

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OCTOBER 7, 2025

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 A.M. October 7, 2025 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Tim Campbell, Terry Goerger, Nathan Berseth, Rollie Ehlert, and Perry Miller. Others included Administrative Personnel Fossum and South, State's Attorney Kummer, Jesse Sedler, Donnie Witt, John Anderson, Sarah Erickson, Melissa Brown, Ronda Gripentrog, Lacy Christopher, Deb Evenson, Cindy Zick, and Mary Sahl.

Commissioner Campbell called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Miller to approve the agenda. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of meetings September 2 and September 16. Vote was unanimous.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

MINIMUM SALE PRICE HEARING

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the minimum sale prices as presented for foreclosure properties. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Sahl addressed the Commission with questions regarding an industrial ag grant that was approved for Riverview Dairy. Sahl was referred to the State Ag Commissioner.

Commissioner Berseth informed Sahl that the Richland County Board of Commissioners have had zero votes regarding the approval of Riverview Dairy.

EXTENSION - STAFFING

County Extension Agents Lacy Christopher and Ronda Gripentrog addressed the Commission with a staffing proposal they created in preparation of an upcoming retirement within their department. Gripentrog explained that there would be a one-month overlap in salaries with the proposed plan, but that expense would be offset in the first year and the department would have a net savings of more than \$15,000 annually after 2026. A

motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to approve a one-month overlap of salaries for the Extension Office in 2026. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Fossum informed the Commission that the Board of Health has a board term that is expiring in October. One letter of interest has been received from Lance Ehrlin, the current board member. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Goerger to appoint Lance Ehrlin to another term on the Richland County Board of Health. Vote was unanimous.

Correspondence from ND Water Users Association – Annual Joint Convention is December 9-11 in Bismarck.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to appoint Terry Goerger and Ronda Gripentrog as delegates to the ND State Fair. Vote was unanimous.

Correspondence from Court Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee – Grant applications are due December 31, 2025.

MELISSA BROWN – STATE EQUALIZATION RECOMMENDATION

Tax Director Melissa Brown informed the Commission that the State Board of Equalization meeting for appeals was held October 2nd. The ag land values in Walcott West Township had been protested; Richland County was found to be in compliance. Brown reported that the State Board of Equalization did come back with the following recommendation: the Richland County Commissioners should consider exploring a different PI formula when assessing agricultural land.

A new soils committee was discussed; Brown will reach out to potential committee members.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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

- traffic study near Christine is not quite complete
- graveling is almost complete, spot graveling a few areas
- all major projects are complete
- Flex Funding Grant application was submitted for CR1, grants will be awarded 12/31/25
- CR16 was repainted west of I-29

Bridge Flex Funding Grant application was discussed.

Commissioner Goerger shared a letter of thanks addressed to the Commission and Highway Department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) HSZ Board – Board met in Milnor two weeks ago. Mary Schradick retired from the board; Valerie Nelson was appointed to a new term.
- B) Buildings & Grounds – Drain tile project for the Courthouse started Monday, should take approximately one month to complete. Landscaping will be done in the spring to allow for settling. New trees will be planted on the boulevard.
- C) Public Health – Board met last week.
- D) JDA/JPA – JDA should be meeting in two weeks.
- E) Weed Board – Contract spraying is complete. The Landowner Assistance Program will be worked on in the next month. Furnace has been installed. Next meeting is in November.
- F) Soils Committee – A new committee was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- G) Park Board – Board met in September. Commissioner Ehlert will meet Steve at Mooreton Pond next week to determine where rock needs to be added.
- H) Administration – Fossum informed the Commission that the 2024 audit is complete.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October

21 Commission Meeting
26-28 NDACo Annual Conference

November

4 Commission Meeting
18 Commission Meeting
18 County Tax Sale

December

2 Commission Meeting

16 Commission Meeting

Motion to adjourn by Goerger.
Meeting adjourned at 9:26 A.M.

Reports filed: Sheriff's Department - Revenue & Expenses for August 2025 and Tax & Property Department - Revenue Voucher for August 2025.

ATTEST: _____

Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

_____CHAIRPERSON

Tim Campbell
Board of Richland County Commissioners

RICHLAND COUNTY PROPERTY

Minimum Sale Price Hearing

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 @ 8:00 am

Owner Name	Parcel#	Property Address	Legal Description of Property	Proposed Minimum Sale Price	Total Amt to Redeem	Total 3 Yr Tax and Interest	Last Available True and Full
KRAFT, STEVE J	*46.0001.02194.000	101 1 ST S FAIRMOUNT ND	FAIR OT: N68' W1/2 LOT 16 & N68' LOTS 17-18 BLK-26 JAMES & BEVERLY AXTMAN	25,000.00	\$ 850.15	3,694.60	RL 1,900.00 RS 40,300.00 42,200.00
MARTINEZ, LILIA	*46.0001.02297.000	202 2 ST S FAIRMOUNT ND	FAIR OT: S70' LOTS 1-3 BLK-31	15,000.00 *house burned down*	\$ 850.15	10,053.29	RL 2,300.00 RS 14,500.00 16,800.00
DREWLOW, JOEL E	*46.0010.02413.000	311 FRONT ST S FAIRMOUNT ND	FAIR RES PLAT: (M&B 1) BEG NWCR LOT-4 BLK-41 S50' W100' N50' E100'/BEG (PT LOT-8 BLK-41)	30,000.00	\$ 570.42	2,086.25	RL 1,100.00 RS 28,800.00 29,900.00
SOLOMON, JEFFORY L	*47.0001.02812.000	28 2 AVE NW LIDGERWOOD ND	LIDGE OT: LOTS 3-4 BLK-9 EVELYN E GOULD; LIFE EST- DONALDA K HANSON & JEFFORY L SOLOMON	10,000.00	\$ 1,974.28	6,825.09	RL 3,500.00 RS 6,000.00 9,500.00
HEMINGER, ROLAND	*47.0001.03067.000	102 2 AVE SW LIDGERWOOD ND	LIDGE OT: LOTS 1-2 BLK-21 TERI M RICHARDS	5,000.00	\$ 581.11	1,669.76	RL 3,500.00 RS 64,800.00 68,300.00
**UNSOLD PROPERTIES FROM PRIOR YEARS							
FAIRMOUNT CITY							
DACOTAH FRONTIER VALLEY LLC	*46.0001.02141.000	112 MAIN AVE FAIRMOUNT ND	FAIRMOUNT ORIGINAL TOWNSITE: FAIRMOUNT ND LOT 17 BL 16	20,000.00			CL 700.00 CS 22,800.00 23,500.00
*DENOTES DRAINS OR SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON PROPERTY.							
KEY:							
RL	RESIDENTIAL LOT	CL	COMMERCIAL LOT				
RS	RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE	CS	COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE				
		FM	AGRICULTURAL LAND				

The following claims were approved for September, 2025

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	329,355.82
County Highway	\$	105,038.86
911 Communications	\$	55,035.22
County Agent	\$	5,780.32
Veterans Service	\$	11,043.06
Weed Officer	\$	500.00
Public Health Fund	\$	69,500.05
Income Maintenance	\$	65,108.50
Foster Care	\$	21,075.95
Child Protective Svc	\$	39,470.27
Parent Aid	\$	4,934.60
Family Soc Worker	\$	5,493.41
Social Services	\$	88,623.17
In-Home Care	\$	16,582.96
Admin Support	\$	17,955.08
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	835,497.27

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General Accounts	\$	227,038.36
County Highway	\$	1,009,031.01
Bridge Replacement	\$	8,205.50
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	-
Prairie Dog Disbursements	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Social Services Fund	\$	75.90
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	35,115.19
NDRIN	\$	-
Capitol Improvement	\$	1,490.40
Water Rescue	\$	250.00
Special Response Team	\$	-
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	-
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	-
County Agent	\$	3,778.02
Veterans Service	\$	5,037.66
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	30,337.96
Public Health	\$	53,375.58
Haz Chem Fund	\$	-
Income Maintenance	\$	22,550.87
Foster Care	\$	6,686.77
Child Protective Svc	\$	17,572.33

Parent Aid	\$	1,236.59
Family Soc Worker	\$	3,546.78
Social Services	\$	28,949.91
In-Home Care	\$	7,849.99
Admin Support	\$	23,090.54
HSZ Board	\$	-
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	-
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	-
General Assistance	\$	-
Program Cost Revenue	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	205.09
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	-
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	205.11
Domestic Violence	\$	280.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	-
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	20,363.34
Jail Concession	\$	-
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	2,035.00
EWTF	\$	1,749.35
County General Accounts	\$	17,000.00
Diversion Settlement	\$	634,823.65
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	873.99
Historical Society	\$	215.45
Co Agent Special	\$	300.00
Soil Cons District	\$	162.64
Water Mngt Levy	\$	2,910.89
Joint Water Resource	\$	307.60
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	2,166,651.47
 TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	 \$	 3,002,148.74

ATTEST: _____

Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

_____CHAIRPERSON

Tim Campbell
Board of Richland County Commissioners