

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BENSON COUNTY NORTH DAKOTA March 3, 2026

The Benson County commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 8 a.m. in the commissioner room of the Benson County Courthouse, Minnewaukan, ND. Commissioners present: Doris M. Griffin, Ron Stadum and Tammy Kuk. Dick Horner was present via Teams. David Davidson was absent. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Griffin. Other people present: Kelly Glover, Benson County Farmers Press; James P. Wang, Benson County state's attorney; Randy Weed, Marla Jones; Scott Todahl, DEM and highway superintendent; and Joy Orvedal, highway department clerk.

Davidson came to the meeting and took over as chair. A motion was made by Griffin, seconded by Stadum, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of Feb. 17, 2026. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

Scott Todahl, DEM and highway superintendent, met with the board to give a report for the highway department. Morris Holen Jr. and Jesse Brandvold, Wold Engineering, were present at this time to discuss the proposed chip-seal and paving projects. Todahl stated funding is available for the project. A motion was made by Griffin, seconded by Kuk, to approve the project and sign the proposed preliminary and construction engineering services agreement. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kuk, seconded by Griffin, to have Bonnie Erickson, Dick Horner and Scott Todahl serve on the RFP committee for project SC-0341(001) – PCN 24678. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

Todahl discussed a complaint received in which a blade operator was throwing gravel into the ditch while blading. Todahl stated he addressed the complaint with the blade operator.

Sheriff Wanzek met with the board to give her sheriff's report. The board discussed entering into an agreement with NCCP for SO grant applications. A motion was made by Griffin, seconded by Horner, to enter into the contract with NCCP. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

Wanzek discussed the issue of hiring deputies for her office. Wanzek requested that extra pay for full-time Benson County deputies employed in her office that work vacant shifts be increased from \$22 per hour to \$30 per hour until she is more fully staffed. A motion was made by Griffin, seconded by Horner, to allow the increase to \$30 per hour as requested. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

The board reviewed reports for time spent and calls received from the cities within Benson County presented by Wanzek.

Wanzek discussed ordering a new patrol vehicle for her department. She stated the vehicle she is looking at is the bid from Devils Lake Cars in Devils Lake, ND for a Dodge Durango. A motion was made by Horner to approve the purchase of a new patrol vehicle from Devils Lake Cars. Griffin seconded Horner's motion. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

The public comment period was held. Jones stated she brought in a letter a couple of meetings ago and stated she hasn't received any response back. Jones questioned when she can expect to receive a response back. Weed questioned Wanzek why the temporary deputies are getting burned out. Jones stated she believes there is potential for hiring employees from other states. The bid opening was held for the

sale of Lots 6 and 7, Sheltered Bay Subdivision, Sec. 30-153-63. One bid was received for the property in the amount of \$500. A motion was made by Stadum, seconded by Kuk, to accept the bid. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

The board reviewed a contract for janitorial services for BCEC contract cleaning. The new contract asked for an increase from \$20 per hour to \$22 per hour. A motion was made by Kuk, seconded by Griffin, to approve the contract. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

Randy Thompson, tax director, met with the board regarding a proposed five-year property tax exemption for a business in the city of Leeds for parcel #43-0020-10479-020. Thompson stated it is a welding business in the industrial park. Thompson stated the proposal has been published accordingly. A motion was made by Griffin, seconded by Stadum, to approve the exemption. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

The bid opening was held for the sale of the 2019 silver Dodge Durango used by the sheriff's department. One bid was received in the amount of \$557. A motion was made by Horner, seconded by Griffin, to accept the bid and allow the title for the vehicle to be signed over to the new purchaser accordingly. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

The board reviewed and discussed the monthly county bills. A motion was made by Kuk, seconded by Stadum, to pay all county-approved bills. All members voted yes. The motion carried unanimously. The following bills were paid:

CenDak Cooperative	\$2,310.46
Farmers Union Oil Co.	1,417.56
Farmers Union Oil	
--York	354.32
Les Schwab Tire Ctr.	52.98
Little Falls Machines, Inc.	741.19
Northern Plains Elec.	63.00
Otter Tail Power Co.	578.42
Robert & Dennette	
Buckmier	20,670.00
Runnings Supply, Inc.	240.29
Thomas & Matthew Gilbertson	430.00
Bravera Bank-Visa	1,732.96
CenDak Cooperative	
--Maddock	1,241.32
Cole Papers	51.81
Danny Ray Domben	1,000.00
Dukes Car Wash	
& Detail Center, Inc.	249.95
Farmers Union Oil	
--York	176.80
JB Vending, LLC	92.05
LR Sheet Metal	591.13
ND Telephone Co.	1,150.63
Northern Plains Elec.	85.88
Otter Tail Power Co.	3,451.80
Prairie Public	230.00
Redwood Toxicology	
Laboratory	33.62
WEX Bank	2,800.56
AT&T Mobility	206.44
ND Weed Control Assn.	285.00
Otter Tail Power Co.	44.09
Aflac	1,187.94
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	2,966.60
Colonial Insurance	241.63
First Unum Life Insurance Co.	306.06
National Life Group	
One	450.00
B & J Excavating	701.90
Mac's Hardware	265.53
Nodak Electric Co-op	569.24
Otter Tail Power Co.	514.47
At-Scene, LLC	2,265.00
Devils Lake Hardware	192.20
Guardian Fleet Safety	2,427.92
JB Vending, LLC	99.54
Mac's Hardware	27.96
Plunkett's Pest Control	92.00
Ramada by Wyndham	
Bismarck	110.00
Ramsey Co. Sheriff	34.46
Verizon	397.75
Tasc--Automatic	
Withdrawal	585.00
Trevispay--Walmart	156.00
Butler Machine	959.37

City of Esmond	25.00
City of Maddock	153.18
NAPA Auto Parts	52.90
Dennis Weed	100.20
Information Technology Dept.	548.90
Information Technology Dept.	1,400.45
Bergstrom Electric, Inc.	515.00
Thomson Reuters	
--West	462.21
Leeds Community Ctr.	50.00
BC Farmers Press	553.72
Rieger Service	228.41
LR Law Enforcement Center	9,037.59
LR Residential Re-Entry Center	275.00
Laura Winson	75.00
Samantha Sears	477.14
James Wang	854.67
Jayla Smith	150.00
Sunshine Spray	19,350.00
City of Leeds	116.48
Esmond Rural Fire Department	14,721.60
Tasc	2,889.15
ND Public Employees Retirement	23,377.69
Nationwide Retirement Solution	732.00
Rachel Maddock	294.61
BC Farmers Press	70.00
Minnewaukan City	76.50
Trevipay--Walmart	59.77
Butler Machine	569.15
Wallwork Truck Center	62.22
City of Leeds	28.00
NDSU Dept. 3110	25.00
City of Maddock	919.66
Spirit Lake Tribe	2,500.00
NDACo Resource Group	2,865.71
Maddock Business & Technology Ctr.	150.00
Minnewaukan City	354.40
Floodwater Properties	500.00
Randy Thompson	282.00
Laura Wanzek	62.61
Jonathan Rice	690.00
BC Auditor	525.57
ND Public Employees Retirement	30,673.36
Dist. to Entities	2,225,239.46
February 2026 NET PAYROLL	
Co. Road	\$48,396.79
General/DEM/Co. Agt.	85,088.55
A motion to adjourn was made at 8:50 a.m.	
Bonnie Erickson	
Benson County Auditor	
David Davidson	
Chair	

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MINNEWAUKAN CITY COUNCIL February 10, 2026

1. Call to Order -- Mayor Matt Seufert called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. on Feb. 10, 2026 at Minnewaukan City Hall.

2. Roll Call -- Present: Niles Short, Kaylee Clifton, Mitch Weed, Don Trnka. Absent: None. Staff present: Audrey McCollum, auditor. Public present: None.

3. Approval of Agenda -- A motion was made by Trnka, seconded by Clifton, to approve the agenda with no additions. The motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes -- A motion was made by Clifton, seconded by Short, to approve the minutes of Jan. 13, 2026. The motion carried.

5. Public Comments -- No public comments.

6. New Business -- Seufert conducted the yearly employee evaluation for Audrey McCollum, auditor. McCollum scored well and the council is pleased with her performance. McCollum will be working on the transformation of the former library into a visitors' center. All historical information will be kept for the public to enjoy; the city will continue to keep a small library. A salary increase will be discussed at a later date.

• Solid Waste Disposal Contract: The council raised several questions regarding the contract's wording. These concerns will be reviewed and addressed, with discussion postponed to the next meeting.

• Model D Ordinance Floodplain Management: A motion was made by Trnka, seconded by Weed, to approve. The motion carried.

• Ordinance 7.0227.1, amending Ordinance 7.0227 to apply backflow prevention and cross connection control requirements to city-owned property. Second reading. A motion was made by Trnka, seconded by Clifton, to approve. The motion passed.

8. Unfinished Business -- None.

9. Reports -- Sheriff Report: Included in packet.

• Public Works: Babcock included a detailed report of the water line break that occurred on February 1 behind Dakota Spirits and the Legion. Babcock was attending training in Fargo and was not present at the meeting.

• Auditor: McCollum made the council aware of a former council member who was in possession of city infrastructure maps. McCollum drafted a letter to be sent to that individual. A motion was made by Clifton, seconded by Trnka, to send the letter. The motion passed.

• KJL: Paul Bjornson was not present but sent a letter stating that the city did not receive the grant funds from NDDOT for street repairs.

10. Approval of Bills -- A motion was made by Clifton, seconded by

Trnka, to approve the following bills. The motion carried.

Payroll	\$3,707.69
NDDEQ	50.00
Payroll	534.23
Blue Cross	2,106.17
Companion Life	164.77
Advanced Business Solutions	95.93
CenDak	1,096.49
ND Chemistry Lab	14.56
Sweeney Controls	2,407.50
Floodwater Properties	1,234.00
S. Babcock	330.64
Aqua Pure	2,250.00
CenDak	105.42
Double M Sanitation	4,818.00
BC Farmers Press	216.48
Floodwater Properties	130.00
GF Utility	44.00
ND Telephone Co.	264.59
Northern Plains	673.13
Otter Tail Power Co.	3,383.52
A. McCollum	40.00
BC Sheriff	300.00
Payroll	3,413.36
ND PERS	1,389.62
US Treasury	1,701.78

11. Portfolio Reports -- Clifton had worked closely with KJL preparing information for the NDDOT grant; she was disappointed that the city did not receive the funds for road improvement.

Weed had no updates. Short had no updates. Seufert would like Sheriff Wanzek's input for removing stop signs.

12. Adjournment -- A motion was made by Clifton, seconded by Weed, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next council meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Audray J. McCollum
City Auditor

Matt Seufert
Mayor

NOTICE OF ELECTION MINNEWAUKAN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #5

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, the annual Minnewaukan School District No. 5 election will be held for the purpose of electing three members to the school board for a term of four years.

Polls will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at the Minnewaukan Public School, 4675 Hwy 281 N, Minnewaukan, North Dakota.

Tracie Volk
Business Manager
(Publish March 19 & 26 & April 2, 2026)

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING MADDOCK CITY COUNCIL March 18, 2026

A special meeting of the Maddock City Council was held March 18, 2026. Mayor Sarah Dove called the meeting to order at 12 p.m. at city hall. Present for roll call were the following council members: Dusty Pierson and DeeDee Olson (via phone). Absent were Brad Hermanson and Teresa Dosch.

The purpose of the meeting was to address additional information required by the bank for the opening of a money market account previously approved on Dec. 9, 2025.

It was noted that at the Dec. 9, 2025 meeting, a motion was made by Pierson, seconded by Hermanson, to make the transfers and investments as recommended by Pam Lee. All voting yes, the motion carried. Upon proceeding, the bank requested additional specific authorization to complete the account setup.

A motion was made by Pierson, seconded by Olson, to authorize the opening of a money market account at First United Bank, to be named Capital Improvement, and to designate Mayor Sarah Dove, Bradley Hermanson and Pamela Lee as authorized signers on the account. All voting yes, the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Pamela Lee
City Auditor

Sarah Dove
Mayor

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NOTICE OF MEETING

The Benson County Zoning Board will hold a meeting on **April 2, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** in the Commissioner Room of the Benson County Courthouse, Minnewaukan, ND to consider proposed Wind, Solar and/or Data Center Zoning Ordinances for Benson County prior to presenting it to the Benson County Board of Commissioners for adoption.

The public is encouraged to attend. The Township officers are also encouraged to attend.

The proposed ordinances are available for review at the Benson County Auditor's Office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We Are HIRING

GRAIN PROBE OPERATOR

- * Operate Grain Probe
- * Run Grain Samples
- * Communicate with Farmers

BENEFITS

- * Health/Dental/Vision
- * Pension Plan
- * 401K
- * Paid Vacation
- * Life Insurance
- * Long-Term Disability

Applications can be dropped off at the office or can be mailed to:

Rugby Farmers Elevator
Attn: Katelyn Larson
PO Box 286
Rugby, ND 58368
k.larson@rugbyelevator.com



HELP WANTED

The Benson County Weed Board is looking for a **SPRAYER OPERATOR** for the county for the 2026 spring, summer & fall spraying season to cover county & township right-of-ways for \$26/hr.

If interested, please call Tim Finley at (701)798-2776 for more information.

City of Leeds

CALL FOR GRAVEL BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Leeds, ND, will receive bids until **12 p.m., April 1, 2026**, for furnishing the City of Leeds with crushed gravel on a per cubic yard basis, Class Five Gravel or better. Gravel is to consist of 10% fractured faced and between 5% and 10% fines. Gravel is to be delivered to the City of Leeds as directed by the Public Works Supervisor. Bids can be mailed to the City of Leeds, PO Box 331, Leeds, ND 58346. *The City of Leeds reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.*

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

Part-Time or Full-Time Customer Service Representative

First United Bank is seeking candidates for a part-time or full-time Customer Service Representative position at the Maddock location.

Duties will include assisting customers with cashing checks, accepting deposits, answering customer questions and other customer service related responsibilities. Candidates must have excellent customer service and communication skills.

First United Bank is a community bank that strives to provide innovative banking solutions and products to fully meet our customer needs. We offer a competitive compensation and benefits package.

Apply online at www.firstunitedonline.com by selecting **Our Bank** and then **Careers**.

First United Bank
PO Box 190
Maddock, ND 58348



EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Benson County Zoning Board will hold public hearings on **Thursday, April 2, 2026** beginning at **1:00 p.m. in the Commissioner Room of the Benson County Courthouse, Minnewaukan, ND** to review two applications requesting zoning ordinance variance. The request submitted by Beau Buehler of Oberon, ND, affects real property in Oberon Township and the request submitted by Rosanne Zink of Carrington, ND affects real property in Wood Lake Township.

Additional information regarding the application may be obtained from the **Benson County Auditor's Office by phone 701-473-5340 or e-mail bserickson@nd.gov**

Oberon School District

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

For a full or part time

Business Manager

Job duties include:

- Handling payroll
- Reimbursement from federal programs
- Accounts receivable and payable
- Other duties assigned by the school board

Experience:

- A background with finance and/or a working knowledge of the educational finance software program Software Unlimited is preferred but willing to train the right person.

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, resumé, two letters of recommendation and any applicable college transcripts that apply to:

Oberon School District
P.O. Box 2
Oberon, ND 58357
Oberon Elementary School | 315 A St. | Oberon, ND

