

JANUARY 14, 2025 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Dennert, Dinger, Gage, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BARR ENGINEERING PRESENTATION:

Brian Becker, Senior Dam Engineer with Barr Engineering met with the Commission to share the plans for the Richmond Lake Dam. He informed the Commission that his firm was hired by S.D. School and Public Lands to engineer this project. Brian shared there will be two processes that will happen for this project: First would be to install a cut-off wall to cut off the seepage and the Second would be to remove and construct a new spillway. Brian stated it would be a 2-year project so planning to begin in 2026 but depends on the bidding process and awarding the bid and figuring completing in 2027; which would mean road closure during this time.

ADOPT RESOLUTION FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent presented the following Resolution from S.D. Department of Transportation:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese to approve

RESOLUTION 2025-08

**BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM RESOLUTION
FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS**

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, BROWN County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire IMEG Consultant Corporation (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2025, at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Seconded by Commissioner Gage.

Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Dinger-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye; Wiese-aye. Resolution adopted.

AWARD RURAL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS (RAIF) GRANTS:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent asked for the Commission to approve Grants for Townships using the RAIF funds and that Brown County pay the 20% matching funds. He also shared that Mercier project could become a bridge but undetermined at this time; this would leave use with a balance of around \$300,000.00 to spend by 2029. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the following Townships for the RAIF Grants:

| TOWNSHIP | PIPE SIZE | COST | 20% MATCH | GRANT REQUEST |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Greenfield | 4 – 60" x 50' | \$60,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | \$48,000.00 |
| Mercier | 4 – 96" x 50' | \$125,000.00 | \$25,000.00 | \$100,000.00 |
| Liberty | 3 – 48" x 50' | \$24,000.00 | \$4,800.00 | \$19,200.00 |
| Liberty | 1 – 60" x 50' | \$15,000.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$12,000.00 |
| Groton | 2 – 36" x 50' | \$15,000.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$12,000.00 |
| Groton | 4 – 42" x 29" x 60' arch | \$30,000.00 | \$6,000.00 | \$24,000.00 |

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS FUTURE OF RAIF PROGRAM:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent shared with the Commission that the Townships are asking for \$5 Million be pulled from the Local Government Highway & Bridge Fund prior to the distribution established in SDCL 32-11-35. Per that statute Brown County's portion of the distribution would be reduced by \$169,189.97. Per the same statute municipalities would also be receiving less. Under the new proposal, Brown County would only receive \$99,243.00 in RAIF Funds. Dirk informed the Commission that he plans to testify against this because this program doesn't run without the Counties. Commissioner Gage commented that this is punishing those Townships that have been financially responsible and not having to do an Opt Out.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent gave the Commission a department update: crushing, completed the shoulder work on County Rd. 9 between 18 and 16; how to plow snow on Thursday and Saturday last week; doing some graveling yet too. Commissioner Sutton said he received a text from a resident at Richmond Lake asking if they will do dust control on bypass while road is out of service during the Dam Project and Dirk stated to have D.O.T. build it into the project but something would be done.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FAIRGROUNDS LIQUOR LICENSE:

A public hearing was held regarding Brown County obtaining a County Fairground (On-Sale) Liquor License. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the application for County Fairgrounds (On-Sale) Liquor License to Brown County Fairgrounds located at SW 1-T123-R64 & Hwy. B Lot A & AB RR ROW EX Fairground OL 1 (156.07A) of 5th P.M., Brown County excluding Centennial Village, Odde Ice Arena, Larry Gerlach Grandstand and North Pit Area. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FAIR CONTRACTS:

Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager presented two fair contracts to the Commission for approval. RSA Digital Advertising for \$10,000.00 and Pauer Sound 3-year contract: for 2025 - \$14,000.00; 2026 - \$14,500.00 and 2027 - \$15,000.00. Moved by Commissioner Dennert to approve both the RSA Digital Advertising Contract and the 3-year contract with Pauer Sound at the prices listed above. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

QUOTE FROM CONVERGINT:

Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent asked to go into Executive Session for Contracts & Security per SDCL 1-25-2. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the Executive Session closed with no action taken.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the Quote from Convergent in the amount of \$30,186.87 for Courthouse Security needs and will be submitted to UJS Security & Emergency Preparedness Grant Committee for approval. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

STORAGE OF LAW BOOKS:

Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent informed the Commission that Chief McNeil offered to allow them to store the law books at the Aberdeen City Public Safety Building. Chairman Sutton commented that we should take him up on the offer. Commissioner Dennert moved to rescind the motion to surplus the Law Books that was made on January 7th, seconded by Wiese. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Some discussion was held regarding leaving the books in the courtroom, securing them behind plexiglass along with the costs that will be involved for installing sound barriers, removing the bookcases, etc. with no action taken at this time.

SUMMIT PUC INTERVENER DISCUSSION:

Chairman Sutton shared with the Commission that he was informed that the Board of Brown County Commission could apply by January 24th to Intervene in the proceedings of the PUC regarding Summit Pipeline, if they so wish. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to submit the application to be an Intervener of the processing of the PUC regarding Summit Pipeline. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL:

Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll:

Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen ED \$5,731.20; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$9,612.92; BMI \$435.00; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,209.45; Dean Schaefer Court Reporting \$144.00; Faulk Co. Sheriff's Office \$2,790.00; Language Line Services \$645.67; Lewis & Clark BHS \$1,125.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt., LLC \$200.00; Lucy Lewno \$280.00; Mark Katterhagen \$24.00; Medical Waste Transport \$143.10; Minneapolis Forensic Psychological Services, LLC \$5,390.45; Network Center \$3,002.57; NSU Finance Office \$60.00; Sanford Health \$48.75; SD Dept. of Revenue \$2,349.49; SDSU Extension \$23,050.00; St. Mark's Episcopal Church \$1,000.00; Thomas Reuters-West Payment Center \$567.13; Valerie Larson \$24.00; Zylstra Investigations \$1,468.07. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$768.28; NW Blade \$170.00. Rentals: Vestis \$333.10. Repairs & Maintenance: Big Scoop Snow Removal \$383.33; Graham Tire \$20.25; Hoven Auto Repair \$24.00; Jarman's Water Systems \$181.45; Linde Gas & Equipment \$109.35; Meister Mowing, LCC \$581.25; Pierson Ford \$2,005.30; Quality Welding \$307.26; Schwan Welding \$1,695.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$204.88. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$45,333.01; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$859.46; American News #8004 \$44.60; Century Business Products \$9,776.82; Cole Papers \$2,853.36; Dakota Electronics \$36.00; Government Forms & Supplies \$501.76; Hoven Auto Repair \$98.00; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$306.40; Linde Gas & Equipment \$169.12; Lucy Lewno \$8.98; Mac's \$121.33; McLeod's \$86.70; Menards \$288.49; Midstates Group \$48.23; PharmChem \$1,971.14; Running's \$205.72; Safe Life Defense \$639.10; Safety Service \$96.28; Shop 4-H/National 4-H Council \$138.50; SoDak Sports \$1,720.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$89.90. Travel & Conference: Dave Lunzman-Imprest Fund \$218.00; SDAE4-HP \$200.00. Utilities: Big Scoop Snow Removal \$191.67; CenturyLink \$567.51; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$1,713.53; City of Hecla \$212.51; Economy Propane, LLC \$2,197.58; Northern Electric \$93.50; Northwestern Energy \$5,487.43; State of SD PMB 0112 \$276.54; Verizon Wireless \$2,457.72; Web Water \$112.02. Other: NECOG \$27,299.18; Safe Harbor \$491.80; SDACO \$840.00; SDDANR \$4,414.42; SD Dept. of Revenue \$786,889.19. Machinery & Equipment: Safety Service \$41,600.00. Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,936.80; Auditor \$10,584.06; Treasurer \$18,342.52; SA \$36,357.56; Maintenance \$12,748.65; Assessor \$16,581.76; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$9,855.68; HR \$5,660.48; Sheriff \$61,255.87; Jail \$98,011.02; Court Security \$10,188.47; JDC \$47,006.43; Welfare \$2,604.27; Museum \$13,418.99; Parks/Fairgrounds \$6,720.69; Fair Board \$3,626.65; 4-H \$877.20; Weed \$1,179.67; Planning & Zoning \$8,062.16; Highway \$50,710.18; Dispatch \$53,406.08; Emergency \$5,498.56; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,690.75; Landfill \$20,542.83; Meal Benefits \$74.00; FICA \$31,174.48; Medicare \$7,290.78; Discovery (HSA) \$2,639.91. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:

- Resignation of Macy Mikkelson, Brown County Building Service Worker, PT; effective January 10, 2025. Request to fill.
- Resignation of Maggie Bell, Brown County Sobriety Technician, PT; effective January 9, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS:

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Auditor Heupel to sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SURPLUS COPIER FROM PLANNING & ZONING:

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to surplus the Kyocera 3051ci Copier from the Planning & Zoning Department. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SURPLUS PROPERTY FROM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to surplus the following property from the Highway Department: 2000 Chevrolet K20 4x4; 2005 Sterling Model LT9500; 1983 Truck Model 1754; 1976 International Model 1850; 2012 Chevrolet Impala 4-door; 2011 Chevrolet Impala 4-door; 1983 ICH Truck w/ Sander; 1976 International Truck w/ 5th Wheel; 2005 Sterling End-Dump; 2000 Chevrolet 2500 Pick-up; Air Compressor; Engine Stand; Tire Machine; 3-Work Benches 60 x 24; 13 HP Honda Motor; 50 gallon service tank; 2-100 gallon

service tanks; 100 gallon water tank; Air Operated Grease Can; Air Operated Oil Can; Air Reel Dose not Recoil; Battery Charger; 2-Chain Saws (don't run); 2-Drafting Tables 60 x 38; Spark Plug Machine; Transmission Stand and a Packer (doesn't run). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following Travel Requests: Chris Hemen, Mike Rohrbach and Jerry Lehrkamp from Weed & Pest to attend the Weed & Pest Conference in Huron, SD on February 18-21, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SET HEARING DATE & AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING – ALCOHOL LICENSE TRANSFERS:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to set hearing date and authorize advertising for public hearing on the following alcohol transfers on 4th day of February, 2025 in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, in the Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota: TRANSFER – RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE: James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 2.,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: Head East located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 2- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD; James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 3.,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: West Bound located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 3- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD; James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 4.,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: Up North located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 4- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler's Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 12:21 p.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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