

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

Mercer County Commission Minutes
June 3, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice Chairman Jamee Folk. Present were Commissioners Steve Guenther, Gene Wolf, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed, and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Rick Bauman was absent. Others present during the meeting were Treasurer Dawn Grannis, Tax Director/Land Use Administrator Jennifer Neumiller, Building Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers, HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteiner, Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt, NextEra Representatives Chase Dauenhauer, Wayne Bertsch, Melissa Brooks, Stephanie Morales, Mike Knuth, Kay LaCoe, Basin Electric Power Cooperative Director of Community and Member Relations Chad Reisenauer, Vanguard Appraisals Representatives Ryan Ehli, Jordan Harrington, Joe Grannis, Jen Gabel, Lori Hammer, Michael Berg, Weston Berg, Kevin Hafner, Steven Eid, Maxwell Eid, Chester Eid, Elizabeth Lundstrom, Wes Klein, Kevin Hafner, Linette Irwin, and Kevin Irwin. Pledge of allegiance was said. Wolf moved to approve the amended agenda. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Amendments to the agenda include Planning & Zoning Subcommittee Meeting update and State Public Comment Policy.

Guenther moved to approve the May 20, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented, with the following changes; On page 1, first paragraph change "Case" to Chase," add "Wes Klein." On page 2, 6th line down, change "Basin Electric Cooperative Director of Community and Member Relations Chad Reisenauer" to "Next Era Project Development Director Chase Dauenhauer." Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Building Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers requested the purchase of safety bollards for the Stanton fuel tank and for the Beulah Building site fuel tank. Voigt moved to approve the purchase of 4 bollards for a maximum cost of \$4,000. Wolf seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Albers presented the 2026 WSI CEG Safety Check for \$35,338.26 and requested that it be used for risk management activities that aid in making the workplace safe. Voigt moved to approve the deposit of the CEG Safety Check of \$35,338.26 into the Risk Management (WSI) Fund #2105. Guenther seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Hazen Legion Member and Hazen Scout Master Steven Eid requested permission to hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Saturday, June 13th at 10 a.m. at the Riverside Park in Hazen. The Fire Department, Legion and Scouts will be in attendance and this event is open to the public.

The J2 Studio bill for \$3,330.00 was put with bills for approval. The State Public Comment Policy was added to the June 17, 2026 Agenda. Basin Electric Power Cooperative Director of Community and Member Relations Chad Reisenauer gave an overview and update on the Basin large load program. Recessed at 10:06 a.m. Reconvened at 10:20 a.m. Voigt moved to approve advertising for the new Tax Department Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector position. Wolf seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Voigt gave a Planning & Zoning subcommittee update. Portfolio Updates were given At 10:30 a.m. Wolf moved to close the regular meeting and open the Equalization of Assessments Public Hearing. Voigt seconded. All vote aye. Motion carried. Tax Director/Land Use Administrator Jennifer Neumiller went over the century code and process of the Equalization of Assessments. Explained the Vanguard assessments that have been done within the county. Vanguard Appraisals Representative Ryan Ehli answered questions regarding these assessments. Presented are the Mercer County Equalization of Assessments Presented:

Trac & Full	2025	2026	Difference
City of Beulah	261,573,130	277,144,090	15,570,960
City of Golden Valley	8,296,300	10,884,990	2,588,690
City of Hazen	199,527,394	205,078,175	5,550,781
City of Pick City	21,572,200	26,892,490	5,320,290
City of Stanton	25,812,210	26,859,180	846,970
City of Zap	12,484,550	11,632,970	-851,580
County (Res & Com)	399,575,815	466,064,110	66,488,295
Ag Land	243,480,546	247,876,843	4,396,297
Total County	1,171,273,155	1,272,232,948	100,959,793

Taxable Valuation	2025	2026	Difference
City of Beulah	12,007,158	12,216,328	209,170
City of Golden Valley	380,356	499,146	118,790
City of Hazen	9,094,309	9,351,550	257,241
City of Pick City	984,301	1,222,951	238,650
City of Stanton	1,199,682	1,239,415	39,733
City of Zap	566,235	528,206	-38,029
County (Res & Com)	18,379,234	21,495,026	3,115,792
Ag Land	12,121,624	12,393,842	272,218
Total County	54,732,999	59,455,873	4,722,874

Residential	Commercial	
Before Adjustments	87.2%	82.50%
After Adjustments	92.0%	94.0%

Estimated*	Increase	Decrease	Total
New Growth T & F Value	29,630,336	3,245,840	26,384,496
New Growth Taxable Value	1,373,336	156,942	1,216,394

Parcel #	Jurisdiction	Name	Address	Original Value	Adjusted Value	Action taken
01-144-84-00-26-801	MERCER COUNTY	John Schwab	3741 11TH ST SW	\$502,850	\$502,850	NO CHANGE
01-145-84-00-27-605	MERCER COUNTY	Maria Grimm	3858 4th St SW	\$541,650	\$446,650	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-86-00-16-203	MERCER COUNTY	Milo Dyke	HWY 200	\$151,250	\$93,380	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-86-00-18-806	MERCER COUNTY	Mindy Iverson	115 Glacier Iverson	\$46,630	\$24,290	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-86-00-19-202	MERCER COUNTY	Tyron Boraug	Co RD 27	\$238,150	\$169,850	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-86-09-15-401	MERCER COUNTY	Fritel, Charles & Jayme	5076 HWY 200	\$542,870	\$542,870	NO CHANGE
03-144-86-10-18-813 (Storage Unit)	MERCER COUNTY	William Lerner		\$169,350	\$169,350	NO CHANGE
03-144-86-10-18-814 (Storage Unit)	MERCER COUNTY	William Lerner	405 3rd St NW	\$177,370	\$177,370	NO CHANGE
03-144-87-00-10-206	MERCER COUNTY	Kasey Lesmann	747 56th ave SW	\$664,860	\$590,260	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-87-00-19-200	MERCER COUNTY	Verna Gowin	VAC LOT/Frac of NE4	\$25,500	\$9,000	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-87-33-10-202	MERCER COUNTY	Stuart & Wendy Mead	743 CO Rd 9	\$33,360	\$17,380	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-144-87-33-10-203	MERCER COUNTY	Stuart & Wendy Mead	743 CO Rd 9	\$701,550	\$638,900	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
03-146-85-00-03-601	MERCER COUNTY	Lyle Knell	540 Hwy 200 N	\$474,110	\$370,030	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-144-87-00-32-603	MERCER COUNTY	Randy Hunter	1198 59th Ave SW	\$658,940	\$635,930	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-144-87-15-18-402	MERCER COUNTY	Ronald & Deborah Eklund	810 60th Ave SW	\$576,200	\$507,360	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-144-88-00-13-401	MERCER COUNTY	Lester G & Debra Herringer	HWY 200	\$241,890	\$184,860	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-144-88-00-24-202	MERCER COUNTY	Midco	Co Rd 21	\$139,020	\$139,020	NO CHANGE
27-144-89-00-07-601	MERCER COUNTY	Morgan Dalman	7198 Hwy 200	\$481,200	\$450,500	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-144-90-00-29-603	MERCER COUNTY	Robert & Stacy Johnson	1013 76th Ave SW	\$405,140	\$377,830	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
27-145-90-00-02-400	MERCER COUNTY	Brendan & Julie Brinkman	30 74th Ave SW	\$345,620	\$326,920	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
48-141-88-00-33-200	MERCER COUNTY	Mark Kotter	6325 29TH ST SW	\$217,010	\$172,660	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
66-144-90-05-02-01	CITY OF GOLDEN VALLEY	Robert & Stacy Johnson	28 Railroad St	\$80,020	\$80,020	NO CHANGE
PP-147-85-01-16-05	CITY OF PICK CITY	Ryan Davis	72 2nd Ln SE	\$273,790	\$259,970	ADJUSTED LISTING INFO
TOTAL:				\$7,688,330	\$6,887,260	

Folk called for anyone who was present that wanted to speak regarding the equalization assessments or appealed properties. Nothing was heard. Wolf moved to approve the Mercer County Equalization of Assessments and the Appealed Property changes as presented. Guenther seconded. Wolf voted aye. Guenther voted aye. Voigt voted aye. Folk voted aye. Motion carried. At 10:39 a.m. Guenther moved to close the Equalization of Assessments Public Hearing and open the regular meeting. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Reviewing Vouchers. Suspended at 10:45 a.m. Linette Irwin from Hazen spoke during the Public Comment Period. Voigt moved to approve the bills as presented including the J2 Studio bill for \$3,330.00. Guenther seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment: ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$1,809.11; ASKIM, CRAIG \$99.33; AUTO VALUE \$504.38; AUTOAGENT DATA SOLUTIONS, LLC \$199.00; BEULAH JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY \$1,196.67; BRONSON'S MARKETPLACE \$13,010.03; BUTLER MACHINERY CO \$121.30; CHARM-TEX, INC. \$1,120.22; COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEM-

ICAL CORP. \$1,897.58; D & E SUPPLY CO INC \$1,169.39; DAKOTA AWARDS, INC. \$89.95; DIRECT MED \$70.24; ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC \$2,470.44; ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INC \$1,642.06; EVERSPPRING INN AND SUITES \$220.00; FARGO GLASS & PAINT COMPANY \$2,560.76; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$26.00; FARMERS UNION SERVICE ASSOC. LTD \$2,858.00; FITTERER OIL HAZEN LLC \$1,221.82; FOLKERTS, JESSE \$167.91; GALLS, LLC \$195.95; GUENTHER, STEVE \$387.13; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$58.35; HAZEN MOTOR CO \$475.00; HAZEN STAR \$90.00; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT \$3,092.80; J2 Studio \$3,330.00; JOHNSEN TRAILER SALES, INC. \$12.10; KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY \$173.24; KRAIN CREEK FABRICATION, INC \$1,489.29; KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$334.04; L-TRON CORPORATION \$1,878.00; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES \$360.00; LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$315.40; MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT \$1,086.54; MERCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT \$277.13; MID-CONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$251.30; MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES \$78.31; MOORE ENGINEERING \$20,436.94; NAPA \$1,673.99; NDCHCA \$100.00; NDSU AG COMMUNICATION \$13.50; NEUBERGER

OIL COMPANY \$14,878.84; NORTHWEST TIRE AUTO SERVICE INC. \$2,600.00; OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR \$9,256.75; OLSON ELECTRIC \$274.35; PHARM-CHEM, INC. \$447.30; POITRAS, RACHEL \$112.00; POSTMASTER \$162.00; PUKLICH CHEVROLET \$36.99; RDO EQUIPMENT CO \$249.36; S & M LAWN SERVICE \$440.00; SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$59.94; STERICYCLE, INC. \$24.50; T-MOBILE USA, INC. \$87.34; UNIFORM CENTER \$757.91; VERIZON WIRELESS \$84.44; VOIGT, CASEY LEE \$274.75; WEX BANK \$63.33; WOLF, GENE \$275.40; CITY OF BEULAH \$152.37; GRINSTEINER, ALICE \$753.63; HAUSAUER, IZABELLE \$160.00; TESKY, LEONARD \$354.62. (TOTAL: \$100,069.02) There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. Meetings can be viewed live at <https://www.youtube.com/@MercerCo> Approved: Jamee Folk, Vice-Chairman Attest: Carmen Reed, Auditor (07-02-2026)

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