

**ONLINE BEEF**

Continued from Page 1

consumers because people know exactly what is being fed to the cattle to produce the beef and that the cattle are raised properly.

“You know where your beef is coming from. You know it’s raised in the USA or in North Dakota. If you’re buying this off the shelf in Walmart, that could’ve come off

a 15-year old cow that just lived through the sale barn and got her head knocked off and butchered.”

Once their meats are available for order, visit the Gasho Ranch website to find their shop. Or just give Hope and Dale a call. They are still working out how delivery will be handled, so for right now, when the order is

ready, customers will have to pick it up from the processor.

Outside of their beef store, Hope debuted her cake-making business called Just Cakes Bakery on March 6. She has been making cakes for a long time, but in 2023, she began to make cakes for various parties and weddings. She has many different flavors of cake and icings she can do and the cakes are fully-cus-

tomizable. See Hope’s Just Cakes Facebook page for more information.

“I think every beef producer is probably pretty passionate about what they do and we are, too. You gotta love it because... if you live in town, you have to work your 8-5, but out here, you’re constantly working all the time,” Hope said. “There’s always work to be done and something to do. The cows



Photo | Gasho Ranch FB page

**GASHO BEEF** grazing in a grassy pasture at the ranch.

don’t take the weekend off, right? But it’s not really work if you love what you do.”

**GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS February 3, 2026**

The Golden Valley County Commission met at 9 a.m. on Feb. 3, 2026 at the courthouse. Chairman Adam Smith called the meeting to order. Commissioners Robert Schmeling and Rory Farstveet were present for the meeting along with Gary Howard with the Golden Valley County News.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to accept the agenda as presented and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Farstveet moved to approve the January 2026 regular meeting minutes and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve the current vouchers for payment and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote: Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.

Current business brought forward to the Board:

- The regular March meeting will be held March 12.

- The Annual Park Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the regular March 12th meeting at 10:30 A.M.

- Commissioner Farstveet approved the following Treasurer’s bi-annual report and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Roll call vote: Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.

**GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY TREASURER**

**Beach, North Dakota**  
Ledger balance for period 7-1-25 through 12-31-25

Balance 7-1-2025 .....\$21,481,853.92  
July Collections.....\$212,533.53  
July Payments ..\$1,388,701.20

Aug. Collections...\$270,594.21  
Aug. Payments ....\$382,099.03  
Sept. Collections...\$212,844.09  
Sept. Payments...\$340,802.34  
Oct. Collections ...\$263,442.87  
Oct. Payments.....\$354,471.38  
Nov. Collections...\$196,634.50  
Nov. Payments....\$792,931.02  
Dec. Collections .....\$1,748,158.63  
Dec. Payments .....\$1,673,984.48  
Balance 12-31-2025 .....\$19,453,072.30

Balance 12-31-2025 .....\$19,453,072.30  
First State Bank .....\$11,898,559.03  
Western Co-op CU Savings .....\$226,524.49  
BMO .....\$535,787.68  
Treasurer Acct.....\$1,407.10  
Library CD & Savings .....\$51,261.98  
Clerk of Court Acct. ....\$4,584.00  
Cert. of Deposits .....\$6,729,944.31  
Cash Items .....\$0.00  
Checks & Drafts.....\$0.00  
Cash On Hand.....\$5,003.71  
Balance 12-31-2025 .....\$19,453,072.30

Golden Valley County Treasurer

- County Auditor Sperry will be out of the office from February 24th through March 3rd.

Cheryl Planert met with the Board. Planert presented the Board with information on the launch of The Beach Village which helps older adults support one another as they navigate the challenges and opportunities of aging. Planert is requesting the Board to help spread the word and is not asking for financial assistance.

DES Rachel Keohane and Sheriff Dey Muckle met with the Board to review the current burn ban. Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve and sign the burn ban after the

edits are made to the document as discussed and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote: Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried. Edited document below.

**2026 FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS DECLARATION**

**Golden Valley County, North Dakota**

**WHEREAS**, Golden Valley County North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available; and

**WHEREAS**, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

**WHEREAS**, Golden Valley County has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and the local Emergency Management Office has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in Golden Valley County; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and fire damages may be beyond available Golden Valley County resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Golden Valley County wishes to regulate activities within the County which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Golden Valley County Commissioners declare a Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the **High, Very High or Extreme Rating and/or a Red Flag Warning** has been issued for Golden Valley County, North Dakota, effective immediately until rescinded. **Any prior Fire**

**Emergency and Burn Restrictions issued by Golden Valley County are rescinded and replaced by this declaration.**

**No Burning When Activity Matches Below**

*Burning is Prohibited if the Fire Index is in Extreme Category as Issued by NWS (ND Administrative Code - Title 33.1 Article 15 Chapter 4)*

**Low:** No Restrictions. Call your local Fire Chief before burning. (Phone numbers listed below).

**Moderate:** No Restrictions. Call your local Fire Chief before burning. (Phone numbers listed below).

**High:** Campfires not within a ring, ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), non-vesseled household garbage/all pits, controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), crop and agricultural land burning.

**Very High:** Campfires, ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), garbage/pits, controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), crop and agricultural land burning and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (excluding agricultural purposes, but must have a 2A or greater fire extinguisher on hand at all times).

**Extreme:** Campfires, ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), ash producing grills, garbage/pits, controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), crop and agricultural land burning and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or maintained, excluding agricultural purposes, but must have a 2A or greater fire extinguisher on hand at all times).

**Red Flag Warning: All Aforementioned Burning is PROHIBITED Under a RED FLAG WARNING**

*Please contact your local Fire Chief before burning of any kind.* Beach: Dan Buchholz 872-6662; Danny Noll 872-6130; and Sentinel Butte: Mike Van Horn 872-6715.

The Daily Fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

**THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37.17-1.10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE).**

DATED at Beach, North Dakota this 3rd day of February, 2026

Adam Smith, Board Chairman  
Golden Valley County Commission  
Tamra Sperry  
Golden Valley County Auditor

The first reading on the Model Amendment Floodplain Management Ordinance was read. There was no public input. Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve the 1st reading of the Amendment and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote: Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.

Road Foreman Pete Wirtzfeld and Andrew Krebs with KLJ and Gayle Cox and Daniel Duppong with Brosz Engineering met with the Board. Krebs is waiting on the final paperwork on the County Road 5 project to finalize the final pay estimate for

payment. The Zimdars bridge was approved for flex funding for Prairie Dog Grant subject to funding availability. Cox is also waiting for final paperwork on Garner Bridge project to finalize the final pay estimate. Cox is working with States Attorney Wenko to finalize the Master Service Agreement with Brosz Engineering. Various other road topics were discussed.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to adjourn and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

1 p.m. was the advertised time for Annual/County Township Meeting. Commissioners Rory Farstveet, Adam Smith and Robert Schmeling along with Weed Control Officer Mark Egan and Road Foreman Pete Wirtzfeld and Tax Director Carla Beeler and Gary Howard with the *Golden Valley News* and Kelly Harju with *The Dickinson Press* were present for the meeting.

Chairman Smith welcomed the group and thanked them for coming to the Annual County/Township Meeting. 14 Township officers from 8 of the 10 Townships were present for the meeting.

Tax Director Carla Beeler presented the Township Boards with the equalization schedule and if they need to reschedule to please come and coordinate with her to find a date and time that works for them.

Road Foreman Pete Wirtzfeld gave the group information on County custom rates, which are remaining the same as last year, and culvert policy and projects that were completed in 2025 and projects planned for 2026.

Weed Control Officer Mark Egan updated the group on the previous spray season and the upcoming spray season. The rates for spraying for 2026 will be the same as last year. Discussion was also held on LAP funding and availability.

County Auditor Sperry discussed SB 2012 and HB 1176 with the Townships and what is needed to comply with the new requirements.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to adjourn and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Smith declared the Annual Township/County meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The following vouchers were audited and approved for the month of February 2026:

GV County Employees  
Feb. Payroll .....\$67,086.06  
NDPERS.....\$18,466.13  
NDPERS.....\$1,150.00  
MT Dept of Treasurer .....\$190.00  
IRS.....\$25,214.72  
NDPHIT .....\$34,606.50  
JP Morgan .....\$2,214.41  
ND State Treasurer .....\$2,015.80  
Mackoff Kellogg Kirby & Kloster Legal Fees.....\$6,000.00  
Armor Interactive Contract .....\$1,195.00  
Mid-State Organized Crime Inf Membership.....\$100.00  
Information Technology Dept Data Processing...\$1,147.35  
ND County Recorder’s Assn Dues .....\$500.00  
Farmers Union Oil Fuel & Supplies ....\$4,017.14

GV County Treasurer  
Rent.....\$840.00  
ND State Radio Comm. - LETS & Co 911 Fees.....\$9,593.12  
NDSU Extension Salary .....\$8,107.62  
Motorola Solutions Subscription.....\$9,115.75  
Code 4 Services Inc Supplies.....\$1,385.45  
ND One Call Locate .....\$1.50  
Pitney Bowes Global Financial Meter Lease.....\$441.99  
Tamra Sperry Reimbursement .....\$81.43  
Total Safety Inspections .....\$690.45  
SW Multi-County Correction Ctr Membership.....\$6,076.00  
Newvision Security Contract.....\$600.00  
Idemia Identity & Security Subscription.....\$3,722.00  
ND Dept of Environmental Quality-Inspections..\$105.00  
NDEMA Membership.....\$50.00  
ND Sheriff’s & Deputies Assn Membership.....\$400.00  
Noll Construction, LLC Contract.....\$942.50  
GS Publishing LLC Publishing .....\$438.95  
Boss Inc Supplies.....\$205.85  
KLJ Engineering LLC Rd & Bridge .....\$1,267.40  
Steve Raisler Veteran Service .....\$473.00  
Rohan Hardware-Supplies .....\$81.93  
ND Assn of Counties-D&A Test & Membership .....\$1,037.90  
SW Narcotics Task Force Membership.....\$16,315.00  
Rachel Keohane Travel.....\$102.45  
Dakota Dust-Tex Floor Care.....\$120.34  
Colonial Research Supplies.....\$613.51  
Prairie Lumber Beach Supplies.....\$14.00  
Tescher Fencing Contract.....\$4,166.32  
US Postal Service Rent.....\$126.00  
Warne Chemical Parts .....\$1,457.12  
Collections Submitted .....\$225,114.63  
Little Missouri Catering NDSU .....\$1,540.00  
City of Beach Water & Garbage.....\$463.03  
CattleFax NDSU .....\$3,242.00  
Ag Improvement Disbursements.....\$1,673.00  
Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center-Lodging.....\$327.00  
MDU - Electricity & Gas .....\$4,679.48  
Farmers Union Oil Fuel.....\$91.39  
Warne Chemical &Equipment Parts .....\$32.39  
RTC Networks Internet & Phone...\$1,442.38  
PharmChem - 24/7 .....\$63.90  
McCall’s Quilting Subscription.....\$49.95  
LibraryWorld Software .....\$540.00  
February Payroll .....\$21,056.98  
Payroll Liabilities.....\$2,833.46  
February Payroll .....\$2,064.99  
Mark Egan Reimbursement .....\$46.53  
AT&T Mobility Cell Phone.....\$116.65  
Cenex Fleet Fueling Fuel.....\$1,208.83  
Verizon Cell Phone....\$367.80  
Rohan Hardware Supplies.....\$24.35  
ATTEST  
Adam Smith, Chairman,  
County Commissioners  
Tamra Sperry, County Auditor  
(Published March 19, 2026)

**REDUCE YOUR 2026 PROPERTY TAX BILL BY UP TO \$1600!**

**Eligibility requirements for the Primary Residence Property Tax Credit:**

- Must own a home in ND and reside in it as your primary residence
- One credit per household, no age or income restrictions
- Must apply and be approved annually to receive the credit

**Application Deadline: April 1, 2026**  
**Apply Online: [www.tax.nd.gov/prc](http://www.tax.nd.gov/prc)**