



Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Commission Meeting Room, 420 Mount Rushmore Rd.
Custer, SD 57730

Members present:

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

A. Call to Order at 8:00 AM

1. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approve Agenda

1. Dawn McLaughlin announced two amendments; 1) move C-3, monthly reports, to 5-27-2026 meeting and 2) add verbiage to N-10 to include acknowledgement of resignation of Brandon Denoma.* Motion to approve made by Busskohl and seconded by Hartman; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

2.

C. Consent Agenda

1. Approve minutes of 4-22-26, Equalization 4-22-26, and Special 4-29-26 Commission Meetings
2. Approve Vouchers approve as follows:

PAYROLL: 5-8-26: Safety \$134.03; Commissioners \$5,741.54; Auditor \$13,274.92; Treasurer \$13,728.14; Info Systems & Technology \$3,537.01; State's Attorney \$15,292.70; Courthouse Building \$10,352.84; Director of Equalization \$11,953.02; Register of Deeds \$5,965.20; Veteran's Service \$2,209.89; Human Resources \$3,054.31; Sheriff \$57,482; Coroner \$1,068.82; Nurse \$783.69; Library \$12,275.56; Conservation \$825.87; Weed & Pest Control \$3,484.87; Planning \$7,730.20; County Road & Bridge \$41,371.07; Emergency Management \$3,081.77; Emergency Line F \$21,752.73.

COMMISSIONERS: French Creek Supply \$189; Golden West Telecom \$111.68; Southern Hills Publishing \$2451.48; Valhalla Legal \$5,080; Verizon Connect \$31.90

COURT: Carol Johnson \$264.60; Sarah Pfefferle \$300; William Moss \$700

COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY: Colbath & Sperlich \$1,808.23; Southern Hills Law, PLLC \$3,099.92

MENTAL HEALTH: Dean Schaefer Court Reporting \$36; Husted Law Office \$1,742.89.

PRISONER CARE: Jacquelyn Nelson PBT \$100; Monument Health \$179.12; Pennington County Jail \$15,700.94; Pennington County Sheriff's Office \$80; Scram Systems \$36.50;

AUDITOR: A&B Welding \$9; Golden West Telecom \$177.66; Ramkota \$224; Tyler Technologies \$942.50

ELECTIONS: ES&S \$1,692.38; McLeod's Printing \$2,718.27;

TREASURER: FedEx \$15.07; Golden West Telecom \$158.60; Ramkota \$224

STATE'S ATTORNEY: Culligan \$42.85; Golden West Telecom \$137.64; RELX \$491;

MAINTENANCE: A-Z Shredding \$2.50; BH Energy \$3,560.95; Custer Ace Hdwe \$88.08; City of Custer \$173.79; Golden West Telecom \$22.94; Kieffer Sanitation \$229;

DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION: Golden West Telecom \$225.98; Splish Splash Car Wash \$32; Vanguard Appraisals \$14,850; Verizon Connect \$31.90

REGISTER OF DEEDS: Golden West Telecom \$91.76; Ramkota \$282.

VETERANS SERVICES: Golden West Telecom \$22.94

HUMAN RESOURCES: Golden West Telecom \$22.94; Southern Hills Publishing \$176.70

NURSE: Golden West Telecom \$61.67;

INFO TECHNOLOGY: Golden West Technologies \$8,918.55; Golden West Telecom \$725.88; Pitney Bowes \$490.53;

SHERIFF: Applied Concepts \$255; Creative Product Sourcing \$132.08; Custer Ace Hdwe \$31.99; Petty Cash \$50; Defensive Edge Training \$550; Golden West Telecom \$331.22; Great Western Tire \$1,470.72; Mike Lewis \$970; Motorola Solutions \$33; On Target Training Minnesota \$1,150; Survival Armor \$1,105.26; The Lodge at Deadwood \$920;

AIRPORT: Brenden Hendrickson \$4,592.08; Golden West Telecom \$115.17; Kieffer Sanitation \$43.75;

LIBRARY: BH Library Consortium \$147; Golden West Telecom \$22.94; Kieffer Sanitation \$125.83

EXTENSION: Golden West Telecom \$91.84;

WEED & PEST: Golden West Telecom \$22.94; Tom Halber \$59.98; Verizon Connect \$31.90; Western Mailers \$3,653.99

PLANNING: Golden West Telecom \$114.80; Southern Hills Publishing \$65.91; Splish Splash Car Wash \$15; Verizon Connect \$15.95

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE: Golden West Telecom \$210.12; Regional Waste Management \$189.25

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: BH Energy \$29.98; Golden West Telecom \$46.22; Southern Hills Publishing \$245

CUSTER COUNTY REMS: Bethany Berres \$1,246.20; Caeleon Work \$1,785.60; Cody Cobb \$3,257.52; Gregory Dunham \$3,913; Jake Bays \$5,318.40; Joel Tramp \$4,653.60; Paul Meier \$1,547.52; Romeo Barrera \$3,809.28; Sara Booth \$461.28; Susan Orsini \$4,004;

SEARCH & RESCUE: BH Energy \$413.72; City of Custer \$96.11; Golden West Telecom \$99.95; Great Western Tire \$975.20; Nelson's Oil & Gas \$558.45;

COUNTY BUILDINGS: AdTech \$9,790; Cloud Construction \$22,430.08; Custer Ace Hdwe \$34.56; Freeman's Electric Service, Inc. \$5,450; G&R Controls \$4,907.08; Carpet Garage Flooring Center \$6,803.80; WL Hall Co Interior Service \$1,115.

EMERGENCY LINE: Golden West Telecom \$212; Range \$24.71

ARGYLE VFD: \$13,000.

BUFFALO GAP VFD: \$7,000.

DEWEY VFD: \$3,000.

FOLSOM VFD: \$7,750.

HIGHLANDS VFD: \$9,500.

PRINGLE VFD: \$10,000.

CUSTER COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION: \$11,500.

1881 MUSEUM: Dark Canyon, LLC \$12,900; Thyssenkrupp Elevator \$422.06.

SD DEPT REVENUE: Taxable Custer City \$236.03; SD Wine & Beer Renewal \$1,350

WEST RIVER MENTAL HEALTH: \$7,624.40

- ❖ Motion to approve Consent agenda made by Busskohl and seconded by Hindle, vote taken; all aye; motion carried.

D. Conflict of Interest Declarations

- ❖ Chairman Lintz has a conflict with Lintz Brother's alcohol license application, and Commissioner Hartman has a conflict with the Mordi Variance Request

E. Public Comment

Meetings of the Board of Commissioners are open to the public. The audience will be allowed to comment on specific agenda items during the time allotted on the agenda for those items, according to established procedures of the Commission. This is a time for members of the public to express concerns or discuss issues having relevance to the County. Anyone wishing to address the Commission during this time shall be asked to identify themselves. The number of presentations and time allotted to individuals may be limited by the Chairman and individuals shall refrain from discussing personalities. The Chairman, at his discretion, may recognize patrons at other times during the Board meeting. No action will be taken by the Commission on any issue raised without being first placed on a future agenda, by the Commission, to allow for proper notice.

1. There were no comments from the public.

F. 8:30 AM Bid Opening – Fairgrounds Pole Building

- ❖ Joe Panza read the different bids, starting with VH Property Preservation - including a check for security – for \$349,500; Capital Builders out of Belle Fouché – including a check - for \$180,411.52; KRS Construction – including a check - for \$286,242.56; Summit Construction – including check – for \$217,989.82. Overhead Door sent information. Panza requested the decision be tabled until the bids are discussed with the Fair Board Members since it is their money.
- ❖ Motion to table made by Craig; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
- ❖ Motion to untable made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Joe Panza said after reviewing the bids, the Fair Board's choice is for Capital Builders. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Busskohl asked if there were agreements in place as far as where the money is coming from. Panza said the insurance claim on about \$54,000 and the Fair Board is covering the rest. Busskohl expressed concerns with water as there was water in the Quonset hut. McLaughlin added that in order to apply for the insurance money, the building will have to go through the County.

G. West River Mental Health

1. Budget Request 2027 with update on work and reiteration of why the County should continue to choose to contribute the requested amount of \$8,318.00 per year
 - ❖ Amanda Makely presented. They are located in Rapid City but service the Northern and Southern Hills. They provide coverage for mentally ill adults – They are looking for continued support. Mike Busskohl said they will look at it closer in September and asked if there were other services. Makely said that the Pivot Point in Rapid City can be used as a placement for people who are on hold and they will directly connect those people to resources. West River also covers 10 counties. They provide substance abuse treatment, a women's residential for mothers, and medication services. They also use grant money to support families.

H. Maintenance

1. Acknowledge department transfer of Keith Jatton from Maintenance to Highway Department. Final date of 5/5/2026
 - ❖ Presented by Joe Panza and acknowledged by the Commission.
2. Approve new hire Coy Kester, full-time benefitted Maintenance II starting at \$23.53/hr. Start date of 5/11/2026
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
3. Panza presented HVAC - update G&R Controls bid and discussion
 - ❖ The current system has a life span of 10-15 years, and the expiration date is approaching. The system is set up in zones, and not all of them are working at this time; Panza is awaiting circuit board parts. The system is also experiencing more and more frequent compressor failures, which is the sign of a failing system. Panza has received bids on cove heat and replacement of the current system. He also has received an HVAC study to explore options. Panza is awaiting bids for operational windows on the second floor. Over the past 4 ½ years, breakdowns have cost \$37K in repairs for the HVAC system, not including the latest repair. These repairs have averaged \$1,000 per month. The server room is a stand-alone system. Panza went on to discuss some of the bids and options for HVAC replacement and noted this is a big decision. He has received estimates of \$4.53 million for a 4-pipe boiler/chiller

system and \$3.95 million for a 2-pipe system. Discussion was held regarding HVAC grants, which are not available for a system such as this. Further discussion was held regarding mini-splits, cove heat and other options.

4. Skyline Engineering fee proposal.

- ❖ If going with a purchasing cooperative, the system will not need to be put out for bids as per codified law; if put out to bid, an engineer would need to be hired to draft a biddable plan at an estimated cost of \$296K for a total project engineering plan.

I. Highway Department

1. Highway Superintendent, Jesse Doyle, requested Commission acknowledgement of 2026 Mount Rushmore Half Marathon to be held September 12, 2026

- ❖ This event occupies a portion of Ghost Canyon and Playhouse Roads. The special permit application to occupy the ROW has been filed; once returned, Doyle will obtain proof of insurance. The Commission so acknowledged.

2. Doyle presented ROW Occupancy Application from Golden West for fiber optic service at 12280 Alamo Lane for approval

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

3. Doyle presented Review of Gravel Report

- ❖ This report shows surface gravel, total on hand, gravel surfacing projects for the year 2026, as well as estimated total needed for those projects. Doyle stated he has not spent the entire aggregate budget, keeping a reserve for unexpected events. There remain enough funds in the aggregate budget to cover current planned projects. Doyle stated that at the end of 2026, the budget will be right back to basically nothing for surfacing gravel. He referenced the surfacing project plans and stated they are likely to change. He discussed roads that need resurfacing after several years. His goal has been to resurface 40 miles of gravel per year, which puts the entire 400-mile system on a 10-year rotation. At present, there is only enough gravel to cover approximately 34.25 miles. Doyle addressed rumors regarding discontinuation of road grading. Doyle says this is false and fully intends to continue to blade roads, including those in forest service areas who are paying secondary road tax. The drought has greatly affected road grading and road conditions, including washboards and loose rocks on the road surfaces. He stated the Highway Department is as dependent on the weather to perform those duties as are farmers and ranchers.

4. Doyle made request for authorization for 2026 equipment replacement.

- ❖ He noted his department is under the budget on the equipment side; he is able to use Source Well co-op pricing. The tire machine and post driver will most likely need replacing, as will the waste-oil burner used in the shop. The burner is 22 years old, with a lifespan of 20 years.

J. United States Forest Service

1. Discuss plans for construction of the portion of NFSR 653.1A to support expansion of the airport involving the lands conveyed to Custer County

- ❖ Craig Hindle explained he received an email from the Forest Service about working with them on preparing a road to divert traffic, although he is not positive where they are in the process. Aaron Davis said that he does not yet have all of the documents on the topic. Mike Busskohl said they are waiting for the Schedule A from the USFS. Jim Lintz said he was interested in when they were opening up the road. Hindle said that they are waiting to see if there were any legal documents that say the County must do it or not. Brandon Hendrickson suggested it may just be an easement.

Hindle explained there is an easement across the Price Tract, however, this is across Forest Service property.

K. Custer County Search and Rescue

1. Review of the final personnel costs for the Grey Rocks and Qury Fire
 - ❖ Sam Smolnisky, the Director of Custer County S & R, explained these two fires occurred during the first quarter of the year. Between these two fires, they brought in \$65,858.52 to the County, with \$37,586.68 for personnel costs, which leaves \$28,271 for County revenue. The Commission thanked S & R. Smolnisky added that they are not asking for anything except for personnel to be reimbursed. Hindle expressed gratitude for the breakdown and Busskohl, for creating the team.

L. Emergency Management

1. Second reading of Burn Ban / Ordinance 20
 - ❖ Director of Emergency Management, Steve Esser, explained that this is an ordinance regulating what we are burning in Custer County. Specifically, it provides the definitions of open fire and the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District. A high-wind watch or red flag warning restricts open burning within the County, as well as a County-wide burn ban if it is in effect. This is not applicable to Forest Service land. Esser provided a handout of USFS regulations, such as what is included with Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 Fire Restrictions. The ordinance also covers the potential fines and suppression costs. Esser asked if the Commission needed any other information. Busskohl asked if there was any public comment – there was no comment. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Busskohl asked how they were doing in case they had to redo the burn ban. Esser said there are a few items that need to be changed. Busskohl remarked it looks like it is greening up and some moisture. Esser agreed that it is greening in some areas but might need to put up a ban in a couple of weeks as grass is about done growing if we do not get more moisture. The Highway Department put a fracking tank down by Pringle for additional water supply as well as out of East County Highway Shop, and Esser bought golden adapters from Grim's Pumps so it can be hooked up to firetrucks.
 - ❖ Emergency Management, USFS Wildland Fire, the Custer Fire Department, and the Sheriff's Office have been working to make it more clear what the regulations are. James Bachelor, Selena Spring, and Steve Esser have been working on a document that will have hyperlinks as well as some couple of changes and hopefully by the next meeting, it can be on the County's and City's webpage. Esser has been working with the Chamber of Commerce to distribute it to the public with a QR code that can be scanned and have hyperlinks to different resources. Hopefully the Chamber can get it out to AirBnB and VRBO folks. The Commission thanked Esser.
2. Discuss Assisting Citizens South Dakota Group working with Emergency Management Office during emergencies and disasters
 - ❖ Steve Esser started working with this group and tried to get them training couple of years ago. Last year, they helped with an exercise that Emergency Management did. This year, during the Qury and Sundance Fire, specifically the sheltering operations, the evacuee stations, and the phone lines, there was about 400 hours of free labor for the County. Esser and the group worked to make them a nonprofit and for Esser to request the Commission to add them as a volunteer organization under Emergency Management that they could utilize and cover their worker's comp. Esser has been asked if it something that can be done with folks who are on S & R and the

like. The people from this group fills in, in places where they don't have the experience that the folks in the group do, or are covering so they don't have to take from departments to run an emergency operation center. The volunteer hours from the fires goes towards the 15% that the County needs to be covered under the FEMA declaration. Busskohl asked what they would need to do with the insurance. McLaughlin said it will have to be submitted. Esser clarified they would have to be working under the County. Busskohl asked for it to be brought back to the Commission after figuring out insurance.

M. Sheriff's Office

1. Request to surplus a 1993 AM General M998 (HMMWV) VIN: 143840 and a 1985 AM General M998 (HMMWV) VIN: 003836
 - ❖ Lieutenant Derrick Reifenrath asked for the above vehicles to be surplus. Motion to approve made by Hindle; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
2. Request to surplus firearms
 - ❖ Sheriff Marty Mechaley asked to surplus the firearms of McMillion as well as his own per their retirement. Otherwise, Mechaley offered to purchase them for their trade in value of \$285. Motion approve the donation made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
3. Retirement of Lieutenant Steve McMillin, effective May 20th, 2026
 - ❖ The Commission and attendees thanked him. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
4. Retirement of Sheriff Marty W. Mechaley, effective June 18th, 2026 - with the recommendation to appoint Lieutenant Derrick Reifenrath as the Custer County Sheriff
 - ❖ The Commission and attendees thanked him. Mechaley said that after nine years, he is the fourth longest serving Sheriff. Motion to approve both retirements made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Mechaley said it is his recommendation to appoint Reifenrath.
5. Approve the promotion of Corporal Rob Steele to rank of Sergeant, with a recommended hourly wage increase to \$32
 - ❖ Mechaley said Steel has been very valuable and that they do not have a weight scale for Sergeant. \$32 and hour is about \$1.50 above deputy pay, but it several dollars of extra headaches for him to do this position, and it is important to promote these people who are good for the future of the Sheriff's Office. Busskohl asked if there was anything else to look at. Reifenrath said he spoke with Amber Maidins, and it is less than what Sergeant Clevenger makes, who has been in the Office longer. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
6. Resignation of Robin Martinez as of 5/5/2026 and Patricia Huber as of 5/11/2026
 - ❖ Mechaley explained it is difficult to fill these positions, which leads into the next point.
7. Approve advertising and hiring for two dispatchers
 - ❖ Mechaley expressed he would like to fill these positions and have people trained. Busskohl said they cannot go without dispatchers. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

N. Planning

1. Approve Final Plat of: Dikoff Tract Revised, located in a portion of the S ½ SE ¼, Section 1, T3S, R8E, & in Government Lot 7 and the SE 14 SW ¼ of Section 6, T3S,

- R9E, all in BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcels 015655 & 01522 re: Roger Lee, Elizabeth Ann Dikoff, & Clinton Gottfried Dikoff
- ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in April, was presented and approved May 5th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
2. Approve Final Plat of: Fry Tract of the Elk Mountain Ranches Subdivision, located in the SW ¼ NW ¼ and NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 28, T4S, R1E. BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcels 007693, 007694, & 007695 re: Mark & Jan Fry
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in March, was presented and approved April 8th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
 3. Approve Final Plat of: Teresa Tract, located in the N ½ of Section 5, T3S, R7E, BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcels 003933, 015354, 014479, 011830, & 011831 re: Teresa Wheatley
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in March, was presented and approved April 8th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried. Terri Morgan noted to McLaughlin that two are these are in a road district.
 4. Approve Final Plat of: Wheeler Tract 2 of Wind Dance Farms Subdivision, located in Government Lots 3 and 9 of Section 8, T4S, R4E, BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcels 015301 & 001600 re: Julie & Scott Wheeler
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in April, was presented and approved May 5th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
 5. Approve Final Plat of: Klein Tract 1 and Klein Tract 2, located in the SW ¼ of Section 18, the W ½ of Section 19, T4S, R5E, & the E ½ Section 24, T4S, R4E, BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcels 001695 & 013681 re: Klein Ranch, LLC
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in March, was presented and approved April 8th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
 6. Approve Final Plat of: Tract A of Colgan Addition, located in the NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 5, T3S, R12E, BHM, Custer County, South Dakota. Parcel 001528 re: Thomas & Ester Colgan
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that the Tract was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in March, was presented and approved April 8th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
 7. Lewis Variance Request to Ordinance #2, Article IV (4), Section 1, 7, B. The minimum distance between any structure and right-of-way boundary line shall be thirty feet (30'). Parcel 004197, class: residential re: Eric & Shawn Lewis
 - ❖ Kester noted there was a flood and a flood study done on this parcel that did not remove very much from the flood area. The variance was sent out for comment from the Interim Review Committee in April, was presented and approved May 5th by the Planning Commission, which recommends final approval. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

8. Mordi Variance Request to Ordinance #2, Article IV (4), Section 1, 7, C. The Minimum distance between any structure and any property line other than a right-of-way shall be fifteen feet (15'). Parcel 005737, class: exempt re: Mordi Enterprises, LLC
 - ❖ Teri Kester said that this request was seen at the last meeting and they would like to bring it back to appeal the Board's decision. They are requesting a five-foot setback to avoid being too close to the road on the property. Kester said she believed some Commissioners went to check on the property – the question was whether there was a rock wall. The applicant is asking for the five feet to avoid relocating the road on the parcel that serves as the driveway. Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Busskohl; vote taken, Hartman abstained, the rest said aye; motion carried. Busskohl added there was not a mention of a rock wall in the original variance request; it focuses on moving the road. All of the buildings are in line - it makes sense to do it this way but did not have enough information at the time.
9. J&M Investment - waive building permit requirements & fees
 - ❖ Kester explained the applicant lost his structure in the forest fire and wants to rebuild. Planning does not have information on the current wastewater system or the building that was there. Their house and system was constructed in the 80s. The ordinance states, that in order to get building permits, one must follow the proper steps, which he is asking to have waived. Hindle said he spoke with this individual who lost his home in the Qury Fire, and that when someone wants to move into a new home, it triggers waste water system protocols, but this gentleman did not trigger anything – his house was burned down. It is good to give a variance on the septic system, which nothing is wrong with it right now. Busskohl added that he wants to put in a smaller house – Hindle clarified it is the same square footage, but with one less bedroom. Busskohl said that he would just like to see the plans so they know they are approving the same size or less. Tracy Kelley said it would be good to do given the circumstance, her concern would be a blanket approval and something bigger is built. Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
10. Acknowledge resignation of Brendon DeNoma, effective April 27th
 - ❖ The Commission acknowledged.
11. Approval to advertise & hire for Planning Technician vacancy
 - ❖ This is a full-time, fully benefited position with a starting wage of \$27 per hour. Busskohl would like work with HR and the other Commissioners to see if this position takes on other roles, if it remains, becomes full-time or part-time, or other possibilities before advertising, and it needs to wait until, at least, the next meeting. Kester expressed that Planning cannot get to the septic installers and the approaches because they are too busy – instead, they are sending pictures to Planning. Busskohl said that as it is unplanned, they need to look into it.
12. Planning Commission vacancy
 - ❖ A Planning Commissioner has stepped down from Planning Commission Board. This member's term ends December 31st of 2028. There are two alternatives, one of which can be moved to full-time, or they can advertise, fill a vacancy, and finish out the term. Both alternates' terms expire on the same date. Mike Linde suggested that if there are two alternates, to stick to moving one up. Busskohl recommended Jeremiah Whitcher as he is alternate one. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
13. Planning Department staff state wastewater certification
 - ❖ The changes from the State for the wastewater installer license is \$105 for the year. Kester explained they do not install systems, they handle the filing. They verify

applications and a checklist to ensure they are complaint with DANR and Ordinance #2. Kester explained how they inspect systems. Kester asked if the Commission wants to do this every year. Hartman said he does not think they did it, but it might be good for a new employee to do for the first year. Kester said they do not need to be certified to inspect the systems.

O. Equalization

1. Approval and signature for a License Agreement between Vanguard Appraisals INC and the Director of Equalization (\$400 for one-time license fee) for a backup system
 - ❖ Director, Scott Storms, explained he has money in his budget for a backup system.
2. Approval and signature for a Service Contract between Vanguard Appraisals INC and the Director of Equalization (\$150 for an annual service contract agreement) for a backup system
 - ❖ Motion to approve both, the agreement and the contract, made by Hartman; seconded by Hindle; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

P. Finance Office

1. Approve Special Events Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Buffalo Gap Blowout re: requesting Liquor License per event - currently hold Malt Beverage License for \$5/day and \$10/2 days - July 10th & 11th
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hindle; seconded by Hartman; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
2. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License renewal-RB27623 for Buffalo Gap Blowout re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Linde vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
3. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal – RB25889 for Lagerplatz Adventures LLC re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Busskohl vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
4. Approve Alcoholic License Application renewal-RB20107 for Custer County Fairgrounds in Hermosa re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hindle; seconded by Busskohl vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
5. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal-RB25886 for Regency CSP Ventures Limited Partnership at Sylvan Lake Lodge re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
6. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal-RB25885 for Regency CSP Ventures Limited Partnership at Blue Bell Lodge re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Hindle vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
7. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal-RB3847 for Regency CSP Ventures Limited Partnership at Legion Lake Lodge re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

8. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal-RB30549 for Bridle Ridge Horse and RV Camp LLC at said camp re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Linde; seconded by Busskohl vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
9. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application renewal-RB29826 for Lucky Enough LLC at the Gold Valley Camp re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde vote taken, all aye; motion carried.
10. Approve Alcoholic Beverage License Application -RB30739 for Lintz Brother Pizza LLC on Highway 36 re: retail on-off sale Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine (\$300)
 - ❖ Motion to approve made by Hartman; seconded by Busskohl vote taken, Lintz abstained, the rest aye; motion carried. Busskohl added that he has been working with the State Park.

Q. Commission Legal Counsel

1. Approval of the Waiver and Release of Liability related to the Building Removal Project at the Fair Grounds
 - ❖ Aaron Davis circulated this waiver as part of the scanned items. Basically took the one from the Highway Shop when people are disrupting county roads - whoever is removing the building is doing so at their own risk. The County, Board Members, Commissioners, and volunteers are released from liability and operate under South Dakota law. Davis's recommendation is to approve. Motion to approve made by Busskohl; seconded by Hindle vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

R. Commission

1. Discuss Budget Policy/Line Items
 - ❖ Aaron Davis explained that the Auditor's Office and himself have been working on this project. McLaughlin said she would like to form the Board of three people, and then it can go to the Department Heads for feedback. Potentially at the next meeting, they can identify who the Board Members are, then information can be forwarded to the Department Heads. Davis added they try to put in points about issues with cashflow at the end of the year. At certain times of the year, the County has the least amount of cash on hand, due to a lack of revenue from property tax, so while it is not always possible, it would be good to more evenly spend money throughout the year to avoid getting into cashouts or penalties. It will help clarify what is going into the budget, how budget spending can be more predictable, having more input from departments, and seeing how everything affects each other. They are referring to policies from other Counties as a guide. At the next meeting, they hope to have more specifics.
2. Authorize legal counsel to provide an analysis of SB 96 re: local sales tax option to reduce property tax
 - ❖ Busskohl said he would like to start getting the groundwork of what is in the law and how it will work for public transparency. Hindle said Hulse is very optimistic – she is thinking about \$1,000 on a \$400,000 home, while Hindle is estimating \$500-\$600, which would still be good. LeeAnn McWhorter added that before this bill was passed, former representative, Dennis Krull, estimated that it would bring in at a half cent, \$1.6 million to Custer County. Busskohl wants to understand where the money
3. Schedule public meeting date with City of Custer re: law enforcement
 - ❖

4. Approve name plates to be engraved for memoriam of past employees who have passed away



5. Mail call

a. letter from SD DOT re: 16A Detour Route



b. Thank You from Fairburn Volunteer Fire Department



6. Meeting schedule--none.



7. Meeting reports

1. Hindle attended Fire Opt-Out at Pine Room, Custer County Republicans, FAA phone conference with Mead & Hunt/Hendrickson, GFP in CSP via public comment re: CC Fairgrounds shooting facility as per Travis Bies' wishes, BHACC. Linde attended candidate forum, BHACC, Fire Opt-Out, Pringle City meeting and 1881 Museum meeting. Lintz attended Fair Board meeting. Busskohl attended Housing Board, Custer City Council, S&R, Fire Opt-Out, Planning Commission, Republican Candidate Forum and SDACCL meetings. Hartman attended Housing, Planning Commission and Elected Officials, as well as telephone meetings.



S. Executive Sessions

1. Motion to enter and exit Executive Session Per SDCL 28-13.42 Indigent; Executive Session Per SDCL 1-25-21(1) Personnel; Executive Session Per SDCL 1-25-2(3) Legal; Executive Session Per SDCL 1-25-2(3) Contract made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde.

T. Actions Taken Outside of Executive Session

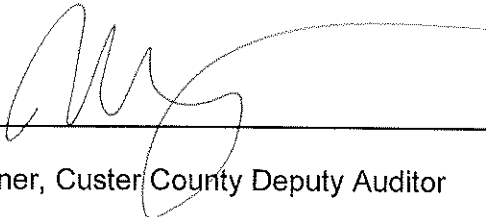
1. Motion to deny Indigent Request based on non-qualifying purpose made by Busskohl; seconded by Linde; vote taken, all aye; motion carried.

U. Adjourn

1. Motion by Linde and seconded by Busskohl to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 AM. The next meeting will be at 8:00 AM, May 27, 2026 in the Commissioner's Room in the Custer County Courthouse.



 Jim Lintz, Chairman

Attest: 

 Madelyn Lardner, Custer County Deputy Auditor



Published once at the total approximate cost of _____.