

MCINTOSH COUNTY PROCEEDINGS
August 12, 20269:15 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Goettle. Present were Jim Heinrich and Neil Meidinger. Also attending were Asst. States Attorney, Alisha Ankers, Marvel Gross, Randy Woehl, Glenn Herr, Pete Meidinger, Erich Schock, Steve Thompson, Heather Dahl, Tom Campbell, representing USDA, and Paula Patterson of the McIntosh County Star and Tribune.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

The agenda was reviewed. Mr. Tom Campbell would like to say a few words. It was decided to let him speak. Commissioner Heinrich moved to approve the agenda with one addition. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. Motion carried.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. There were some spelling errors which were corrected. Commissioner Meidinger moved to approve the minutes with the corrections. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Motion carried.

The financials were reviewed. Commissioner Heinrich moved to approve the financials. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Glenn Herr commented on County Road #35. Earlier the speed limit was 45 mph. Now the sign is gone so the limit is now 55 mph. He would like the speed limit to be 45 mph for heavy loads. He is disappointed with what was done with this road. He discussed dust control and asked if county would consider cost share. Board said they would not cost share but the individuals could pay for it if they want to.
2. Pete Meidinger stated that even at 45 mph there is a lot of dust. He feels this devalues his property. Commissioner Goettle felt the signs should be put up for 45 mph and they should let the Board know what the cost is for the dust control.
3. Susan Schneider was not able to attend the meeting but she presented a written comment. She

wanted to address the permanent fence that was constructed on the road right-of-way on 62nd Street. She would like this fence removed by October 1st so that the road right-of-way can be maintained before winter sets in. The weeds are getting high and they will hold up snow.

Representatives from the Ashley City Council, Erich Schock, Heather Dahl and Steve Thompson met with the Board to discuss policing issues going on in the City. Mayor Schock asked if the city could get some help. They were wondering if they could possibly pay per ticket. They stated that the council would be okay with helping to fund an officer. Councilmember Dahl stated that there are safety issues and was wondering if the county is willing to work with the city. Asst. State's Attorney Alisha Ankers mentioned that this falls into the discussions about the district court stuff. Commissioner Meidinger suggested getting together to discuss this. Commissioner Heinrich has the police portfolio so he will sit in on this discussion with the Sheriff and the council members.

Asst. States Attorney, Alisha Ankers, met with the Board to discuss the hiring of an assistant/secretary for her office. She asked if she could hire on a fulltime basis. She knows she can keep the person busy on a fulltime basis. Commissioner Goettle feels someone could be hired and cross trained for her office and the deputy treasurer office. It was decided to change the job description for this position and see what happens. Will run ad another month.

Asst. States Attorney, Alisha Ankers also updated the board on a road matter. She is still working on it.

Tom Campbell, representing USDA, met with the Board. He discussed the grant and guaranteed loan programs that USDA has available.

Marvel Gross and Randy Woehl, representing the McIntosh County Historical Society met with the Commission. She discussed the following matters:

- The mill vote in November. They are promoting it.
- Internet for museum. DRN Readitech wants to dig a line from the

museum to the depot. Mr. Woehl feels that does not have to be done. A wifi booster or extender could

be purchased. DRN Readitech is providing the internet at no charge to the Historical Society. Commissioner Meidinger moved to have it installed. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Motion carried.

- Applied for a \$5,000.00 grant from NDCF.
- They are putting in an office area. Applying for more grants for this project.
- Trees and bushes on the southwest corner of the museum need to be trimmed.
- They were in some parades and held an event to promote the Historical Society. August 30th is the Chokecherry Festival and October 3rd is Oktoberfest.
- They will be getting a special item from the Dempsey Family. It is a China cabinet.

Chris Opsahl, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board on the following matters.

- Part of the engineering plans included patching on the Green Lake Road so the county can only fill the holes with gravel. They are not sure when they are going to be here to do the projects.
- Jeremy and Kirby are running together for learning purposes.
- Payloader was discussed. There is one on Ulmer's Auction sale. A 1997 928F. Commissioner Heinrich moved to allow Chris to purchase the payloader for \$50,000.00. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Meidinger moved to re-sign County Road #35. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Asst. States Attorney, Alisha Ankers said Chris could put up same signs as were up before.
- The resignation letter from Chad Stoll was reviewed. Commissioner Heinrich moved to accept this letter of resignation. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. Motion carried.

Recessed at this time for 5 minutes.

Reconvened.

At this time, the public hearing on the Petition to Close a Section line from Keith Hochhalter was held. Keith and Vicki Hochhalter attended and Susan Schneider had a written statement. Mr. Hochhalter requested to close part of a section line along the SE1/4 of Section 6-129-67. It was ½ mile running East and West and ½ mile running north and south. The written comments from Susan Schneider were read. She does not believe that this section line should be closed permanently. She stated that in 2021, because of the drought, he asked to fence her half of the section line in because she was running out of grass for her livestock. The fence was put up with a gate on the section line so that it was still accessible to anyone that wanted to use the section line. She did not fence in the approach so the other landowner could get to his land. The fence was approved on November 10, 2021 by the county commission. She asked if the county commission should approve the closure, she asks that the approach should be left alone so that she can access her land. She feels section line should not be closed. Mr. Hochhalter is asking that both section line be closed because they go nowhere but into a lake. Mr. Hochhalter says that if the section line stays open, then the Schneiders have to move their fence back. If its closed, the he can move his fence. The commissioners may close a section line on the following matters:

1. Section line has not been used for ten years.
2. It not traveled due to natural obstacles or difficulty of terrain.
3. Are not required due to readily accessible alternate routes of travel.
4. Are intersected by interstate highways causing the section line to be a dead-end, providing the closing of the dead-end section line does not deprive adjacent landowners access to the landowner's property.

Commissioner Goettle feels the Board could give the Hochhalter's permission to move their fence. He feels the section line does not need to be closed. Commissioner Goettle asked for a motion to close the section line. Having received none, he again asked for a mo-

tion to close the section line. There being no motion to close the section line, the matter died due to lack of a motion. Asst. State's Attorney, Alisha Ankers encouraged landowners to talk to an attorney that will be looking after their best interests. Commissioner Heinrich

introduced the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION DENYING CLOSURE
OF SECTION LINE FOLLOWING
PUBLIC HEARING**

On the 12th day of August, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing pursuant to NDCC §24-07-03 on a petition by Keith Hochhalter to close the following section line:

(a) The East-West ½ mile and the North-South ½ mile of section line common to Section 6-129-67.

The Board of County Commissioners hereby make the following:

FINDINGS

1. Keith Hochhalter has a fee interest in and to the following described property:
Township 129 North, Range 67 West,
McIntosh County, ND
Section 6
2. The above referenced landowner petitioned for the section line to be closed.
3. The Board received a letter from Susan Schneider opposing the closing of the section line.
4. Petitioner did not establish that the section line in question has not been used for public travel for 10 years.
5. The said section line is not required due to readily accessible alternate route of travel.
6. That closing the section line will not have a public benefit.
7. Closing of the section line road will not deprive adjacent landowners access to the landowner's property.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED

1. The petition to close the East-West ½ mile and the North-South ½ mile of section line common to Section 6-129-67 is denied, and the section line will not be closed to the public.

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By _____
James Goettle, Its Chairman

Attest:

Gina Ketterling, County Auditor

Commissioner Meidinger seconded the motion. On the vote being taken, the following voted in favor thereof: Neil Meidinger, Jim Heinrich and James Goettle. Against the same: None. Motion carried.

Appointments to the Reorganization Board needed for the Zeeland School Dissolution were discussed. Commissioner Heinrich moved to appoint the following individuals:

Lyle Fey
Curtis Meidinger
Neil Meidinger
Donavon Bender
Amanda Bader

Commissioner Goettle seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Meidinger abstained as he was on the list.

The letter from Widmer Roel CPAs was reviewed. Commissioner Meidinger moved to sign said letter. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Motion carried.

The resignation letter from Marsha Monson was reviewed. Commissioner Meidinger moved to accept this letter of resignation. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Motion carried.

The resignation letter from Madeline Schauer was reviewed. Commissioner Heinrich moved to accept this letter of resignation. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. Motion carried.

The Utility Permit from Sandy Just to cross a road with a water line was reviewed. Commissioner Meidinger

moved to approve the Utility Permit. Commissioner Heinrich seconded. Motion carried.

Commission reviewed the budget for the South Country Human Services.

Public hearing for the budget will be October 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the courthouse.

BUILDING PERMITS:

Richard Krein – to build a 24'x26' storage building at 8480 32nd Ave SE, Wishek, ND. Commissioner

Meidinger moved to approve this application. Commissioner Heinrich seconded.

Motion carried.

Allo Towers – This application was tabled by the Zoning Committee because they did not fill out the correct form.

Office vouchers were reviewed and filed.

Discussion on the moratorium: The State Legislature is looking at data centers and wind farms. They may take these over from the counties because county ordinances are too restrictive. The City of Wishek is working on their ordinances to get them updated.

The following bills were reviewed. Commissioner Heinrich moved to pay said bills. Commissioner Meidinger seconded. On the vote being taken, the following voted in favor thereof: Neil Meidinger, Jim Heinrich and James Goettle. Against the same: None. Motion carried.

95639-95640 CHS, Inc Gas Fills, Bulk Fuel..... 6,772.32
95641 ITD WAN, Office, Intune, Netmotion..... 1,112.85
95642 Uinsurance Property Insurance..... 9,911.00
95643 Visa Training, Lodging, Repairs, Gas, Fountain, Supplies 5,205.77
E2488-E2509 McIntosh County Payroll - Electronic..... 75,079.92
95644-95649 McIntosh County Payroll - Paper..... 13,139.10
95650 BEK Communications Coop Phones..... 97.75
95651 SCRWD Rural Water 23.08

95652 VSP Vision Vision Insurance..... 86.64
95653 MCB Loan Payment... 55,113.65
95654 Schott Farms Overpayment on Taxes 100.00
95655 A & B Business Solutions, Inc. Service Contract..... 199.43
95656 ACME Tools Tooling..... 527.00
95657 Advanced Business Methods Service Contract..... 172.09
95658 Aflac Supplemental Insurance... 1,703.43
95659 Amazon Capital Services Office Supplies..... 110.83
95660 American Solutions for Business Office Supplies 63.49
95661 Ashley Medical Center D&A Testing..... 43.00
95662 Ashley Super Valu Supplies..... 30.40
95663 Central Dakota Frontier Coop Unleaded, Diesel Fills..... 4,396.54
95664 CHI St. Alexius EAP Employee Assistance Program 187.50
95665-95666 CHS, Inc Gas Fills, Bulk Fuel..... 6,992.62
95667 City of Ashley Water, Sewer, Garbage..... 403.54
95668 City of Wishek Water, Sewer, Garbage..... 77.14
95669 City of Zeeland Water, Sewer, Garbage..... 80.88
95670 Code 4 Services, Inc Tear-Down Patrol Vehicle 893.20
95671 Cole Papers, Inc. Janitor Supplies 696.98
95672 Colonial Life Supplemental Insurance..... 990.93
95673 Computer Express Contract, Desktop, Tape Drive..... 7,657.89
95674-95675 County Treasurer Postage Meter, County Car Mileage..... 1,129.13
95676 Curts-Sinclair Service Gas Fills, Bulk Fuel..... 175.30
95677 DRN Phones, Fax, Alarms, Cameras, Webhost..... 753.54
95678 E & H Communications, LLC Notices, Ads..... 1,372.15
95679 Eureka Plumbing, LLC Repairs, Instal Fountain 751.20
95680 Fire Safety First Foam Fire Extinguishers 1,017.18
95681 General Equipment & Supplies July Balance 40.30
95682 Glaesmann Heating & Air AC Repairs..... 350.00
95683 Herr, Glenn Noxious Weed Mile-

age..... 210.25
95684 Husky Marketing and Supply Co MC-3000..... 22,937.77
95685 ITD WAN, Office, Intune, Netmotion..... 1,112.85
95686 John Deere Financial Hwy - Gear Lube..... 217.00
95687 KEM Electric Coop, Inc. Ashley Shop Electricity..... 709.20
95688 Ketterling, Gina Travel Expense. 22.00
95689 Kidder County Auditor Emergency Manager Contract 1,900.00
95690 KLJ Engineering LLC Road Projects 119.94
95691 Link's Do It Best Batteries, Supplies 193.35
95692 Martell's Carquest Battery, Oils, Pigs, Supplies..... 1,301.62
95693 Martell's True Value Weed Killer, Oil, Supplies 234.85
95694 Matthew Bender & Co., Inc. Court Rule Books 339.36
95695 McIntosh County Sheriff Service Fees..... 104.40
95696 MDU Electricity..... 1,059.97
95697 NDSRC 911 Line Fees, LETS ... 13,752.66
95698 NDACS Dues..... 50.00
95699 NDACTVSO Registration Fees.. 120.00
95700 NDSU County Share of Salaries 12,207.11
95701 NDACO D&A Testing 60.00
95702 Northwest Tire Tires (12) 3,477.72
95703 Northwestern Mutual Deferred Comp..... 2,426.00
95704 RDO Equipment Co. Blades, Hardware & Filters..... 5,448.36
95705 Rocky's Fuel Oil & Gas Bulk Propane & Fuel Oil..... 2,520.05
95706 Sayler Implement, Inc. Oil, Filters, Hardware 259.86
95707 Software Innovations State Mandated Update..... 5,800.00
95708 Tri State Water, Inc. Water & Coolers 71.05
95709 Uniform Center ID Panel... 18.00
95710 Verizon Business Cell Phones, Laptops..... 278.20
95711 Vestis Rental Supplies. 1,287.96
95712 Wald Fencing & Supplies Zero Turn Mower..... 4,399.00
95713 Werth, Marlow Mileage..... 29.00
95714 Western Dakota Energy Assoc

Loadpass Dues..... 750.00
 95715 Zeeland Oil LLC Bulk Unleaded
 and Diesel..... 4,745.16
 95716 ND Tax Commissioner Refund
 PRC Overpayment 89.98
 95717 Yondr Totes & Pouches 2,142.25
 1530 ND State Treasurer Mill Levy Dis-
 bursement..... 77.70
 1531 McIntosh County Bank DD Fees
 ML..... 10.55
 1532-1533 IRS Federal, SS & Medicare
 WTH 26,382.47
 1534 MCB DD Fees PR 8.45
 1535-1537 ND State Treasurer State
 WTH, Sales/Use, Disbursement 705.25

1538 Aflac Dental & Vision Dental & Vi-
 sion Insurance 278.60
 1539-1565 Mill Levy Disbursement Mill
 Levy Disbursement..... 26,021.96
 1566-1567 NDPERS Insurance, Retire-
 ment..... 56,392.49
 1568 MCB DD Fees ML 10.10

Next meeting will be September 9,
2026, at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business.
 Commissioner Meidinger moved to ad-
 journ. Commissioner Heinrich second-
 ed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Gina Ketterling, County Auditor
 James Goettle, Board Chairman
 (9/16/2026)

NOTICE

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the
 McIntosh County Commissioners will
 be Wednesday October 14, 2026 at
 9:00 am in the Commission Room at the
 Courthouse.
 (9/16/2026)