

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**AUGUST 5, 2025**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 A.M. on August 5, 2025 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Tim Campbell, Terry Goerger, Rollie Ehlert, and Perry Miller. Commissioner Nathan Berseth was absent. Others included Administrative Personnel Fossum and South, Assistant State's Attorney Rydell, Jesse Sedler, Donnie Witt, Sarah Erickson, Tracy Hanson, Karime Guererro, and Brett Lambrecht.

Commissioner Campbell called the meeting to order and announced an addition to the agenda; Darlene Lee, Riverside Cemetery. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve the agenda as amended. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Goerger to approve the minutes of meetings July 1, July 22, and Budget Meetings July 22. Vote was unanimous.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Goerger to approve the Treasurer's Report. Vote was unanimous.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence from Garrison Diversion - grant applications must be postmarked by September 2, 2025.

**TRACY HANSEN – CITY CONTRACT & INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE**

Tracy Hansen addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding a communications contract with the City of Wahpeton. Hansen stated the contract is the same as last year's, nothing has changed. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve a 1-year communications agreement with City of Wahpeton. Vote was unanimous.

In other business, Hansen introduced Karime Guerrero to the Board of Commissioners. Guerrero just completed 6 months of dispatcher training; Hansen presented Guerrero with a challenge coin in recognition of her hard work.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway personnel in attendance were Jesse Sedler and Donnie Witt. Sedler gave the following updates regarding Highway activity:

paving - finished up last night  
drain tile – completed last week  
graveling now with independent contractor  
temp employees will be done in one week

#### **DARLENE LEE – RIVERSIDE CEMETERY**

Darlene Lee addressed the Commission regarding four Civil War markers located at Riverside Cemetery in Wahpeton. The corner markers are breaking down and cannot be repaired. Lee proposed placing a prefabricated metal sign to commemorate the Civil War veterans and distributed a photo of the proposed sign to the Board of Commissioners. Lee stated that Valley Fabrication has offered to fabricate, prime, paint, and install the sign at no cost. A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Miller to approve removing corner markers at Riverside Cemetery and replacing with metal prefab sign donated by Valley Fabrication. Vote was unanimous.

#### **APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Fossum emailed a revised preliminary budget to the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting for review. Fossum stated that the revenue went down slightly due to corrections in Wahpeton's TIF district figures. The preliminary budget is sitting at 95.94 mills. Fossum prepared the budget with a 1.5% cost of living adjustment and no step on the scale.

It was the consensus of the Board of Commissioners to try to achieve a 2.7% cost of living adjustment for employees. The Commission discussed possible areas cuts could be made and will revisit. A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Ehlert to approve the preliminary budget as presented. Vote was unanimous.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A) HSZ Board – Nothing to report.

B) Buildings & Grounds – Commissioner Ehlert reported that there was an issue with some of the ceiling units in the Courthouse. John has been addressing the issues; the faulty controllers have been replaced. Drain tile project to start in September.

C) Public Health – Nothing to report.

D) JDA/JPA – Commissioner Ehlert reported that the JDA auctioned a few items at the last meeting and got funding worked out for the Historical Society. JDA has two vacancies: City of Lidgerwood and City of Wahpeton.

E) Weed Board – Commissioner Goerger reported that the board is looking to purchase a used fork-lift with a portion of the funds from the items sold at auction. Bid for furnace came in at \$3750.

F) Soils Committee – Nothing to report.

G) Park Board – Commissioner Ehlert reported that the new sign is up at Mooreton Pond. Flags need to be placed where rock is needed, old grills will be removed.

H) Administration – Nothing to report.

### **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Miller to approve the payment of the bills. Vote was unanimous.

Lambrecht gave a brief update regarding the new FEMA Floodplain Ordinance. He continues to work with Townships to assist, as the authority falls back on the county now. He will be signing off as floodplain manager on a DOT project that has been held up in Walcott Township.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

#### August

12 State Equalization  
19 Commission Meeting

#### September

2 Commission Meeting  
16 Commission Meeting – Final Budget Hearing

#### October

7 Commission Meeting  
21 Commission Meeting  
26-28 NDACo Annual Conference

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 A.M.

Reports filed: Sheriff's Department – Revenue & Expenses for June 2025.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_CHAIRPERSON  
Tim Campbell  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for July, 2025

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	325,609.71
County Highway	\$	126,054.42
911 Communications	\$	61,241.93
County Agent	\$	5,780.32
Veterans Service	\$	11,043.06
Weed Officer	\$	660.00
Public Health Fund	\$	69,725.64
Income Maintenance	\$	68,371.04
Foster Care	\$	21,052.95
Child Protective Svc	\$	39,274.27
Parent Aid	\$	4,878.60
Family Soc Worker	\$	5,493.41
Social Services	\$	78,465.78
In-Home Care	\$	20,992.60
Admin Support	\$	18,005.08
JDA	\$	225.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	856,873.81

EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to resolution records

County General Accounts	\$	465,877.23
County Highway	\$	129,166.79
Bridge Replacement	\$	-
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	44,024.00
Prairie Dog Disbursements	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Social Services Fund	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	33,061.76
NDRIN	\$	527.94
Capitol Improvement	\$	2,307.00
Water Rescue	\$	610.01
Special Response Team	\$	-
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	-
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	-
County Agent	\$	2,740.93
Veterans Service	\$	8,276.97
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	252.28
Public Health	\$	34,544.86
Haz Chem Fund	\$	-
Income Maintenance	\$	31,467.62
Foster Care	\$	5,220.59

Child Protective Svc	\$	19,339.39
Parent Aid	\$	1,366.71
Family Soc Worker	\$	3,366.35
Social Services	\$	35,876.88
In-Home Care	\$	10,669.60
Admin Support	\$	15,003.89
HSZ Board	\$	-
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	-
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	-
General Assistance	\$	-
Program Cost Revenue	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	670.33
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	-
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	5,976.62
Garrison Div	\$	670.37
Domestic Violence	\$	210.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	-
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	16,258.51
Jail Concession	\$	-
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	-
SEMCA	\$	2,008.40
County General Accounts	\$	12,045.51
Diversion Settlement	\$	182,623.11
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	8,900.15
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	1,204.13
Historical Society	\$	298.50
Co Agent Special	\$	216.06
Soil Cons District	\$	471.78
Water Mngt Levy	\$	3,717.37
Joint Water Resource	\$	1,005.42
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	1,079,977.06
 TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	\$	 1,936,850.87

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_CHAIRPERSON  
Tim Campbell  
Board of Richland County Commissioners