenson and Aaron Mork. Also present via Microsoft Teams was Park Board member Dennis Fahey.

Moved by Park Board member Swenson and seconded by Park Board member Mork to approve the minutes for the February 18 meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Agenda additions -- None. Moved by Park Board member Mork and seconded by Park Board member Flaagan to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Public Comments -- None. Donna Rickford, campground manager, and Bud Pittenger, campground maintenance manager, joined the meeting to discuss campground business.

Angela Herda, emergency manager, joined the meeting to give an update on the storm shelter at Stump Lake Campground.

Moved by Park Board member Swenson and seconded by Park Board member Mork to pay the bills as presented: Devils Lake Journal -- \$286.00; Forum Communications -- \$260.00; Lakota American -- \$267.00; Lakota Sanitation -- \$8,400.00; ND Telephone Co. -- \$460.85; Nodak Electric Cooperative -- \$939.00; Tri-County Water -- \$206.00. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

There being no further business, moved by Park Board member Mork and seconded by Park Board member Haugland to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Nathan Parks
Secretary
Cody Johnson
Chairman
Nelson County Commission

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NELSON COUNTY COMMISSION
March 4, 2025 - 9 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cody Johnson. Roll call was taken and the following members were also present: Commissioners Doug Flaagan, Mike Haugland, Cameron Swenson and Aaron Mork.

Moved by Commissioner Swenson and seconded by Commissioner Mork to approve the minutes from the February 18 and 20 meetings. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda -- Emergency management and permit for hauling on County Road 22.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Public Comments -- None. Nathan Parks, auditor, presented a counter offer from Josh Frey on the open state's attorney position.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to accept the counter offer from Josh Frey for the open state's attorney position. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Discussion was had on funds from the Victim Witness Advocate Fund that were to be donated to Safe Alternatives for Abused Families (SAAF).

Moved by Commissioner Swenson and seconded by Commissioner Mork to donate \$4,000 to SAAF as previously motioned. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

A permit for Wild Prairie Pork hog barn to haul on County Road 22 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to approve the hauling permit on County Road 22. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Curt Loe, highway superintendent, joined the meeting to discuss road and bridge business and the Nelson County Road and Bridge Policy.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to advertise for bids for gravel and culverts with bid opening on April 1 at 9 a.m. at the regular county commission meeting. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Motor grader bids were discussed. Jayme Tenneson, state's attorney, joined the meeting to discuss the bids. It was advised that all bids be returned and bid opening re-advertised due to a communication error on when bids were due.

Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Mork to rebid for a motor grader with bid opening to be 9 a.m. on April 1 at the regular commission meeting. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

NDDOT Construction Resolution

for bridge projects was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to sign the NDDOT Construction Resolution for bridge projects. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Appointment to the Red River Regional Council was discussed to replace Steve Forde's spot on the council.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to appoint Cameron Swenson to the Red River Regional Council. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

The Nelson County Road and Bridge Policy was discussed. Dave Steffan, Nelson County Township Officer's Association, joined the discussion. Discussion was to move the gravel share of townships to 30% from 35% and crack seal on paved roads to 5% from 10%.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to approve the Nelson County Road and Bridge Policy as discussed. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Doug Straus, G & R Controls, joined the meeting to discuss the Court Facilities Grant.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to approve the cost of \$199,244 for courthouse improvements in conjunction with the Court Facilities Grant. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Angela Herda, emergency manager, joined the meeting to discuss the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to sign the local match letter for the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Swenson and seconded by Commissioner Mork to sign the letter of intent for the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

State's attorney business was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to sign the state's attorney resolution with Towner County. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to appoint Jayme Tenneson to serve as interim state's attorney until Josh Frey can take over the position. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Larry Johnson, Judy Sateren and Stephen Johnston joined the meeting to express concerns and possible solutions with the veterans service officer.

Michelle Linstad, tax director, joined the meeting to present abatements.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to approve the abatements for parcels 05-0000-01272-000, 05-0000-01273-000, 05-0000-01275-000, 05-0000-01276-001, 05-0000-01277-000, 05-0000-01278-000, 05-0000-01279-000, 05-0000-01286-000, 05-0000-01287-000, 05-0000-01287-800, 05-0000-01291-000, 14-0000-02817-000, 14-0000-02819-000 and 14-0000-02821-000. Commissioners Flaagan, Haugland, Swenson and Mork voted "yes." Commissioner Johnson abstained. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Flaagan and seconded by Commissioner Mork to approve the bills as presented. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Nathan Parks
Nelson County Auditor
Cody Johnson
Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NELSON COUNTY PARK BOARD
March 18, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cody Johnson with the following Park Board members also present: Dennis Fahey, Doug Flaagan, Mike Haugland, Harley Eidsness, Cameron Swenson and Aaron Mork.

Moved by Park Board member Mork and seconded by Park Board member Swenson to approve the minutes for the March 4 meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Agenda additions -- None.

Moved by Park Board member Swenson and seconded by Park Board member Mork to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Public Comments -- None. Café and bar business was discussed. Brandin Weninger joined the meeting to discuss interest in café and bar management.

Josh Frey, state's attorney, joined the meeting and discussed the process of executive session under NDCC 44-04-19.1(2) for attorney consultation. Dan Gaustad, Pearson Christensen PLLP, and Jayme Tenneson also joined the meeting for the executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Park Board member Mork and seconded by Park Board member Haugland to move into executive session under NDCC 44-04-19.1 (2) for attorney consultation. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Nelson County Park Board entered into executive session at 8:45 a.m. until 9:20 a.m. with no action taken.

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

There being no further business, moved by Park Board member Haugland and seconded by Park Board member Mork to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Nathan Parks
Secretary
Cody Johnson
Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NELSON COUNTY COMMISSION
March 18, 2025 - 9 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cody Johnson. Roll call was taken and the following members were also present: Commissioners Doug Flaagan, Mike Haugland, Cameron Swenson and Aaron Mork. Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Mork to approve the minutes from the March 3 and 4 meetings. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Additions to Agenda -- None. Moved by Commissioner Flaagan and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Public Comments -- None. Curt Loe, highway superintendent, joined the meeting to discuss road

and bridge business and the Nelson County Road and Bridge Policy.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to follow the state's load limits as they are put on. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Swenson and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to advertise for a heavy equipment operator position with the highway department. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Paul Bjornson, KLJ Engineering, joined the meeting to provide an update on projects.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Flaagan to approve signing the North Dakota DOT Construction Contract with Schroeder Construction, Inc. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Josh Frey, state's attorney, joined the meeting to give an update on state's attorney business.

Jesse Madche, chief deputy sheriff, joined the meeting to give an update on sheriff department business.

Nathan Parks, auditor, presented applications for beer and liquor licenses for the Rock Creek Clubhouse.

Moved by Commissioner Haugland and seconded by Commissioner Mork to approve the beer and liquor licenses for the Rock Creek Clubhouse. All members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Nathan Parks, auditor, presented a copier contract with Central Business Solutions.

Moved by Commissioner Flaagan and seconded by Commissioner Mork to approve signing the copier contract with Central Business Solutions. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

February financial statements were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to approve the February financial statements. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

The commissioners gave updates on their portfolios.

Discussion was had on replacing the roll-up door on the north side of the courthouse with a walk-in style door.

Moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to set a budget of \$2,000 to replace to roll-up door with a walk-in style door. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Flaagan and seconded by Commissioner Swenson to approve the bills as presented. On a roll call vote all members voted "yes." Motion carried.

ND Public Employees Retirement System ..	\$121,220.63
Internal Revenue	
Service	54,218.87
Marco, Inc.	757.56
Balco Unifirms	34.63
Farm & Home Publishers Ltd.	665.00
Elijah Goeltz	161.08
Casey Hillebrand	180.00
Jones School Supply Co.	120.50
Lakota Municipal Utilities	853.49
NDSPE Mathcounts	120.00
ODP Business Solutions	535.62
Quadiant	162.00
Farmers Union Lumberyard	94.19
Farmers Union Oil Co. DL	20,082.01
GF Welding	154.89
Mac's DL	68.99
Menards	1,121.03
Pomp's Tire Service	791.64
Skips NAPA Auto Parts ..	64.02
Valley Truck	602.52
Verizon Connect	165.38
Advanced Business Methods	167.71
City of McVillie	135.43
Farmers & Merchants Bank	1,622.95
LR Law Enforcement Center	270.00
NDSU Extension	408.22
Office of Attorney General-1250	328.00
Otter Tail Power Co.	2,181.09
Polar Communications ..	800.96
Traci Lagein	359.21
Tyler Technologies	2,880.00
Hamster Oil, LLC	83.64
Klemetsruds Plumbing & Heating	26.16
The Duke's	64.00
Creative Planning	195.84
Information Technology Dept.	1,270.20
Premium Waters	224.86
SAAF	4,000.00
Lakota American	474.00
Jon McLean	372.15
NDACo Resource Group	43,308.52
Gwyneth Wieler	25.00
Axon Enterprises, Inc. ...	231.80
D & M Service	10.00
H. A. Thompson & Sons	1,450.00
Nodak Electric Co-op.	345.00
City of Michigan	76.18
NAPA DL	60.95
RDO Truck Center	258.05
Fire Bug Services, LLC .	587.18
Hero Industries, Inc.	2,525.00
ND Association of Counties	247.60
ND DOT	797.41
NDSU	121.00
ND Telephone Co.	166.57
Nelson County	115.18
Verizon Wireless	611.51
Lakota Feed	32.00
Total	\$269,007.42
County General Net Salary	\$63,403.05
Road & Bridge Net Salary	46,304.41
Human Services Net Salary & Exp.	119,713.81
Weed Control Net Salary & Exp.	2,255.83
Total	\$231,677.10
Grand Total	\$500,684.52

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Mork and seconded by Commissioner Haugland to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "yes." Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Nathan Parks
Nelson County Auditor
Cody Johnson
Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

How time outdoors can benefit mental health

Nature beckons billions of people to get outside every day. Natural settings are not called "the great outdoors" for nothing, and nature enthusiasts may insist there's nothing better than a day in the elements.

Such a sentiment may be more accurate than the most ardent outdoorsman realizes. In fact, the American Psychological Association notes that extensive research supports the notion that nature provides myriad physical and psychological benefits.

Nature can help with attention. A 2019 study published in the journal *Current Directions in Psychological Science* found that exposure to natural environments improves working memory, cognitive flexibility and attentional control. On the flip side, the study found that exposure to urban environments can be linked to attention deficits. Such findings echo conclusions from an experimental study conducted in 2015 by researchers in Australia.

That study engaged students



in a dull task to compromise their attention. Midway through the task, which involved pressing a computer key when certain numbers flashed on a screen, some students were asked to look out at a flowering green while others were directed to gaze at a concrete rooftop. Students who looked at the green made notably fewer mistakes with the computer screen task than those who looked at the concrete rooftop.

Nature can increase happiness. Some findings suggest time spent in nature also can

lead to increases in happiness. A 2019 study published in the journal *Science Advances* found that contact with nature is associated with increases in happiness and subjective well-being. The researchers also found that contact with nature is associated with an increased sense of meaning and purpose in life.

Time outdoors may lower children's risk for mental health disorders later in life. Researchers in Denmark used satellite data to assess more than 900,000 individuals born between 1985 and 2003. The researchers discovered that children who lived in neighborhoods with more green space had a lower risk of various psychiatric disorders later in life. Risk for depression, mood disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders, and substance use disorder were found to be lower among children who grew up with greater access to green space than children who had the lowest levels of green space exposure.

-metrocreativeconnection

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Apron & Taxilane Reconstruction, Taxiway Rehabilitation & Widening Lakota Municipal Airport Lakota, North Dakota AIP Project No. 3-38-0080-022-2025

Sealed bids, subject to the conditions contained herein, for improvements to the Lakota Municipal Airport, Lakota, North Dakota, AIP Project No. 3-38-0080-022-2025 will be received by the Lakota Municipal Airport Authority at the Mead & Hunt Fargo Office, 2505 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Fargo, North Dakota, 58102, until **11 a.m. local time on April 24, 2025**, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

Project work consists of but is not limited to the following:

Bid Schedule 1: Apron Reconstruction (AIP Eligible) will consist of pavement removal, pavement reclamation, excavation, grading, subgrade preparation, aggregate base construction, asphalt paving, pavement marking, seeding, and electrical construction.

Bid Schedule 2: Apron Reconstruction (AIP Ineligible) will consist of pavement removal, subgrade preparation, aggregate base construction, and asphalt paving.

Bid Schedule 3: Taxiway Rehabilitation and Widening will consist of milling of asphalt pavement, excavation, grading, subgrade preparation, aggregate base construction, asphalt paving, pavement marking, grading, seeding, and electrical construction.

Alternate #1: West Taxilane Rehabilitation will consist of pavement reclamation, aggregate base construction, asphalt paving, pavement marking, grading, and seeding.

Bid schedules 1, 2, and 3 will be awarded with a combination of one or none of the alternate schedule(s). Construction for this project shall be completed by October 31, 2025, for all bid schedules and alternate.

The complete set of Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents can be obtained for a non-refundable fee of \$200.00 at the office of Mead & Hunt, Inc. located at 2505 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Fargo, ND 58102 or may be downloaded for a fee of \$25 at <http://www.hubexo.com/#9612293>. Those wishing to download the bidding documents electronically, do so at their own risk for completeness of the bidding documents.

Each bid must be accompanied by a separate envelope containing the contractor's license and bid security. The bid security must be in a sum equal to five percent of the full amount of the bid and must be in the form of a bidder's bond. A bidder's bond must be executed by the bidder as principal and by a surety, conditioned that if the principal's bid is accepted and the contract awarded to the principal, the principal, within ten days after notice of the award, shall execute a contract in accordance with the terms of the bid and the bid bond and any condition of the governing body. If a successful bidder does not execute a contract within the ten days allowed, the bidder's bond must be forfeited to the governing body and the project awarded to the next lowest responsible bidder.

The airport reserves the right to reject any and all bids and rebid the project. No bid will be read or considered if the bid does not fully comply with the bidding requirements. Deficient bids will be resealed and returned to the bidder.

The award of the contract is subject to approval of the Federal Aviation Administration and availability of federal funding. See instruction to bidders for additional information. The following Federal Provisions are required:

Affirmative Action Requirement, 41 CFR Part 60-04 & Executive Order 11246

Buy American Preference (49 USC § 50101; Executive Order 14005; Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Pub.

L No. 117-58); Build America; Buy America (BABA))

Civil Rights - Title VI Assurance, 49 USC 47123 & FAA Order 1400.11

Davis Bacon Act, (2 CFR Part 200, Appendix II (D); 29 CFR Part 5; 49 USC § 47112 (b); 40 USC § 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147)

Debarment and Suspension, (2 CFR Part 180 (Subpart B); 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix II(H); 2 CFR Part 1200; DOT Order 4200.5; Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)

Disadvantage Business Enterprise, 49 CFR Part 26

Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 USC § 201, et seq & 2 CFR § 200.430

Foreign Trade Restriction, 49 USC § 50104 & 49 CFR Part 30

Lobbying and Influencing Federal Employees, (49 CFR Part 20, Appendix A; 31 USC § 1352 - Byrd

Anti-Lobbying Amendment; 2 CFR part 200- Appendix II(I))

Procurement of Recovered Materials, (2 CFR § 200.323; 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix II (J); 40 CFR Part 247; 42 USC § 6901, et seq (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)))

Government wide Requirements for Drug free Workplace, (49 CFR Part 32; Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 USC § 8101-8106, as amended)

The full text of the above provisions can be found in the bid documents or will be provided by request.

Any questions regarding bids are to be directed to:

Mead & Hunt, Inc.
Address: 2505 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Fargo, ND 58102
Phone: 1-701-566-6450

Advertised on: April 3, 10 and 17, 2025

Call
247-2482
to Advertise