

Public Notice

School Board Election 2026

Notice is hereby given by Sonya Larson, Business Manager of Kidder County Public School District, that on Tuesday, June 9th, 2026 annual elections will be held for the purpose of electing members of the school board.

Any candidates for election as a member of the school board shall file with the Business Manager no later than 4:00 PM on April 6th, 2026 in accordance with the NDCC 15.1-09-08. A candidate must also file a Statement of Interest as required by section 16.1-09-02.

School board members whose terms expire: Jeff Schmidt, former Steele District and Justin Olson, former Tappen District.

Voting polls will be at the Steele School. Hours will be from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Absentee Ballot Applications will be available by requesting them from the School Office for those that have not submitted one yet in 2026.

/s/ Sonya Larson
Business Manager, Kidder County Public School District

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, KIDDER COUNTY, STEELE, NORTH DAKOTA December 12, 2025 10:00 am

The Board of County Commissioners met on Friday, December 12, 2025 in the Commissioners room at the Kidder County Courthouse in Steele, ND. Commissioners Darrell Guthmiller, Tim C. Dronen, Nicholas Friez and Auditor Jean Schoenhard present. Also Present: Richard Paolinelli Steele Ozone & Kidder County Press, Dennis Agnew, Trish Agnew, Carrie Truax, Jason Steidl, Jon Martin Wold Engineering, Mike Rivinius Wold Engineering. Chairman Guthmiller called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Planning & Zoning recommendation to the Commission board: Public Notice for the Zoning meeting was not officially noticed for two weeks in the Steele Ozone, there for the project cannot be finalized today. Discussion was held on access, easement, septic and water, I-94 right of way, signage and the Beautification Act, and keeping the project in the county. Agnew's left the meeting.

Public Comments: None Discussion was held on the reappointment of the weed board members. Discussion held on parttime sprayer. Commissioner Dronen and Commissioner Guthmiller will contact expired term weed board members.

Mike Rivinius and Jon Martin Wold Engineering joined the table. Discussion was held flex funding and SRF funding. Martin and Rivinius left the meeting.

Discussion was held on blades, blade tires and a broken wing.

Chairman Guthmiller turned the meeting over to Auditor Schoenhard for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman. Guthmiller nominated Dronen for Chairman, nomination died due to lack of a second, Dronen nominated Guthmiller for Chairman, seconded by Friez. Schoenhard called for other nominations, none presented, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, Darrell Guthmiller will be Chairman. Schoenhard turned the meeting over to Guthmiller.

Guthmiller called for nominations for Vice Chairman, Guthmiller nominated Dronen, seconded by Friez, Guthmiller had Schoenhard call for other nominations, none presented, call for vote all in favor, aye, opposed none. Timothy C. Dronen will be Vice Chairman.

Commissioner meeting dates and time were discussed. All meetings except June meeting will be the 2nd Friday of the month. June will be held the first Friday in June due to County Equalization which has to be held before June 10th of each year. Dronen made the motion to approve County Commissioners meeting dates and move the starting time to 9:00am, seconded by Friez, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried.

Discussion was held on tax statements and the legislative changes to the tax statements and state mandated programing changes. Because of the changes tax statements were sent out later than usual. Discussion was also held on the mandated changes to the PRC (Primary Residence Credit) and the cost for these state mandated programing changes.

Prairie Meadows and Ivory House yearly liquor licenses were reviewed. Discussion held on 2026 Cottonwood and Lakeside Grill & Bar liquor licenses.

Friez made a motion to grant Prairie Meadows and Ivory House 2026 liquor licenses, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried.

Friez made a motion to grant Cottonwood Golf Course and Lakeside Grill & Bar 2026 liquor licenses upon

completion of the required yearly paperwork, seconded by Dronen, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried. Schoenhard will issue licenses after paper work is received.

Custodian Clare Heinze joined the meeting.

Minutes of November 14, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Friez moved to accept the minutes. Dronen seconded. Motion passed with 3-0 vote.

The agenda was reviewed. Dronen moved to adopt the agenda with additions seconded by Friez. Vote 3-0 motion passed.

Heinze talked to the Board about the sewer/plumbing issues at the KCSS/Food Pantry Building. Discussion was held on the sewer issues in the building. Heinze met with Hayward Electric for lighting. Heinze will get estimates to fix the plumbing issues. Guthmiller said the Council on Aging is applying for a grant and since the county owns the building the commission needs to sign the grant. Discussion held on lighting, expanding the kitchen, updating equipment and overhauling the sewer system on the Senior Services kitchen side. Dronen made the motion to sign the grant, seconded by Friez, discussion was held on the grant, lighting, funding, installing LED lights and how they work.

Call for a vote: all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried. Exit signs were also discussed along with plumbing, getting bids for the plumbing. Heinze and Steidl left the meeting. Monthly State Aid was reviewed and discussed. Guthmiller made the motion to transfer half of the State Aid to the building fund from the general fund, seconded by Dronen, discussion none, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried.

2026 election was discussed. Kidder County will continue with six precincts and be a vote by mail county with one polling location. Schoenhard will check with Pifer's Auction & Realty for the location of the one polling location. Polling hours will be from 7 am to 7 pm. Primary Election date is June 9, 2026 and General Election will be November 3, 2026.

Recorder Barb Steinke and Deputy Recorder Geri Aichele came to the meeting to thank the Commission for granting December 26th off and to let them know it was appreciated. Closure of the courthouse for bad weather was discussed. Commission chairman and sheriff is to make the decision. Discussion was held on following the school closures for bad weather. Steinke and Aichele left the meeting. Tractor lease was discussed. DEM Loren Lang joined the meeting with a FEMA project update on storm damage from the summer and is still a work in progress. Dawson road was discussed. Jason Steidl rejoined the meeting. Discussion was held on approved mitigation. Lang left the meeting.

Discussion was held on Rental Equipment Rates. Sheep foot packer, cooker for tarring and tandem truck and seasonal help were discussed. Will remove the sheep foot packer, cooker for tarring and tandem for the Rental Equipment Rates sheet. Recess for lunch 12:05 pm Resume from lunch 1:30pm all Commissioners, Sheriff Barry Vannatta present.

Discussion was held on Sheriff's Deputies and a quote from Midwest Security for courthouse security. Discussion was held on roads and weight limits for Load Pass. Sharon Tecca was asked to the meeting and was asked to help with the project. It will not cost townships to join load pass. Discussion was held on retaining a percentage from the fees collected in townships for administration and membership costs. Guthmiller made a motion the County will retain 30% of the Load Pass permit fees collected in townships for administrative fees and membership costs and townships will receive 70% of the fee, seconded by Dronen, discussion held the percent-

age and Sheriff Admin Assistant Sharon Tecca helping with Load Pass. Tecca will work on this project. call for a vote: all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried.

Discussion was held on coverage for Sheriff Vannatta when he gone.

Senior Services Director Lorrie Craven joined the meeting. Craven spoke on the Rural Catalyst Grant for the Council on Aging. All the cooking for meals is done in Steele and they would like to increase the size of the kitchen and upgrading the building. Discussion held.

Craven is finalizing 3 grants for transit. Discussion was held on lighting estimates. Financials and mills were discussed. Buses were also discussed. Craven left the meeting.

Dan P Mittleider joined the meeting Courtroom grant for lighting was discussed. Guthmiller signed the grant paperwork.

Sheriff Vannatta left the meeting. Mittleider said there was some misinformation concerning the past County City Law Enforcement Agreement and the use of the county vehicle for city use.

Discussion was also held on the Ambulance District and its by-laws and filling positions on the board from each quadrant. Mittleider left the meeting

Discussion was held on the shared Stutsman County Road.

December bills were reviewed. Courthouse Payroll:

Commissioners, Courthouse, Weed Board, Back the Blue Grant:	\$32,755.66
Less WH 3,129.35, SS 2,584.81	
ND St. Tax WH 131.19,	
Insurance 617.50, Deferred Compensation 2,075.00, FSA 100.00	\$24,117.81
Commissioner Approved Payroll:	
General Fund, Hwy Tax Fund, Co. Agent, VSO, Co. Library, Zoning:	\$44,354.51
Less WH 2,711.83, SS 3,499.94,	
ND St. Tax 2.56, Wage WH 1,011.12	
Insurance 491.47, Deferred Compensation 1,800.00	\$34,837.59

Choice Financial	19,622.22
WEX Bank	248.55
Genex Fleet Fueling	518.08
Verizon	429.73
Cardmember Services	2,217.91
Choice Financial	19,622.22
Barry Vannatta	50.00
BEK	927.61
Blue 360 Media	258.57
Clare Heinze	451.32
Cole Paper Inc	719.67
Darwin's Plumbing & Heating	800.00
Hayward Electric	5,825.00
NDITD	1,085.55
Kidder County Ambulance	471.69
Loren Lang	318.50
ND Post Board	150.00
NRG	1,672.86
Quill	102.17
River City Heating & Air	2,799.69
The Sidwell Company	3,210.00
Tyler Technologies, Inc	4,850.86
Uniform Center	3,811.94
Ward Hilger	49.71
WEX Health	70.00
City of Steele	310.20
Farmers & Merchants Oil Co	
.	2,172.62
Menards	1,764.27
MDU	1,392.37
Runnings	173.81
Farmers & Merchants Oil Co	64.65
Highmark Dirtworks	3,895.50
RJ Dirt Worx	16,792.02
Anne Craven	186.48
BEK Communications	155.53
City of Steele	92.16
DEMCO	688.39
Ingram Library Services	2,775.38
Janet Schauer	42.42
Marcia Fanta	30.80
MDU	126.63
Quill	269.23
Roto Rooter	385.00
USPS	280.00
Monica Fitterer	83.04
NDSU Extension Service	119.00
Sandra Dewald	9.10
Steele Ozone	50.00
Chris Gerr	31.50
Kenny Fischer	9.80
Mike Keily	16.80
Pat Leier	39.20
Kevin Price	817.30
Brian Bieber	665.60
Dean Eberl	828.24
Fettig Cattle Co	3,109.46
Gail Filler	3,936.13
Jarrid Arndt	1,268.12
Jesse & Jennifer Livingston	10,928.00
Josh Schmig	1,044.00
Livingston Ranch	15,690.00
Pete Glatt	198.43
Richard Dewitz	966.37
Steven Eberl	1,714.34
Tyler Fischer	1,087.68
Vic Reidinger	1,254.40
Tuttle Farmers Elevator	28.35
Butler	1,271.00
Dewald Tire Sales & Service	11,108.50
Farmers Union Oil - Pettibone	3,016.69
KEM Electric	710.69
Marlins Convenience Store	408.89
Newman Signs	3,724.49
North Central Rental & Leasing	809.60
Northern Plains Electric Coop	90.88
RDO Equipment	184.75

South Central Water District	41.20
Tappen Farm Supply	276.85
Tappen Oil Company	704.22
US Records Midwest LLC	656.48
Underground Vaults & Storage	219.00
Taylor Print & Visual Impressions	3,670.00
Steele Auto Body	152.74
Jay Dukart	20.00
Derrick Hanson	20.00
Garrett Pfaff	20.00
Dakota Springer	20.00

Friez made the motion to approve the December bills. Seconded by Dronen. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Monthly reports were reviewed and signed: County Recorder: \$1,118.00 November 2025. County Sheriff: \$148.40 November 2025.

Dronen and Guthmiller contacted Mike Keily and Ron Martin they agreed to remain on the weed board. Dronen made the motion to reappoint Mike Keily and Ron Martin to the Weed Control Board, seconded by Friez, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, opposed, none, motion carried.

Discussion was held on increasing the Water Resource Board from 3 members to 5 members from different areas in the county. Dronen made the motion to increase the Water Resource board to 5 members, seconded by Friez, discussion was held on the need, roll call vote: Guthmiller, Aye, Dronen, Aye, Friez, Aye. Motion carried. Commission will contact the board members.

Discussion was held on signs, sign rack and keeping all signs at the Steele old county shop. Discussion held on road projects this summer and documenting road projects during the summer.

Sheriff Barry Vannatta and Clerk of Court Barb Steinke joined the meeting. Discussion was held on a court matter. Vannatta and Steinke left the meeting.

West River Equipment discussed an all-purpose machine instead of a tractor. Tabled until the next meeting. Discussion was held on paying off one of the blades. Guthmiller made a motion to pay off loan number 2228741 for a John Deere Blade from the Kidder Road Fund, seconded by Dronen, discussion held on paying off the higher interest rate blade vs paying on one of the lower interest loans, call for a roll call vote: Guthmiller, aye, Dronen, aye, Friez, aye. Motion carried.

With no further business before the board Guthmiller made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm.

Read and approved this 9th day of January 2026.

/s/ Darrell Guthmiller,
Chairman Board of
County Commissioners
/s/ Jean Schoenhard,
County Auditor

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA IN DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF KIDDER SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Civil No. 22-2026-PR-00002

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EVELYN MEIER, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above Estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Travis Meier, Personal Representative of the Estate, and his attorney, Mary Maichel Guler, at PO Box 2196, Bismarck, ND 58502-2196, or filed with the Court. Dated this 20th day of February, 2026.

/s/ Travis Meier,

Personal Representative
Name, Address, and Telephone No.
of Attorney
Mary Maichel Guler (ID 04393)
Bergeson & Guler Law Offices,
P.C.
125 Slate Drive, Suite 7, P.O. Box
2196 Bismarck, ND 58502-2196
(701) 223-1986
mguler@gbg-lawoffice.com

Allen Township

Annual Meeting

March 9th at 7:00pm

Tax Equalization Meeting

April 8th at 7:00pm

Both meetings at the Mark and Jackie Shipley home.

Mark Shipley, Clerk

Sibley Township Annual Meeting and Election

March 16, 2026

6:00 pm

Dawson City Hall

1 position up for election

Steven Eberl, Clerk

Haynes Township Annual Meeting and Election

March 17th

6:00 pm

Equalization

April 13th

6:00 pm

All meetings at the home of the clerk.

Brenda Schultz, Clerk

CRYSTAL SPRINGS TOWNSHIP

Annual Meeting & Election
March 17th, 2026, from 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Tax Equalization Meeting
April 13, 2026 @ 2:30pm

Meetings take place at the Kramlich home