

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BENSON COUNTY
NORTH DAKOTA
July 7, 2026**

The Benson County commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 8 a.m. in the commissioner room of the Benson County Courthouse, Minnewaukan, ND. Commissioners present: Dick Horner and David Davidson. Ron Stadum was present via Teams. Doris M. Griffin and Tammy Kuk were absent. The meeting was called to order by Chair Davidson. Other people present: Kelly Glover, Benson County Farmers Press; James P. Wang, Benson County state's attorney; Robert Anderson; Scott Todahl, DEM and highway superintendent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by Horner, seconded by Stadum, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 16, 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.

Marianne Sears, Travis Anderson and Karen Anderson came to the meeting.

Joy Orvedal, highway department clerk; and Laura Wanzek, Benson County sheriff, came to the meeting.

Todahl stated a township road west of Leeds went underwater. A motion was made by Horner, seconded by Stadum, to approve the chip-seal from the RR tracks by Flora to where the curve project started at an estimated county cost of \$11,000. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

Commissioner Griffin joined the meeting via Teams.

Todahl discussed doing an emergency flood declaration. Todahl stated he didn't believe it was necessary as Benson County hasn't had the damage needed for it.

At 8:10 a.m. the second public hearing on the proposed wind, solar and data processing zoning ordinances was held. State's Attorney Wang discussed the ordinances with the people in attendance.

Les Haagenson came to the meeting.

John Grann came to the meeting. Copies of the ordinances were

presented to the people in attendance. Sears stated her concerns that the comprehensive plan for Benson County would need to be updated should the ordinances be approved. State's Attorney Wang stated the comprehensive plan would be updated. Sears questioned if more restrictions could be put in the AI section of the proposed plan. Wang told Sears to write her concerns down and submit them accordingly. Karen Anderson addressed her concerns regarding zoning ordinances.

Grann questioned if townships are covered under the county plan. The auditor stated the BC Township Officers Association suggested townships take action to adopt the county plan to show they are opting to be under it.

Emily Yri met with the board. She read a letter of interest to be appointed to the Benson County clerk of court position. State's Attorney Wang gave input on this issue.

Sheriff Wanzek met with the board to give her sheriff's report. She presented her calls for service report for June 2026. She stated she is still receiving dog complaints. Wanzek stated extra patrol is being done in Oberon city and at Wood Lake due to parties being held. She discussed replacement of a vehicle with the board.

Nobody was present for the public comment period.

Wanzek stated a bill will be coming in for a prisoner transport with the US Marshals Service.

The board reviewed the reports submitted by BC Transportation and the BC financial reports for June 2026.

Information regarding the upcoming NDACo county tour was given to the board.

The board reviewed a letter from Red River Basin Commission. A motion was made by Horner, seconded by Griffin, to not participate. All members voted yes. The motion carried.

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

CenDak Cooperative	
--Maddock	\$6,519.01
CES Minnesota	4,300.00
Farmers Union Oil Co.	2,419.04
Harold Fossen	14,241.00

ND Dept. of Transportation	2,191.95
Nodak Electric Co-op	137.04
Northern Plains Elec.	79.00
Otter Tail Power Co.	258.71
Robert Arnold	2,600.00
Runnings Supply, Inc.	70.09
US Postmaster	106.00
BC Fair Association	87.16
BC Highway Dept.	260.00
Cowboy's Towing	846.00
Dukes Car Wash & Detail Center, Inc.	249.95
Election Systems & Software	1,178.21
Election Systems & Software	162.78
Farmers Union Oil	
--York	386.27
Fireside Office Solutions	307.89
JB Vending, LLC	136.98
Les Schwab Tire Ctr.	2,415.78
NCRAAO '26	385.00
ND Telephone Co.	827.27
Northern Plains Elec.	58.53
Otter Tail Power Co.	1,410.05
Storey Kenworthy/ Matt Parrott	212.26
US Postmaster	932.00
WEX Bank	5,031.18
Bravera Bank--Visa	380.94
Devils Lake Cars	45,410.00
Aflac	1,187.94
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	3,323.50
Colonial Insurance	241.63
First Unum Life Insurance Co.	328.34
National Life Group One	450.00
ND Child Support Division	358.00
Barbara Jackson	240.33
Beth Saylor	30.88
Brandon Wegener	247.00
Catherine Faleide	325.53
Gail Frederick	243.95
Isaac Wegener	50.00
Joy Wegener	359.30
Judy Buckmier	193.40
Judy Estenson	345.10
Kaitlyn Seufert	342.35
Karen Jackson	318.28
Karen Johnson	284.80
Priscilla Backstrom	265.26
Robin Knutson	316.10
Terry Yri	248.08
Tony Kitzman	280.00
Warwick School	25.00
Kory Jorgenson	141.76
Lake Chevrolet GM Auto Center	163.30

Otter Tail Power Co.	42.91
Red Fixit Shop, LLC	4,040.00
Robert Mlynar	1,862.08
Tim Finley	176.74
Travis Anderson	134.51
Cando Ambulance Service	4,292.69
Harvey Rural Ambulance Service	12,878.06
ND Dept. of Transportation	11.50
Fireside Office Solutions	589.12
Otter Tail Power Co.	156.80
Power Plan (RDO Equip.)	661.20
Susag Sand & Gravel, Inc.	969.15
BC Fair Association	98.17
Cole Papers	288.37
Minnkota	62.40
ND Department of Human Services	348.30
NDAAO	50.00
Pembina Co. Sheriff's Office	180.00
Plunkett's Pest Control ..	235.26
Prairie Public	264.50
Radisson Hotel--Bismarck	227.00
Redwood Toxicology Laboratory	33.62
US Marshals Service	3,634.00
WEX Bank	4,556.60
Plummer Construction ..	16,500.00
Verizon	397.76
ND Assn. of Counties	367.70
Pederson's Septic Service	220.00
City of Esmond	25.00
Spirit Lake Tribe Refuse Control	20.00
Trevipay--Walmart	39.54
LR Residential Re-entry Center	155.00

LR Law Enforcement Center	16,087.95
Tyler Technologies, Inc.	26,809.98
BC Farmers Press	1,186.26
Dakota Fire Ext., Inc.	357.31
Farmers Union Service Assn.	17,602.00
Information Technology Dept.	1,981.35
NDACo Resource Group	2,865.71
James Wang	854.67
Randy Thompson	129.05
Laura Winson	150.00
Jayla Smith	150.00
Samantha Sears	175.03
Tasc	2,889.15
Tiffany Sten	383.08
Michele Anderson	220.00
Lisa Anderson	83.35
David Davidson	34.80
Judy Barstad	324.80
Jeanne Schlenker	243.20
Carol Thompson	310.93
Claudette Carlson	230.00
Lori Cline	250.00
Barb Rice	241.25
Spirit Lake Tribe	25.00
Nationwide Retirement Solution	732.00
ND Public Employees Retirement	23,846.68
City of Leeds	35.00
BC Farmers Press	280.00
Rachel Maddock	201.03
Olaf Nord	98.26
Spirit Lake EMS	32,441.46
Rugby Ambulance Service	20,759.72
NDACo Resource Group	2,865.71
LR Community Service ..	10,000.00
ND State Tax Commissioner	1,140.00

Dakota Implement	294.50
Butler Machine	7,416.93
Minnewaukan City	113.67
City of Leeds	28.00
City of Maddock	142.77
City of Esmond	25.00
Trevipay--Walmart	56.82
Spirit Lake Tribe Refuse Control	20.00
Jordy Garcia	545.20
Scott Todahl	370.26
Spirit Lake Tribe	2,500.00
City of Maddock	990.52
Thompson's Glass & Paint	420.00
Farmers Union Service Assn.	924.00
Advanced Business Methods	614.13
Minnewaukan City	518.26
LR District Health	43,772.25
Floodwater Properties ..	500.00
Andrew S. Marquart	198.00
Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equip., Inc. ..	202.13
Maddock Business & Technology Ctr.	150.00
Jonathan Rice	973.50
Bonnie Erickson	377.00
Rhoda Pfeifer	562.95
ND Public Employees Retirement	34,000.58
Distributions to Entities ..	82,590.83
June 2026 NET PAYROLL	
Co. Road	\$51,198.57
General/DEM/Co. Agt. ..	81,197.80

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:15 a.m.

Bonnie Erickson
Benson County Auditor

David Davidson
Chair