

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MELLETTE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
July 7, 2026

The meeting of the Mellette County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Brown in the Commissioner Room in the Mellette County Courthouse at White River, SD on July 7, 2026 at 9:05 am. Commission members present were Vernon Brown, Wes Schmidt, and Jr. Brandis; also present was Auditor Jenny Galbraith, States Attorney Kirby Krogman, Highway Superintendent Tre Iyotte, Sheriff Trevor Willcuts, Deputy Sheriff Lonnie Schultz and Deputy Thomas Keller.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

All motions are to be considered unanimous unless otherwise stated.

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Schmidt, seconded by Brandis.

Open Visitors/Public Comment: None present.

Road & Bridge: Highway Superintendent Tre Iyotte provided an update to the commission on work completed in June and updates on equipment. Commission discussed signs that have been requested, no motion made. The purchasing of updated vehicles and a trailer to pull equipment on were discussed and will be looked into and further discussed at the next meeting. Iyotte discussed surplus equipment of the 2 old mowers, the pull behind packer, and the Terex loader to sell on Purplewave. Motion by Schmidt to surplus this equipment and sell on Purplewave, second by Brandis. Commission reviewed Golden West Application for Occupancy on Right of Way, motion by Schmidt to approve signing, second by Brandis.

Unfinished Business: Commission discussed the ambulance service with Rosebud Ambulance, Jones Co. Ambulance, and Tripp Co. Ambulance representatives. No motion made at this time.

New Business: States Attorney Kirby Krogman discussed with the Commission a conflict for the Equalization Appeals with Zach Pahlke who was approved for representation at the June meeting. Chairman Brown called for executive session in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(3) to discuss legal at 11:26 am; Chairman Brown declared executive session ending at 11:29 am. Motion by Schmidt to have Cassie Wendt be appointed as Special Deputy States Attorney to represent the county for the Circuit Court appeals, second by Brandis. Commission reviewed renewals for employee health, dental/vision, and life insurance. Motion by Schmidt to approve renewals, second by Brandis. Brandi Seamon from SD Dept of Human Services joined the meeting to discuss the Voc Rehab program and if the county would potentially be interested in taking on any of her clients in a work training program. She will contact Auditor Galbraith if and when she has a potential candidate. Auditor Galbraith discussed with Commission combining of precincts for the Primary run off election on July 28, 2026. Motion by Schmidt to combine precincts Central 2, White River 5, and Wood 3 to the Mellette County Emergency Services Building located at 415 N. Roosevelt, White River, second by Brandis. Chairman Brown called for executive session in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(1) Personnel at 11:32 am. Chairman Brown declared executive session ending at 1:20 pm. Willcuts discussed issues he was having with Deputy Keller and recommended that he terminate his employment. Commission will check on some reports and discuss further with Willcuts at a later date. Commission discussed Treasurer Rose Moran's hours and time off. Motion by Schmidt to change her from a salaried employee to an hourly employee at \$20 per hour that will accrue sick and vacation leave, second by Brandis.

2027 Budget: Commission discussed the 2027 budget and decided it best to hold a special meeting for the purpose of the budget on July 15, 2026 at 9:00 am.

Commission reviewed the proceedings from June 5, 2026; motion by Schmidt to approve the proceedings, seconded by Brandis.

Commission reviewed claims for July and claims paid out of meeting in June. Motion by Schmidt to approve the claims as follows, second by Brandis.

COMMISSIONERS

MELLETTE COUNTY NEWS	minutes published	539.35
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ELECTIONS

JERRY BOTTGER	post audit election	75.00
ALEX BOUMAN	post election audit	75.00
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	election supplies	7237.19
ALYSSA GALBRAITH	post election audit	75.00
CHARLEVE LOLLEY	post election audit	75.00
MELLETTE COUNTY NEWS	voter runoff notice	33.25
DEANNA MURRA	post election audit	75.00

AUDITOR

AT&T MOBILITY	CELL PHONE	46.50
UP NORTH RECYCLING LLC	shred bin	7.00

TREASURER

DARCI COX	mileage	33.60
UP NORTH RECYCLING LLC	shred bin	7.00

STATE'S ATTORNEY

KIRBY KROGMAN	hotel/mileage for conference	660.48
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COURT APPOINTED ATTY

AISHA CARR	court appointed attorney fees	3243.04
SANDY STEFFEN	court appointed attorney fees	1389.99

COURTHOUSE

CITY OF WHITE RIVER	water/sewer	258.46
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	oil, filter	53.67
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	padlock & supplies	232.44
RUNNINGS	flowers	61.96

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION

HALEY GALLANT	mileage	579.60
UP NORTH RECYCLING LLC	shred bin	7.00

REGISTER OF DEEDS

UP NORTH RECYCLING LLC	shred bin	7.00
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PHONE/INTERNET

GOLDEN WEST COMPANIES	internet	398.98
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SHERIFF

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	MOLLE-LOK CLIPS	1861.77
AT&T MOBILITY	CELL PHONES & RADIOS	315.92
CENEX FLEET FUELING	sheriff fuel	1769.85
CIRCLE K MOTOR CO	tire alignment and balance	162.00
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	wipers	56.45
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	shop towels	106.07
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	fuel	39.93
MURDO CAR SALES & SERVICE, LLD	tonneau cover '14 Ford	664.00
SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	lab fees	50.00

JAIL

CITY OF WHITE RIVER	water/sewer	32.00
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ROAD & BRIDGE

AT&T MOBILITY	CELL PHONE	46.50
CENEX FLEET FUELING	highway fuel	261.54
CITY OF WHITE RIVER	water/sewer	74.34
DMC WEAR PARTS	edges	5293.00
RAYMOND DRIESBAUGH	mileage	193.90

FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	mechanic	458.75
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	hydraulic oil & hardware	424.16
FIREWATCH OUTPOST LLC	fuel	107.41
TRIPP CO. WATER USER DISTRICT	water	16.00
UP NORTH RECYCLING LLC	shred bin	7.00
VERIZON	asset trackers	158.78
FIRE PROTECTION		
CITY OF WHITE RIVER	water/sewer	18.50
GOLDEN WEST COMPANIES	internet	37.04
EMERG/DISASTER SERV		
AT&T MOBILITY	CELL PHONE & RADIO	76.58
CITY OF WHITE RIVER	water/sewer	18.50
GOLDEN WEST COMPANIES	internet	37.04
TWO WAY SOLUTIONS INC	tower repairs	7569.03
SD ASSOC. OF COUNTY OFFICIALS	June M&P	44.00

PAYROLL

June 12, 2026

Commission	1133.11
Auditor	2823.18
Treasurer	2703.37
States Attorney	2624.38
Courthouse	2254.64
Director of Equalization	2052.11
Register of Deeds	2981.31
Sheriff	7768.97
Highway	6611.36
Emergency Management	248.43

June 26, 2026

Commission	2070.50
Auditor	3286.90
Treasurer	4398.62
States Attorney	3189.39
Director of Equalization	2486.68
Register of Deeds	2237.35
Sheriff	13142.05
Highway	7646.01
Emergency Management	248.42

Commission reviewed the following reports:

Register of Deeds collected \$45.16.00 for the month of June. Clerk of Courts collected \$2979.15 for the month of May 2026. Auditor's Account with Treasurer as of May 31, 2026 is as follows: Actual cash \$627.53; Checks \$6883.96; Credit Card Payments \$313.87. First Fidelity Checking \$1,852,102.93; First Fidelity CD's \$350,000.00; ROD Account \$250.00 Total: \$2,210,178.29.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:35 pm. Next meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, July 30, 2026 at 9:00 am.

Approved this 4th day of August 2026

Vernon Brown, Chairman, Mellette County Commissioners

ATTEST

Jenny Galbraith, County Auditor