

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 3, 2026

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 A.M. March 3, 2026 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Terry Goerger, Nathan Berseth, Rollie Ehlert, Perry Miller, and Tim Campbell. Others included Administrative Personnel Fossum and South, State's Attorney Kummer, Jesse Sedler, Sarah Erickson, Brett Lambrecht, Alan Dahlman, Donovan Buck, and Daily News Reporter Manisha Reddy.

Commissioner Goerger called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Miller to approve the agenda. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to approve the minutes of meetings February 3 and February 17. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve the Treasurer's Report. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests submitted for public comment.

ALAN DAHLMAN – RICHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM UPDATE

Alan Dahlman and Donovan Buck were present from the Historical Society. Dahlman gave the following updates regarding the Historical Museum:

- will open second or third week in April and be open through October
- they will also be open one Saturday per month and by appointment
- the basement floor repairs are complete, they will apply a peel and stick tile over the top
- some lighting has been upgraded to LED, still working on the west wing
- working to attract more visitors, and have seen an increase in numbers from 2024 to 2025

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from the Wahpeton CDC – Notice of Annual Meeting at Wahpeton Event Center with guest speaker Governor Kelly Armstrong, scheduled March 23rd at 5:00 P.M. – RSVP by March 6th.

Correspondence from the Court Facilities Advisory Committee – they are offering a summer cycle for grant applications – must be postmarked no later than May 31, 2026.

Correspondence from SE Water – Notice of Annual Meeting scheduled Wednesday, March 11th 1:00 P.M. at the Mantador VFW.

Annual Township Officer Meeting is scheduled March 31st at 7:00 P.M. in the Community Room at the Law Enforcement Center.

Fossum informed the Commission that new hire, DeeDee Rezac, started yesterday in the Extension Office.

Fossum informed the Commission that the vote center located in Lidgerwood will be at the KC Hall instead of the Legion as it is more accessible for voters. Fossum asked the Commission if they would like her to mail out postcards with vote center addresses and other voter info as was done in the 2024 election cycle; the Commission gave their consent for the postcards to be mailed out.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sedler gave the following updates regarding Highway activities:

- landowner meeting was held for CR 1 Project, \$3000/acre was offered for ROW
- areas will be steaked before contractors start
- will start advertising Wednesday, March 11th for bids on CR 1 Project, bids will be due April 6th
- there is a bridge in Summit Township that will be inspected today, issue was brought up to Water Resources, but resident did not attend the meeting last week so they are not exactly sure what he is asking for
- OTP has been in contact with Selder regarding haul routes and a possible bridge jumper for the Solar Project

State's Attorney Kummer drafted a loan agreement between the City of Mooreton and Richland County for their portion if the CR 1 project; Kummer distributed the agreement to the Board of Commissioners for review. Kummer stated that if signed today, the agreement is only half executed until the City of Mooreton approves and signs the agreement.

BID OPENING - CULVERTS

Bid Opening – Culverts – The following bids were received:

TrueNorth Steel, Fargo ND	24" pipe	\$36.48/ft
Contech Engineered Solutions, Fargo ND	24" pipe	\$33.25/ft

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to accept culvert bids. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) HSZ Board – Some frustrations were discussed at the last meeting regarding miscommunication with another department.
- B) Buildings & Grounds – One pod in the jail has been evacuated due to a door lock issue. Pod should be operational again by Wednesday.
- C) Public Health – Continue to track measles; letters have been schools, daycares, etc. regarding exposure guidelines. In the planning process of a tobacco summit for county schools. Hiring a .6FTE Correctional RN. Possible Health District is still being discussed.
- D) JDA/JPA – JDA: No new loans have been approved. JPA: Queen Anne is moving along with renovations. Sold two houses in Colfax. Bid opening March 9th for Legacy Lakes.
- E) Weed Board – Letters will be going on regarding the LAP Program. New LP furnace is efficient. Board will meet later this month.
- F) Soils Committee – New committee will meet later in the year.
- G) Park Board – Board will meet April 20th; meeting was rescheduled from March.
- H) Administration – Auditors will start the 2025 audit March 23rd.

Commissioner Berseth exited the meeting at 8:55 A.M.

BRETT LAMBRECHT – HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AND DISASTER MEMBERSHIP

Emergency Manager Brett Lambrecht addressed the Commission regarding a \$25 membership with the Lions Disaster Relief Corp. The membership would allow the county access to a disaster emergency trailer during major emergency events, the trailers will be operational June 30, 2026. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Campbell to authorize Lambrecht to participate in the Lions Club Disaster Trailer Membership. On a roll call vote, vote was unanimous (4-0).

Lambrecht informed the Commission that there are still funds available from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant. Lambrecht will apply again for bullet-proof glass doors at the LEC. His application was denied in 2025.

Commissioner Berseth re-entered the meeting at 9:00 A.M.

Lambrecht reported that he is working with local Fire Departments to create a quick response team for grass fires in Richland County. The group wants to ensure that they have an additional fire engine ready for each location, should another emergency occur at the same time.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Miller gave a brief update regarding a study on the Colfax Aquafer that the JPA is funding. Miller said they have been told in the past that the water is undesirable due to its sulphate content. Miller said the study will show if the water can be blended for use to help take some of the burden off the Wahpeton Buried Aquafer.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Goerger to approve the payment of the bills. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

17 Commission Meeting

April

7 Commission Meeting

21 Commission Meeting

May

5 Commission Meeting

19 Commission Meeting

Motion to adjourn by Ehlert.
Meeting adjourned at 9:22 A.M.

ATTEST: _____
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

_____CHAIRPERSON
Terry Goerger
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for February, 2026

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	332,723.28
County Highway	\$	116,490.10
911 Communications	\$	66,424.78
County Agent	\$	5,912.05
Veterans Service	\$	11,424.40
Weed Officer	\$	635.00
Public Health Fund	\$	71,039.65
Income Maintenance	\$	74,006.20
Foster Care	\$	21,225.95
Child Protective Svc	\$	39,525.27
Parent Aid	\$	5,022.60
Family Soc Worker	\$	5,493.41
Social Services	\$	87,856.50
In-Home Care	\$	23,425.39
Admin Support	\$	17,610.56
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	878,815.14

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General Accounts	\$	226,750.78
County Highway	\$	165,445.53
Bridge Replacement	\$	82,613.65
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	-
Prairie Dog Disbursements	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Social Services Fund	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	36,242.62
NDRIN	\$	158.90
Capitol Improvement	\$	-
Water Rescue	\$	51.31
Special Response Team	\$	462.00
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	-
County Agent	\$	1,572.58
Veterans Service	\$	5,174.64
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	2,838.06
Public Health	\$	23,785.58
Haz Chem Fund	\$	52.45
Income Maintenance	\$	23,404.88
Foster Care	\$	5,405.76
Child Protective Svc	\$	14,773.11
Parent Aid	\$	1,227.51

Family Soc Worker	\$	2,663.32
Social Services	\$	27,725.49
In-Home Care	\$	14,229.65
Admin Support	\$	13,810.79
HSZ Board	\$	-
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	-
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	-
General Assistance	\$	-
Program Cost Revenue	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	34,499.12
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	1,274.50
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	34,500.29
Domestic Violence	\$	175.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	98,720.25
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	20,110.75
Jail Concession	\$	-
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	-
EWTF	\$	5,717.15
County General Accounts	\$	-
Diversion Settlement	\$	99,026.92
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	35,159.20
Historical Society	\$	8,787.53
Co Agent Special	\$	591.89
Soil Cons District	\$	28,945.77
Water Mngt Levy	\$	105,760.24
Joint Water Resource	\$	51,749.12
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	3,898,966.05
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	5,072,372.39
 TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	 \$	 5,951,187.53

ATTEST: _____
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

_____CHAIRPERSON
 Terry Goerger
 Board of Richland County Commissioners