

Minutes of the Custer County Commission Meeting, Thursday, November 6, 2025

Members present:

Commissioners Mark Hartman, Mike Linde, Michael Busskohl, Craig Hindle and Legal Counsel, Aaron Davis; Dawn McLaughlin, Finance Officer. Chairman Lintz attended the meeting via telephone.

A. Commission Meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Adopting of the agenda

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

C. 1881 Courthouse Museum

1. Request for approval of Phases II & III of 1881 Courthouse Museum repairs and contract signatures was made by Maintenance Supervisor, Joseph Panza. These additional phases include roofing, widow's walk rail, front porch rail on the south side at a cost of \$49,650. Flagpole replacement and options were discussed; Rick Wheeler noted either wood or aluminum would be acceptable. Motion to approve additional repair contract; approve Vice-Chairman's signature and accept donation from Historical Society made by Linde; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

D. Equalization

1. DOE Director, Scott Storms and State's Attorney Kelley held discussion regarding tax issue with the State of SD. This issue pertains to a potential abatement with an ag status property that was sold, and ag status was not renewed by the new owner. Taxpayer contact with the DOR resulted in overstepping and abusing authority on the part of the DOR by urging the landowner to contact Commissioners, resulting in potential bias in the situation. State's Attorney Kelley will contact the taxpayer and notify them not to contact the Commissioners. Potential remedies are appeal and abatement. An abatement cannot be given until after tax statements are sent out in January, 2026. The taxpayer is welcome to speak under the Public Comment portion during the next Commission meeting.

E. Adjourn

Motion by Hartman and seconded by Linde to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 PM. The next meeting will be at 8:00 AM, November 19, 2025 in the Commissioner's Room in the Custer County Courthouse.

Jim Lintz, Chairman

Attest: _____

Barbara Cox, Custer County Deputy Auditor

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