

## **Minutes of the Custer County Commission Meeting, Wednesday, August 6, 2025.**

### **Members present:**

Commissioners Jim Lintz, Mark Hartman, Mike Linde, Michael Busskohl, Craig Hindle and Commission Legal Counsel Aaron Davis.

### **Commission Meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

#### **A. Adopting of the agenda**

1. Amend Agenda to add items under "L" Maintenance as follows: #4) Search & Rescue fire suppression; #5) authorize Joseph Panza to apply for building permit within city limits for construction of 30' x 40' storage building. Motion to approve Agenda as amended made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

#### **B. Consent Agenda**

1. Approve Minutes of July 23, 2025 Commission Meeting.
2. Approve Travel Requests—Sarah Myers to attend SD Library Association Work Session 8-26-25 in Chamberlain, SD at a cost of \$20.
3. Approve Vouchers as follows:

**PAYROLL:** Safety wages \$134.27; Commissioners \$5,697.77; Auditor \$12,948.57; Treasurer \$10,529.28; Info system & Tech \$3,426.88; States Attorney \$14,392.26; Courthouse Building \$8,954.26; Director of Equalization \$10,143.70; Register of Deeds \$5,400.96; Veterans Service \$1,806.77; Human Resources \$2,188.60; Sheriff \$58,221.38; Coroner \$879.63; Nurse \$196.40; Library \$11,550.94; Conservation \$721.16; Weed & Pest Control \$4,749.00; Planning \$7,175.57; County Road & Bridge \$35,327.13; Emergency Management \$2,880.26; 24/7 Sobriety \$903.92; Emergency Line F \$19,763.00;

**COMMISSIONERS:** CAN Surety \$172.00; SD Association of County Commissioners \$200.00; Southern Hills Publishing INC \$744.31; Valhalla Legal PLLC \$3,200.00;

**COURT:** Carmen Ororke \$38.14; Carol Capistrant \$99.58; Carol Plaisted \$11.34; Charity Ziolkowski \$20.72; Cindy Tate \$96.90; Craig Sieg \$50.20; Deborah Van Sambeek \$87.52; Diantha Vog \$76.80; Donald Eckert \$16.70; George Bland \$11.34; Gordon Kirsch \$26.08; James Lintz \$39.48; Jami Twiss \$26.08; Jamilyn Teske \$66.08; Jeffery Baird \$16.70; John Heaton \$18.04; John Ricci \$58.24; John Woodhall \$14.02; Joseph Jackl \$11.34; Karen Henman \$16.70; Kerry Verback \$18.04; Mari Haecherl \$12.68; Micheal Griswold \$ 38.14; Moseley Jonathan \$56.70; Mya Glenn \$15.36; Nancy Schmitz \$59.38; Owen Pollard \$52.68; Pacheco Ernest \$11.34; Patricia Davis \$20.72; Phyllis Bengtson \$12.68; Sarah Brown \$14.02; Sharon Fridley \$83.50; Shelly Bader \$19.38; Susan Culberson \$51.34; Terri Flores \$11.34; Thelma Carter \$23.40; Warren Rath \$46.18; William Hugelman \$11.34;

**AUDITOR:** SD Dept of Rev \$150.00; SD State Treasurer \$31.71; Southern Hills Publishing INC \$29.64; Tyler Technologies \$435.00;

**STATE'S ATTORNEY:** Carol Johnson \$383.80; Trevor Debter \$22.80;

**MAINTENANCE:** Black Hills Chemical \$2,913.94; Black Hills Energy-6001 \$1,428.05; Custer Ace Hardware \$98.27; Southern Hills Publishing INC \$33.05;

**DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION:** SD Public Assurance Alliance \$444.24;

**REGISTER OF DEEDS:** Quill LLC \$52.99;

**INFO TECHNOLOGY:** Golden West Technologies \$8,458.43;

**SHERIFF:** A&B pure water \$54.98; Artistic Custom Badges and coins LLC \$316.50; City of Custer \$340.00; French Creek Supply \$76.13; Great Western Tire \$389.50; LexisNexis Risk Solutions \$207.00; Pheasantland Industries \$396.44; Sherry Weber \$20.00; Southern Hills Publishing INC \$206.00; Stephen McMillin \$89.21;

**PRISONER CARE:** City of Rapid City \$120.00; Dakota Petct MRI \$396.86; Mary Seifert \$150.00; Monument health Client \$2,176.99; Pennington County Jail \$239.82; Radiology Associates Prof LLC \$104.13; South Dakota Public Health Laboratory \$165.00;

**AIRPORT:** Brenden Hendrickson \$4,458.33; Freeman's Electric Service \$758.16; French Creek Supply \$72.88;

**LIBRARY:** Black Hills Library Consortium \$1,444.35;

**EXTENSION:** Quill LLC \$73.87;

**WEED & PEST:** Benita Trump \$60.00; Betty Dikoff \$548.87; Chowning Nathan \$427.10; David Montgomery \$75.46; French Creek Supply \$87.52; Jan Bennett \$176.30; Kathleen Ryan \$56.99; Ken Spring \$167.38; Margie Kainz \$240.00; Nutrien AG Solutions \$2,695.52; Randy Chavez \$66.99; Tim Tennyson \$1,575.00; Warne Chemical & Equip Co INC \$202.22;

**PLANNING:** Southern Hills Publishing INC \$50.98;

**COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE:** Advanced Drug Testing INC \$264.80; Black Hills Energy-\$141.39; Butler Machinery \$950.00; CBH Cooperative \$5,923.37; Consolidated Electrical Distributor \$580.48; Custer Ace Hardware \$93.04; Floyds Truck Center \$180.02; French Creek Supply \$331.35; Great Western Tire \$4,161.36; Grimms Pump Service \$25.08; Nelson's oil & gas \$36.72; SD DOT DIV of Finance \$803.10; Servall Towel & Linen \$192.68;

**COUNTY BUILDINGS:** Southern Hills Publishing INC \$36.16;

**EMERGENCY LINE:** A&B pure water \$54.97; Range \$4.48;

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Argyle Fire \$8,632.25; Battle Creek Fire \$20,132.23; Buffalo Gap Fire \$2,579.72; Custer Fire \$38,019.33; Dewey Fire \$352.33; Fairburn Fire \$5,677.45; Folsom Fire \$1,341.87; Highland Fire \$4,535.33; Hot Springs Fire \$1,802.67; Pringle Fire \$5,079.80;

**MENTAL HEALTH:** Audra Hill Consulting \$1,686.16

**COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY:** Colbath and Sperlich \$1,051.30; Grey & Eisenbraun Law \$3,788.65;

**CORONER:** Jim Sanders \$537.51;

**MI BOARD:** West River Mental Health \$1,400.00.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda made by Hindle; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**C. Conflict of Interest Declarations – None**

**D. 8:05 AM Public Hearings**

Public Hearings were held for approval of the following licenses:

1. Retail On-Off Sale Wine and Cider for 2025 re: Black Hills Aerial Adventures; ELK PARK SUB – LOT 1A OF TR A OF HES #315 SEC 27 T2 R4 0.927 AC (LESS LOT H1 = .10 AC). There were no comments from the public. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

2. Retail On-Off Sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine for 2025-2026 re: Black Hills Aerial Adventures; ELK PARK SUB – LOT 1A OF TR A OF HES #315 SEC 27 T2 R4 0.927 AC (LESS LOT H1 = .10 AC). There were no comments from the public. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**E. Sheriff**

1. Sheriff Marty Mechaley requested Commission acknowledgement of resignation of 911 dispatcher Elisa Tussing, effective as of 8-7-2025. The Commission so acknowledged.

2. Mechaley requested approval of new hire, Jim Lyon, as full-time deputy at an uncertified rate of \$25.43/hour. This is a full-time, fully benefitted position with a start date of 7-31-2025. Motion to approve made by Hindle; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**F. Emergency Management**

1. EMS Director, Steve Esser, requested approval for Chairman's signature on RESPEC Master Services Agreement for Flood Mitigation Scoping Project. Motion to approve Chairman's signature made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**G. Weed & Pest**

1. Weed & Pest Supervisor, Michael Baldwin, requested approval and authorization of Chairman's signature on Participating Agreement Supplemental Project Agreement between Custer County and USDA, Forest Service re: noxious weed treatments in the Black Hills. Baldwin stated this \$10K for spraying weeds can be spent through 2027. Motion to approve and authorize Chairman to sign made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**H. Finance Office**

1. Barbara Cox, Deputy Auditor, requested Commission acknowledgement of resignation of Ashley Johnson, Deputy Auditor, effective 7-29-2025. The Commission so acknowledged.

### **I. Public Comment**

1. Lea Anne McWhorter stated there are legislative special property tax task force meetings to be held in the evening 8-12-2025 and morning of 8-13-2025 in Aberdeen; September & October (tbd) in Pierre.

2. Becky Griffin asked if the Commission would consider holding Board meetings once per month in the evenings to accommodate those who are unable to attend meetings held as currently scheduled. Chairman Lintz stated they tried making changes, including time and location and that did not work well. It was noted that Custer County needs to video meetings and post them online for those unable to attend.

### **J. Library**

1. Library Director, Sarah Myers, requested Commission approval to close the Hermosa branch on Friday, 8-8-2025 to prepare for the book sale to be held at the Custer County Fair. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

2. Myers also asked for approval for an additional position in 2026. She stated this would be a full-time, fully benefitted 32-hour per week position, beginning in January 2026. Wage would be according to wage scale in effect at that time. Myers cited safety concerns when understaffed as a main concern, as well as a need for additional programming and desk coverage. She also discussed the library ranking, accreditation requirements, staff restructuring and community outreach. Myers stated she is making this formal request to be considered in the 2026 budget. No action taken at this time.

### **K. Maintenance**

1. Maintenance Supervisor, Joseph Panza, requested Commission approval to purchase 2025 Honda Rancher with plow from Bauerkempers (lowest price). Panza stated the current ATV is worn out and should be surplussed. The funds for this purchase are in the 2025 Maintenance budget. Motion to approve purchase made by Hindle; seconded by Busckohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

2. Panza presented maintenance updates that included new LED lighting in the Pine Room. Painters will need to be hired to paint the Annex bathrooms. The courthouse building stairway flooring replacement project has had some setbacks with supply chain and installer issues. Maintenance Tech, Ray Caudy, will retire 9-30-2025 and Panza noted that HR has advertised to fill the position at that time.

3. Panza said the Search & Rescue HVAC system is non-functional and repairs to the 25+ year-old heat pump is not feasible. A new heat pump with sensor was quoted at \$12,500 by JAM Heating & Cooling; Panza stated this amount is not in his budget at this time. He also noted that the S&R also serves as a backup location for communications & dispatch center. Motion to approve replacement of HVAC system made by Hindle; seconded by Hartman; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. The cost for the new system will be covered by the Commission contingency fund.

4. Panza discussed the Search & Rescue fire suppression system and said the alarm system is not currently active. He stated that Rapid Fire recommends an annual maintenance contract at a cost of \$850/year. During the first visit, the alarm system will be activated. The system is in good shape but does require some repairs and rerouting. Panza has \$2K in his budget for

repairs. The Commission stated they are in favor of the contract. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

5. The Commission authorized Panza to apply for a building permit within the City of Custer city limits for construction of a 30' x 40' storage building. It was noted that 9-5-25 is the time frame to purchase to receive a discount. Peg Ryan, Custer City Council member stated the permit fee will be waived.

#### **L. 8:30 AM Bid Opening**

1. Bid opening for Fairgrounds roofing/gutter project commenced at 8:30 AM. Joseph Panza, with Greg Neugebauer assisting, opened and read aloud the 14 bids received. All 14 bids were received before the deadline; dated and timestamped. The bidders had the option of including the addition of sheeting (as a separate add-on line item) to the roof, as noted in the results below. Please note that upon further review of bid documents, actual numbers may vary from the following:

- 1) Quality Roofing & Construction: \$147,127.82; add-on \$23,251. Security check included in packet.
- 2) Rain Tite Roofing: \$138,915.84; add-on—none included. Security bond included.
- 3) Complete Concrete, Inc: \$487,100; add-on \$68,750 (included in bid total). Bond included.
- 4) Fuller Construction: \$394,800; add-on \$76,750. Bond included.
- 5) Black Hills Exteriors: \$184,479.46; add-on \$25,084.15 (included in bid total). Bond included.
- 6) Built Right Roofing: \$232,014.70; add-on \$25,920. Bond included
- 7) Weather-Tite Exteriors: \$164,718.92; add-on \$13,692 (included in bid total). Bond included.
- 8) Premier Systems: \$211,912.67; add-on \$22,963.81. Check included.
- 9) Diamond Roofing: \$217,460.63; add-on \$22,086.25 (included in bid total). Check included.
- 10) Ponderosa Builders: \$157,143.14; add-on \$23,469.43. Bond included.
- 11) TOJ Construction: \$273,000; add-on \$20,000. Bond included.
- 12) Twin City Roofing: \$261,756.43; add on \$19,422.70. Bond included.
- 13) Keystone Company: \$215,580.62; add-on \$5,050.68. Bond included.
- 14) American Contracting & Consulting, LLC: \$205,000; add-on \$40,000. Bond included.

Motion to table until end of meeting for further review made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

#### **M. 1881 Courthouse Museum**

1. Deborah Hanagan and Tim Swanson, 1881 Museum, address the Commission to discuss scope of work and advertise for bids. Commissioner Hindle had previously sent drawings to the museum board but has not yet received feedback. Swanson shared his concerns, noting that the drawings do not reflect the entirety of the work needed. Swanson would like a contractor who is qualified to work on historic preservations (not necessary to be qualified for register of historic places) and would like quality assurance during the project. He requested postponing advertising for bids to ensure costs are kept down that all parties involved are in agreement as

to the scope of repairs needed. Swanson will meet with museum directors and Commissioners to address concerns.

**N. Crazy Horse Marathon**

1. Request was made for Commission approval to place 2 portable toilets on County lot at 4<sup>th</sup> & Washington St. for Run Crazy Horse Marathon held October 5, 2025. Motion to approve made by Hindle; seconded by Hartman; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**O. Tract Price Road Construction**

1. Commission Legal Counsel, Aaron Davis, discussed this matter and Commissioner Hartman noted the existing road is on the Airport deed and the old road will remain in place. Highway Superintendent, Jesse Doyle, inquired about road expansion and re-routing of Stagg Road. It was noted that at one time it had been staked, but did not progress further.

**P. Commission**

1. Mail call – none.
2. Meeting Schedule – 2025 SDACC County Convention to be held September 8 & 9, 2025 in Pierre.
3. Meeting Reports – Hindle met with HR; Busskohl attended Community Stake Holder meeting, Custer City Council and met with HR; Hartman attended housing meeting.

**Q. 8:30 AM Bid Opening, cont.**

1. Motion to un-table bid opening/award made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
2. Motion to postpone bid award until the 8-20-25 Commission meeting to allow for further review of bids made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

**R. Executive Session**

1. Motion to enter Executive Session as per SDCL 1-25-21(1) Personnel made by Linde; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Executive Session entered at 9:03 AM and concluded at 9:33 AM. No action taken.

**S. Adjourn**

1. Motion by Linde and seconded by Busskohl to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 AM. The next meeting will be at 8:00 AM, August 20, 2025 in the Commissioner's Room in the Custer County Courthouse.

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Jim Lintz, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Cox, Custer County Deputy Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_.

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WORK SESSION WAS HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING.