

ADAMS COUNTY

Commission Proceedings

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS OF  
ADAMS COUNTY,  
NORTH DAKOTA  
NOVEMBER 10, 2025

The Board of Adams County Commissioners met in regular session with the following present: Dustin Laufer, Kevin Pagel, and Steven West.

Chairman Dustin Laufer called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

OCTOBER 14, 2025. MINUTES: Commissioner West moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented, second by Commissioner Pagel; and by unanimous vote. Motion carried

AGENDA: Commissioner Pagel moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

OFFICE FEES: Fees collected by county officers were paid to the Auditor/ Treasurer for Road and Bridge \$50,763.48

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 11, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. as the next meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: financials were reviewed.

ROAD WORK DISCUSSION: Several items within the road department were discussed, Country Club Road, Black and Blue Road, Lemmon Road, several praises and complaints on each road had been reported over the last month. Discussion was also had on the need to work with Road Department Superintendent, Blade, to start the process of obtaining CDLs so they would all be ready for the next busy season. The department also needs to look into training opportunities for both supervisor and road work.

MOBILE HOME ABATEMENT APPLICATIONS: from Cynthia Larson and Nathan Wolff were reviewed, Commissioner West moved to approve both abatement applications, second by Commissioner Pagel, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

2026 ELECTION PRECINCT-HOURS & ELECTION INSPECTOR DESIGNATION: Commissioner West moved to approve Adams County as vote by mail and one polling location of the Adams County Courthouse with hours from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. with Mr. Loren Luckow as the Inspector, giving Auditor Faller any control for other appointments, if needed, for the 2026 Primary and General Elections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pagel, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

2025 ADAMS COUNTY WEED BOARD COST SHARE APPLICATIONS: Commissioner Pagel moved to approve the 37 cost share applications in the amount of \$26,535.62 as approved by Adams County Weed Control Officer, Kellie Timm; second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

ADAMS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGER: Michele Gaylord met with the Commission and gave updates from her department. Updates on funding reimbursement and grant award for Courthouse security were topics discussed. Generator maintenance discussion was had, as the road department was worried about getting the annual maintenance completed with limited employees. Ms. Gaylord was trying to work on contractors for maintenance, possibly Denny's Electric. The back room at the EOC office is full of old tanks and garbage and wondered if a load could be taken to the landfill. Commissioner West volunteered to help go through stuff. The old generator could be taken apart and removed as well. Commissioner West moved to approve the removal of the generator and its equipment, second by Commissioner Pagel, and by unanimous vote; motion carried. Commissioner Laufer will work on this project this winter. Ms. Gaylord will also get some

remaining bedding hauled to the Armory, as the building is designated as the county shelter. Discussion was had on the Government shutdown. The Great Plains Food truck will be here tomorrow. The fire panel in the EOC has been fixed and working correctly now. A contract from Denny's Electric in the amount of \$1,100.00 for generator maintenance, \$350 will be for the hospital generator, with the remainder on the Courthouse complex generator maintenance. Commissioner West moved to approve the contract, second by Commissioner Pagel, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

ADAMS COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: Aspen Lenning met with the Commission to update from her department. Ms. Lenning attended a class on mental health last week and shared her delight in what she learned. Several other classes are planned for the beginning of the upcoming new year. Ms. Lenning discussed changes in chemical/pesticide application trainings that were changed by Legislation, including a fee change.

ADAMS COUNTY LIBRARIAN: Lanae Kristy met with the Commission to give updates on her department. Ms. Kristy has a book vendor who has closed, so she plans to do most of her purchases through Amazon now, this may be an increase in workload to the Auditor's office. Another plan would be to get a library credit card; this might make it easier to track the expenses for Ms. Kristy. Commissioner Pagel moved to approve the Adams County Librarian to get a credit card for library purchases, second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote; motion carried. Ms. Kristy and the Auditor will work together on this.

ADAMS COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT: Justin Blade met with the Commission to share updates with his department. Discussion was had on encroachment issues within the county. The Commissioner discussed several complaints over the last month on encroachment complaints of tilling/farming into a section line. The complaints are against land farmed and owned by Devan Laufer, the encroachment issue is discussed in Century Code 24-07-01, and states what qualifies as a public highway. Another couple areas were also discussed. Discussion was had on encroachment issues into ditches along the highway. Century Code 24-06-27explains the damages, fines, and penalties of such encroachments. If the issue arises in an Organized Township, the Township has the right to press charges on the problem. Mr. Blade has his crew mowing bridges today and a little mowing clean-up before snow falls. Blading by Brad Ehlers is lacking near the bridge, the department will work on this area. The crew is starting to prepare for winter, but the nice weather is allowing continued road blading. There is a mile long section of road in North Lemmon that needs gravel yet, so that is planned for this week as well. Signage was discussed for Overhead Road, as the Commission was requested to add signs along the road by individuals. The Road department does not have any signs in their inventory, but could order some, it was unknown what the signs should read. People just need to slow down and obey the speed limit. Discussion was had on Haynes Road, a couple complaints came in over the last week. It may be a little rough, but it wasn't known exactly what the issue was, Grant Miller planned to come in for discussion but did not show up. Discussion was had on the need to find training, Mr. Blade will work at getting this accomplished, but these courses are normally scheduled in early Spring. Discussion was had on the CDL statuses. All 3 have the permits but need to get

the weeklong course completed and then apply for the license, the weeklong class is located in Bismarck. Commissioner Pagel and West discussed more local options, Dickinson and possibly right in Hettinger. The Commission requested to have an end date of February to get the task accomplished by all three. The Commission shared their gratitude of what Mr. Blade has accomplished and how they enjoy his demeanor and his open communication with the Commission as well as public. Discussion was had on some online courses for Supervision and management.

RIGHT OF WAY APPLICATION: submitted by Wayne Volk was reviewed for a new approach to be located on 5<sup>th</sup> St NE (Section 3 in Scott Twp) the approach will be constructed on top of a hill and will not require a culvert. The work will be completed by Todd Christman. Commissioner Pagel moved to approve the request per recommendation of Road Superintendent, Blade, second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote; motion carried.

BROSZ ENGINEERING: Lucas Doerr met with the Commission. Brosz Engineering will work on surveying gravel pit locations to measure the remaining piles for inventory purposes. Mr. Doerr discussed the couple road projects. Discussion was had on a mailbox location. Mr. Doerr explained the mailbox is located within the guidelines set out by the postal service. A couple of areas need attention on Country Club Road around the Adams County fair ground location. Two pay applications are available today, one for Country Club Road and one for Black and Blue Road, the 1% retainage money will remain to be paid once both roads have been accepted by the Commission. The pay application for Country Club Road is in the amount of \$251,764.80 and is coming under the original budget. The pay application for Black and Blue Road is in the amount of \$75,638.80, this project is also coming under the original budgeted amount as well. Commissioner West moved to approve the pay applications, second by Commissioner Pagel, and by unanimous vote; motion carried. Commissioner Pagel moved to approve the pay application for Black and Blue Road, second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote; motion carried. Both projects have a 1% retainage money to pay yet. The bridge project bid opening is still planned for December 12, 2025, the County will not have anything to do with this, as the State will complete all this online. Discussion was had on a different type of road surface that Commission found at the NDACO conference.

SHERIFF FISHER: met briefly with the Commission for any updates from his department. Mr. Fisher shared information on his new Deputy, Mr. Cody Bradley, and will attend the Academy in February. Discussion was had on the remaining Explorer that the transmission was blown up. Sheriff Fisher will work on obtaining quotes to see if it should be fixed or sell on bids. Sheriff Fisher thought it would also be nice to keep for travelling to and from training.

STATE'S ATTORNEY: Aaron Roseland met with the Commission for any questions. Discussion was had on encroachment and planting into roads or ditches. Century Code was researched on penalties and how Mr. Roseland interprets the statute. Mr. Roseland shared happenings in his department and was happy to announce his department has been pretty quiet. Discussion was had on the multiple calls on deer hunter complaints, parking on roadways was a major issue over the opening deer hunting weekend.

NDACO DISCUSSION: items learned from this year's conference were discussed. Commissioner West discussed what he learned on funding opportunities he learned about at the conference. Flex funding money is only available for Townships that levied 18 mills, this is also the case for Prairie

Dog Funding as well. There is currently 5 Townships in Adams County that have not levied the full 18 mills and will not receive the funding. Funding changes within this last year's legislative session were discussed, as several changes were put into bills and not a lot of information was shared.

BILLS: Commissioner Pagel moved the following bills to be paid, Second by Commissioner West, and by unanimous vote. Motion carried. Kevin Pagel ..... \$210.00 Krista Faller ..... \$119.00 ND Secretary of State ..... \$125.00 Katie Roseland ..... \$130.50 Vanguard Appraisals, Inc ..... \$9,062.50 Aqua Pure Inc..... \$1,389.49 Dakota Dust-Tex Inc. .... \$286.20 Johnson Controls, Inc ..... \$2,729.00 Northwest Iron Fireman, Inc ..... \$1,801.00 Rolling Plains Sprinklers ..... \$154.00 Convergint Technologies LLC ..... \$720.00 Wex Health, Inc ..... \$47.25 Quadient Finance USA Inc ..... \$78.71 Information Technology Dept ..... \$1,145.35 Northern Fire & Safety ..... \$244.25 B & C Plumbing & Heating ..... \$1,419.85 AT & T Mobility ..... \$491.65 Stecher Industries ... \$1,700.00 Cenex Fleet Fueling .. \$737.75 Office of Attorney General – 1250 ..... \$250.00 Jordan Fisher ..... \$90.00 West River Health Services ..... \$117.00 Brosz Engineering ..... \$28,587.50 Southwest Water Authority ..... \$72.43 Lakeside Auto Body & Glass ..... \$3,542.29 Auto Value Hettinger .... \$21.99 Laufer Vermeer ..... \$576.16 Propoint Cooperative ..... \$9,583.13; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc ..... \$476.49 Martin Construction Inc. .... \$327,403.60 RDO Equipment ..... \$960.00 Frank Fettig ..... \$620.80 Aspen Lenning..... \$187.60 The Current Connection ..... \$197.78 Eido Printing ..... \$240.00 Graphic Designs & Printing ..... \$554.95 Michael Schmaltz ..... \$369.56 Roseland & Melling Law ..... \$188.8 Lanae Kristy ..... \$141.65 Demco ..... \$484.97 Kellie Timm ..... \$1,198.02 Computer Express ..... \$2,092.95 Consolidated Communications ..... \$1,118.97 GS Publishing ..... \$853.06 J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ..... \$1,736.18 Hettinger City ..... \$435.97 Montana Dakota Utilities ..... \$2,413.63 ND State Treasurer ..... \$198.64 Runnings Supply, Inc ..... \$418.21 Slope Electric Cooperative ..... \$148.47 Verizon Wireless ..... \$85.14 Brimdale Farms ..... \$2,500.00 Neil Brown ..... \$2,500.00 Eugene Burrer ..... \$1,136.81 Randy Burwick ..... \$53.30 Ann Christman ..... \$69.60 Bill Christman ..... \$370.53 Don Howe Family Surface Trust ..... \$1,303.03 Alan Earsley ..... \$352.00 Jared Eggebo ..... \$178.64 Cole Ehlers ..... \$1,104.00 Earl Ehlers ..... \$221.06 Bruce Erickson ..... \$277.90 Vern Erickson ..... \$1,533.38 Rick Herbel ..... \$1,056.00 Jeremy Huether ..... \$1,260.80 JM Farms ..... \$44.40 K & K Farms ..... \$231.80 Lance Ketterling ..... \$184.00 Anthony Larson ..... \$438.02 Monty Larson ..... \$1,827.56 Dennis & Mike Markegard ..... \$284.40 Tim Milliren ..... \$187.97 Stan Murphy ..... \$264.00 Glen Nelson ..... \$756.00 Howard Nelson ..... \$1,036.00 Scott Nelson ..... \$254.00 Lynn & Lori Pagel ..... \$600.00 Barbara Rose ..... \$277.90 Carter Schnell ..... \$169.60 Wayne Seamands ..... \$222.00 Mike Smolnikar ..... \$111.00 Wayne Strand ..... \$400.00 Wayne Thompson ..... \$876.03 Christopher Upton ..... \$463.16 Sean Weinert ..... \$88.80 Bonnie Williams ..... \$1,777.94

Scott Zimmerman .... \$2,124.00 Galls Inc ..... \$401.65 Marco Technologies LLC ..... \$340.77 October Payroll ..... \$86,997.01 Discussion was had on the privacy fencing slats payment is only half, with the remaining half being paid by the Hettinger City Council. Commissioner West will meet with the Council on Wednesday.

PUBLIC

Notice

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF ADAMS  
Credit Bureau of Bismarck Inc.,  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
ETHAN S DAUGHERTY,  
Defendant.  
CIVIL NO. 01-2025-CV-00112

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the Complaint in this action, which is herewith served upon you, by serving upon the undersigned an answer or other proper response within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
September 9, 2025  
/s/ Thomas W. Severin  
Thomas W Severin #08827 / tom@severinlawfirm.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
PO Box 161  
Bismarck ND 58502-0161  
Telephone: 701-355-6652

This is an attempt to collect a debt, any information obtained will be used for that purpose. This communication is from a debt collector.  
*Published 12/11, 18, 25*

PUBLIC

Notice

Aaron Roseland (#06630)  
Melling & Roseland Law, PC  
602 Adams Ave, Ste 101  
Hettinger, North Dakota 58639  
(701) 567-2418  
[roseland@mrlawpc.net](mailto:roseland@mrlawpc.net)  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF ADAMS  
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
Case No.  
In the Matter of the Estate of DENNIS GENE ECKSTROM, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to MARY S. VOLKMANN, Personal Representative of the estate, at the address shown below, or filed with the Court. Dated this 5th day of December, 2025.  
/s/ Mary S. Volkmann  
Mary S. Volkmann  
4315 S. 175<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Omaha, NE 68135  
Aaron Roseland (#06630)  
Melling & Roseland Law, PC  
602 Adams Ave, Ste 101  
Hettinger, North Dakota 58639  
(701) 567-2418  
Sheri Uecker  
Adams County Clerk of Court  
602 Adams Ave, Ste 202  
Hettinger, North Dakota 58639  
(701) 567-2460  
*Published 12/11-18-24*

Commissioner West moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Commissioner Pagel, Chairman Laufer declared the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.  
/s/Dustin Laufer  
Dustin Laufer, Chairman  
/s/Krista Faller  
Krista Faller,  
Auditor/Treasurer  
*Published December 18, 2025*

PUBLIC

Notice

Erin Melling (#07860)  
Melling & Roseland Law, PC  
1409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Belle Fourche, SD 57717  
(605) 723-1659  
[melling@mrlawpc.net](mailto:melling@mrlawpc.net)  
Attorney for Personal Representative

IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF ADAMS  
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
Case No. 01-2025-PR-00019  
In the Matter of the Estate of ARLENE J. WALCH, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Terry Walch, Personal Representative of the estate, at the address shown below, or filed with the Court. Dated this 1st day of December 2025.  
/s/Terry Walch  
15715 West Melvin St  
Goodyear, AZ 85338  
Erin Melling (#07860)  
Melling & Roseland Law, PC  
1409 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Belle Fourche, SD 57717  
(605) 723-1659  
Sheri Uecker  
Adams County Clerk of Court  
602 Adams Ave Suite 202  
Hettinger, North Dakota 58639  
(701) 567-2460  
*Published 12/4,11,18*

PUBLIC

Notice

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF ADAMS  
Credit Bureau of Bismarck Inc.,  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
ETHAN S DAUGHERTY,  
Defendant.  
CIVIL NO. 01-2025-CV-00112

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:  
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the Complaint in this action, which is herewith served upon you, by serving upon the undersigned an answer or other proper response within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
September 9, 2025  
/s/ Thomas W. Severin  
Thomas W Severin #08827 / tom@severinlawfirm.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
PO Box 161  
Bismarck ND 58502-0161  
Telephone: 701-355-6652

This is an attempt to collect a debt, any information obtained will be used for that purpose. This communication is from a debt collector.  
*Published 12/11, 18, 25*