

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF EMMONS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
AT IT'S SPECIAL MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE
MARCH 18, 2025**

Chairman Dan Materi called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M., with Commissioners James Gartner, Erin Magrum, Craig Miller and Jim Vander Vorst being present.

Emergency Manager, Mary Senger, explained the March 18, 2025, Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions Declaration.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to approve the Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

There being no further business before the board, Commissioner Gartner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. The meeting adjourned at 11:09 A.M.

Approved: April 1, 2025

**_____
Dan Materi, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners**

**_____
Marlys Ohlhauser
Emmons County Auditor**

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF EMMONS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
AT IT'S REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 4, 2025**

Chairman Dan Materi called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with Commissioners James Gartner, Erin Magrum, Craig Miller and James Vander Vorst being present. Also present was States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Miller motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of gravel discussion. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Old and Unfinished Business:

Auditor Ohlhauser reported that the NDIRF adjuster completed the claim investigation regarding the farm equipment damage from a rock and ruts in a field, and will be denying the claim because there were no findings where the county is negligent. The adjuster sent an email to Dan Moch asking him to provide her with his story, and he never responded back to her. Commissioner Magrum motioned to remove this item from old and unfinished business on the agenda going forward, unless something resurfaces. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

New Business:

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the building permit for Verizon and Crown Castle USA for minor modification to the existing wireless facility in the NE ¼ NW ¼ of Section 25, Township 131, Range 76, W of the 5th P.M., and to approve the building permit for New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC to install six (6) new antennas, remove twelve (12) RRH radios, install nine (9) new RRH radios. Remove and replace one (1) tower mounted surge protector. Install one (1) new DC power trunk cable on the cell tower in the NE ¼ NW ¼ Less RW, Section 25, Township 131, Range 76. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the application for abatement or refund of taxes for parcel #52-6-446-0 and for parcel #29-0000-04017-000 for tax year 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned authorizing Chairman Materi to execute the Langelier's Bay Annual Management Program, Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for calendar year 2024 and the Annual Management Program and budget for 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the building permit for Richard Weigelt to replace windows, doors and flooring to the residence, tract 425.6 X 177' and tract 3 in the SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 6, Township 132, Range 76. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The Six County Commission meeting hosted by McIntosh County will be held on March 11, 2025 in Ashley, ND.

As advertised, at 9:15 A.M., a public hearing was held to receive public comment and direction in regards to a Petition to close the section line in between the N ½ of Section 7, Township 130, Range 75 and the N ½ of Section 8, Township 130, Range 75, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code 24-07-03. Kenny and Danny Nieuwsma were present and provided a history of the road from 1950 to present. States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson provided his opinion from Chapter 24-07 in the North Dakota Century Code that reads the board of county commissioners, if petitioned by a person having an interest in the adjoining land, after a public hearing, may close section lines which are not used for ten years, are not traveled due to natural obstacles or difficulty of terrain, are not required due to readily accessible alternate routes of travel, or are intersected by interstate highways causing the section line to be a dead end. There were no citizens present in opposition to close the section line. Commissioner Gartner motioned to close the section line. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The board reviewed zoning ordinance, general provisions and Article 1, RA – Recreation District. Commissioner Magrum motioned to begin a list of amendments with the first amendment proposed for the list would be to take item #2 under 1.A. and move it into item #8 under 1.B. in Article 1. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

There was some discussion regarding the potential hiring of an engineer. Commissioner Gartner reported that the county engineer should have expertise in gravel, culverts, bridges, and if there's going to be a cost share with any of the cities, the engineer should also have expertise on curb and gutter and pavement. Noted was the salary range for an experienced engineer, and the lack of office space in the county shops and courthouse, suggesting possible location at Linton City Hall.

Eric Hoberg, Napoleon Economic Development, and Carl Jackson, Market Engineer for Moore Engineering, Inc., appeared to further discuss the proposed Irrigation project aimed at utilizing water from the Missouri River into Logan County for Irrigation. Eric Hoberg stated that he’s trying to make a large impact by utilizing water from the Missouri River for an irrigation project with the potential to impact local agriculture and economic development. Carl Jackson reported that in order for this project to move forward one of the requirements of the Department of Water Resources is that an Irrigation District is formed. This would involve a feasibility study to gauge interest among landowners and assess the potential costs and logistics of establishing an Irrigation District. Requested was for Emmons County to contribute \$25,000.00 towards the local cost share of the \$200,000.00 grant received from the Department of Water Resources to generate the feasibility study so the district can be brought to a vote of the landowners. Commissioner Magrum expressed concerns about spending \$25,000.00 to seek out if landowners want this project, and would like to see a list of landowners that have an interest in the project. Further discussions will be held with Eric Hoberg and local landowners regarding the project.

Commissioner Magrum will take the responsibility of finding a Housing Authority Board Member to replace the unexpired term of Melvin Jahner.

Leon and Therese Beitelspacher appeared to request road maintenance on the one mile stretch running within Section 3 in Township 133, Range 77. Commissioner Magrum motioned to authorize the Road Superintendent to maintain Lyla Lane as he sees fit. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Russell Lawler, Road Superintendent, provided a monthly update stating that the department has been performing maintenance on some equipment, small remodel project to the Linton County Shop, seven blade operators attended roadway foundation basics and gravel quality training in Valley City, opening of culverts, and gravel site testing. Jerry Lauinger and Dustin Huber started employment with the county as equipment operators. Russell Lawler worked out a deal with Morton County on getting tar for the year for the county and the City of Linton. Noted was the access road going into Rice Lake on 96 X Street needs some road maintenance, which is part of the plat agreement.

Commissioner Gartner presented a quote from Verizon Connect for Vehicle Trackers for the road department. After some discussion, Commissioner Magrum motioned to accept the quote from Verizon Connect (option #2) for up to 18 vehicle trackers for a monthly cost of \$18.95 per unit with 50% off the first three months. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the Road Maintenance Agreement between Campbell Township and Emmons County for the following services:

Road Grading Services - \$350.00 per certified mile
Road Snow Removal - \$200.00 per hour

Agreement is effective April 1, 2025 and shall continue until March 31, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The following payroll and expense for reimbursement vouchers were examined, approved and ordered paid:
General and 911 – Voucher Numbers LP16782 – LP16805, LP16842 – LP16843, Payroll - \$111,870.96
Highway Tax – Voucher Numbers LP16844– LP16852, LP16806, Payroll - \$64,392.49

The following vouchers were reviewed and approved for payment:

46125	MDU	Utilities	194.25
46129	NDACO Resources Group	Server Support	2,300.00
46169	ND Attorney General	Criminal Background Check	30.00
46202	Acme Tools	Tools	39.98
46203	Advanced Business Methods	Extension Copier	461.24
46204	Agtegra Redfield Bulk	Service	1,634.04
46205	Ampride	Gas	69.01
46206	Auto Value Linton	Parts	935.17
46207	Beastrom Oil Co.	Propane	8,428.69
46208	Braaten Law Firm	Legal Services	1,312.00
46209	Burleigh Morton Detention Center	Prisoner Billing	2,800.00
46210	Butler Machinery Co.	Parts/Labor	918.62
46211	Camp Knoll LLC	Gravel Lease	175.00
46212	Central Dakota Frontier	Gas	54.33
46213	Central Specialties, Inc.	Kelsch Crossing Project	98,422.41
46214	CHS, Inc.	Propane	1,155.00
46215	Circle H. Lumber	Material	1,757.74
46216	Linton City	Water Bill	100.79
46217	Code 4 Services, Inc.	Replace Lights	58.80
46218	Cole Papers, Inc.	Supplies	302.89
46219	Costco Membership	Dues	65.00

46220	D & B Engraving & Tees	Spelling Bee	7.00
46221	Dakota Business Solutions	Annual Maintenance Postal Machine	450.00
46222	Dakota Dust Tex, Inc.	Service	202.00
46223	Dakota Sound Systems, Inc.	Sound System	42,675.00
46224	Electronic Communications	Micro Holder	200.00
46225	Emmons County Record	Publication	454.34
46226	Emmons County Treasurer	Supplies	85.15
46227	Emmons County Treasurer	Postal Machine Use	302.64
46228	Fireside Office Products, Inc.	Fireside Office Products, Inc.	1,133.66
46229	Information Technology Dept.	Internet Access & Netmotion	1,696.25
46230	Jack's Electronic & Trenching	Supplies and Service	679.82
46231	Ron Jangula Construction	Painting	6,565.20
46232	Johnsen Trailer Sales, Inc.	Parts	36.19
46233	Keller's Hardware	Supplies	98.70
46234	Linde Gas & Equipment, Inc.	Supplies	484.55
46235	Linton Auto Parts	Parts/Labor	753.81
46236	Little Falls Machine, Inc.	Parts	360.08
46237	Martin Oil	Gas	551.30
46238	Matthew Bender & Co., Inc.	ND Court Updates	32.43
46239	MDU	Utilities	2,371.80
46240	Mosset, Robin	Bond	86.00
46241	New Vision Security, LLC	Fire Alarm Monitoring	120.00
46242	Nodak True Value	Parts/Supplies	939.77
46243	NDACO Resources Group, Inc.	Computers/Support	21,441.64
46244	ND Clerks Association	Dues	100.00
46245	NDACTVSO	Dues/Registration Fee	170.00
46246	NDSAA	Dues	400.00
46247	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Webcam/Supplies	462.37
46248	OK Tire Store	Tires	295.26
46249	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	327.54
46250	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	761.08
46251	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	6,113.15
46252	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	285.06
46253	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	723.39
46254	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Food/Supplies	306.41
46255	Pfeifle	Parts and Service	149.10
46256	Prairie Heating and Air, Inc.	Service	686.73
46257	RDO Truck Center	Cover	1,159.77
46258	Renschler, Norman	Rice Lake Maintenance	380.00
46259	RJ Sales and Service	Service	285.70
46260	Sayler Implement, Inc.	Parts	494.93
46261	Schneider, Jackie	Food Pantry	500.00
46262	Sign Solutions	Signs	1,324.61
46263	South Central Regional Water	Water Bill	79.20
46264	Strasburg State Bank	2022 JD Blade Lease Payment	54,104.16
46265	Stuckle, Acacia	Expense Reimbursement	186.20
46266	TC Specialties, Inc.	Service	57.00
46267	Tyler Technologies, Inc.	Software Data Conversion	14,921.40
46268	Unicom	Graphics for Sheriff Vehicle	899.95
46269	Verizon Wireless	Cell Service	593.60
46270	Walk-N-Roll	Parts	10,908.27
46271	Widmer Roel	2023 County Audit	798.00
46272	Wold Engineering, P.C.	Senger Lake Road Project	76,479.50
46275	Hazelon City	Water Bill	36.00
46276	KEM Electric	Utilities	436.02
46277	NDDOT	Bridge Inspections	338.49
46278	Strasburg City	Water Bill	97.32
46283	BEK Communications	Telephone Services	3,054.61

There being no further business before the board, Commissioner Magrum motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Approved: April 1, 2025

Daniel Materi, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Marlys Ohlhauser
Emmons County Auditor

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF EMMONS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
AT IT'S REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2025**

Chairman Dan Materi called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with Commissioners James Gartner, Erin Magrum, Dan Materi, Craig Miller and James Vander Vorst being present. Also present was States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2025 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of section line discussion. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Old and Unfinished Business:

Further discussion was held regarding county employees being able to volunteer for local organizations, (such as Fire Department, EMS, etc.). Commissioner Magrum motioned that Emmons County allow for county employees to have eight hours of annual volunteer time, approved by the department head, with any modifications being at the discretion of the board of county commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Reported was the NDIRF insurance claim is still open regarding the farm equipment damage from a road project (rock and ruts in field); therefore, no action was taken.

Discussion was held on updating the Zoning Ordinance Manual where the board agreed to work through a chapter every month with States Attorney Joseph M. Hanson. The commission decided to add zoning ordinance update – general provisions in chapter one on the March agenda.

Chairman Materi and Commissioner Miller looked into the section line matter located on the NW ¼ of Section 7, Township 136, Range 78, 55th St. SW tabled from the December 3, 2024 meeting. Chairman Materi reported that the section line is not drifted in as previously described; instead, there's a 15 – 20-foot embankment and ravine grown over with trees. Citizens are driving on a trail south of the section line. There's a small pile (wheelbarrow size) of cement pieces on the section line. GIS Coordinator, Josh Odden, stated that he found a photo dated back in the 1950's where citizens were driving around the section line. State's Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson, provided an opinion that the county could grant permission to Mr. Woodland to improve the section line using his own equipment to build up the road so that it's drivable; but, the county has no obligation to this road. The board concluded that this is not a county matter.

New Business:

Commissioner Vander Vorst inquired about the section line located in between Sections 4 and 9 in Township 131, Range 74, asking if the county would be responsible if something would happen if the section line gets washed out and impossible to cross. States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson, stated that this section line is not part of the county's road system, and if the section line becomes dangerous, the county could close access to the road.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to enter into a Limited Services Agreement with Tanya Wieler of Dakota Dynamics, Human Resource Consulting for Local Government, for providing general Human Resource assistance and guidance to Emmons County. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to terminate Easement No. DACW45-2-70-6059 within Section 6, Township 135, Range 78, and release it to the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Director of Tax Equalization, Christina Seppanen, appeared to present the 2025 agricultural land valuations provided by the Agribusiness and Applied Economics Department of the North Dakota State University. NDSU calculated the statewide average values per acre with the following results:

Cropland	\$910.51
Non-cropland	\$163.09
All agricultural land	\$676.46

Emmons County's average value per acre for the year 2025 is as follows:

Cropland	\$924.38
Non-cropland	\$165.55
All agricultural land	\$675.89

North Dakota Century Code ruling requires County's to be within a tolerance level of 90% - 100% on their agricultural land values determined by the North Dakota State University Agricultural Economics Department.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to maintain a 92% tolerance level to keep the county average in compliance with state requirements. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

NextEra Energy Resources Representatives, Clint Scherb and Evan Shea, appeared and presented information on a proposed Emmons-Logan Energy Storage Project. The project would be located on a 15-acre parcel adjacent to the substation in Emmons County. The project includes a 140-megawatt, four-hour battery energy storage project (560 megawatt hours), and is aimed to start construction in 2025 with commercial operation targeted for December 2026. The project has a lifespan of 30-35 years.

Tony Holzer and Becky Thatcher-Keller provided an update on the Emmons County Senior Food Services. The State Director for Council on Aging for Senior Services called for a Kidder County Commission meeting to be held to discuss issues with the KESS (Kidder Emmons Senior Services). There were problems with financial reports, releasing money belonging to Emmons Seniors, and bad business decisions with closing down meal sites. After a heated discussion between the State Director, board members, and guests, the Kidder County Commissioners ordered the Secretary/Treasurer with KESS to pay Emmons County Senior Food Service \$39,002.90 from a savings account for Emmons County Senior Food Services. The State Director ordered an audit so it's unclear whether the Emmons County Senior Food Services will be receiving more funding. The Kidder County Commissioners asked all the KESS board members and the director to resign effective February 1, 2025. The Commissioners complimented Tony Holzer for the excellent job that he's doing with the Emmons County Senior Food Services. Tony Holzer stated that they are very thankful for the community contributions that they received. Noted was meals on wheels will begin delivery to Strasburg.

Francis Krumm appeared and provided a correction to the public record and comments made at the January 7, 2025 meeting regarding frost boils to the county roads at the time he was the county road superintendent. Mr. Krumm stated that when he was road superintendent, he had a conversation with Emergency Manager, Mary Senger, who recommended that the county supply all the road department employees with county owned cell phones in case of open record requests that their personal information would not be jeopardized. With the help from Mary Senger and FEMA, all grade operators were trained to locate and measure each of the frost boil sites accurately. The employees did an excellent job of locating the frost boils and provided all the paperwork requested by FEMA. After the paperwork was completed, it was turned in to Mary Senger who then filed the paperwork with FEMA. According to the conversation held with Mary Senger, FEMA did not cover the frost boils in Emmons County during that time period, and the denial had nothing to do with the paperwork process. She filed the paperwork the second time and was denied again. There were 309 frost boils, but only 109 needed to be repaired for a cost of \$518,159.82. The other frost boils only needed grading. Before Francis Krumm was road superintendent, there was no paperwork or time cards kept by the employees. The Commission agreed that the road department needed to have paperwork and documentation, so they hired Kelly Krumm to do the paperwork. Every hour of every work day over the course of 2020 and 2021 was documented by each employee. The time cards listed what each employee was doing, what piece of equipment was used and the hours spent on each task. This information was used to provide the cost of each road repair project. Books were compiled that contained all the annual road projects completed. Each Commissioner was provided with one of these books that should be handed down to the next commissioner.

Russell Lawler, Road Superintendent, provided a monthly update stating that the department has been blading on warmer days, riprapping out by Larry Leier's and Gefroh's on the federal aid road, doing maintenance in the shop, building fenders on the Low Boy trailer, building racks for outside, and a couple of employees are working on some packers in Strasburg. There was some discussion on various roads that need culvert work, blading and graveling.

Commissioner Gartner reported that he's waiting on a quote from Verizon Wireless for tracking graders and possibly trucks and pickups as a tool to protect the employees.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to amend the 2024 appropriations for prairie dog road by \$184,108.10, LATCF by \$9,267.12, police contract by \$33,971.41, and ARPA by \$75,874.92. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the plat for the west 47' of the N ½ of lot 9 of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 17, Township 132, Range 79. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the plat for Lot C of the SE ¼ of Section 18, Township 132, Range 76. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Clerk of Court/Recorder, Robin Mosset, introduced Wayne Ehley, newly hired Deputy Clerk of Court and Myckea Gross, newly hired Deputy Recorder.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the application for abatement or refund of taxes for parcel #15-5426-10 for tax year 2024 and to approve the application for abatement or refund of taxes for parcel #22-0000-04698-000 for tax year 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The following payroll and expense for reimbursement vouchers were examined, approved and ordered paid:

General and 911 – Voucher Numbers LP16720 – LP16741, LP16771 – LP16772, Payroll - \$107,501.35
Highway Tax – Voucher Numbers LP16773– LP16781, LP16669, Payroll - \$64,193.91

The following vouchers were reviewed and approved for payment:

45964	MDU	Utilities	199.98
45966	ND Attorney General	Background Check	15.00
46045	Job Service ND	Notice of Reimbursement Due	1,998.20
46046	Acme Tools	Tools	504.98
46047	Advanced Business Methods	Extension Copier Contract	386.26
46048	Auto Value Linton	Parts	448.82
46049	Balco Uniform Co., Inc.	Uniforms	331.57
46050	Braaten Law Firm	Legal Service	3,175.88
46051	Burleigh Morton Detention Center	Prisoner Billing	500.00
46052	Butler Machinery Co.	Parts/Labor	4,632.15
46053	Central Dakota Frontier	Starting Fluid	42.09
46054	Centre, Inc,	Community Service Contract	1,200.00
46055	CHS, Inc.	Propane	1,710.75
46056	Linton City	Water Bill	86.18
46057	Code 4 Services, Inc.	Sheriff Vehicle Equipment	7,132.63
46058	Cole Papers, Inc.	Supplies	901.75
46059	Crazy Daisy, LLC	Carwash	6.00
46060	Dakota Business Solutions	Postal Machine Ink	241.00
46061	Dakota Dust Tex, Inc.	Service	202.00
46062	Dickinson Research Ext.	Postage	24.85
46063	Emmons County Record	Publishing	394.22
46064	Emmons County Treasurer	Notary Bond	51.65
46065	Emmons County Treasurer	Postal Machine Use	657.17
46066	Fed Ex	Service	21.53
46067	Fireside Office Products	Supplies	600.85
46068	Galindo, Jordyn	Wages	447.15
46069	Hulm, Allan	Expense Reimbursement	150.00
46070	Jack's Electric & Trenching	Service	813.75
46071	Jerome Distributing	Water Refills	90.25
46072	Linde Gas & Equipment, Inc.	Parts	318.85
46073	Linton Auto Parts	Parts	1,075.76
46074	Martin Oil Co.	Gasoline	3,483.61
46075	MDU	Utilities	2,520.01
46076	Mosset Welding LLC	Service	84.00
46077	New Vision Security, LLC	Panic Alarm Service	860.75
46078	Nodak True Value	Supplies	1,236.69
46079	NDACO	Programs	1,027.40
46080	NRG Resource Group	IT Services/Computers	9,510.74
46081	ND One Call	Location Request	1.50
46082	ND Sheriff's and Deputies Assoc.	Dues	400.00
46083	ND State Radio Communications	Phone Collections	14,779.87
46084	ND State Radio Communications	Everbridge Fee	904.28
46085	ND State Radio Communications	LETS Billing	120.00
46086	NDSU	Software	166.00
46087	NDSU Extension Service	Salary Reimbursement	14,193.19
46088	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	Supplies	55.78
46089	Pahlke Steel	Steel	448.00
46090	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	213.74
46091	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	165.00
46092	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	2,539.34
46093	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	324.85
46094	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	343.01
46095	Pearson, Mark	Expense Reimbursement	46.77
46096	Power Plan Corp.	Parts	949.23
46097	Quadient Leasing USA, Inc.	Postage Machine Lease	402.00
46098	RDO Truck Center	Parts/Service	621.60
46099	Renschler, Norman	Maintenance to Rice Lake	380.00
46100	Sanders, Gary	Expense Reimbursement	99.97
46101	Sanders, Gary	Expense Reimbursement	264.05
46102	Sayler Implement, Inc.	Parts	711.56
46103	Schneider, Jackie	Food Pantry	500.00
46104	Softchoice Corp.	Office Programs	1,919.76
46105	South Central Regional Water	Water Bill	81.00
46106	TC Specialties, Inc.	Service	57.00
46107	Twin City Roofing, LLC	Courthouse Roof Repairs	93,162.00
46108	Tyler Technologies, Inc.	School ERP Program	1,769.00
46109	Unlimited Office Products	Supplies	179.70

46110	Verizon Wireless	Cell Service	412.75
46111	Warrens Locks and Keys	Digital Lever and Key Tags	243.50
46112	Widmer Roel	2023 County Audit	3,930.00
46113	Wold Engineering, PC	Engineering	22,476.27
46116	Strasburg City	Water Bill	93.07
46117	Hazelton Insurance Agency, Inc.	NDIRF Premium	78,674.00
46118	Information Technology Dept.	Internet Access & Netmotion	1,611.45
46119	KEM Electric Coop, Inc.	Utilities	434.24
46120	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	236.55
46126	BEK Communications	Telephone Service	3,007.62
46130	Hazelton City	Water Bill	36.00

There being no further business before the board, Commissioner Magrum motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Approved: March 4, 2025

Daniel Materi, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Marlys Ohlhauser
Emmons County Auditor

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF EMMONS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
AT IT'S REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2025**

County Auditor, Marlys Ohlhauser, called the reorganizational meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., with Commissioners James Gartner, Erin Magrum, Dan Materi, Craig Miller and James Vander Vorst being present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

County Auditor, Marlys Ohlhauser, opened nominations for the 2025 Chairman. Commissioner Magrum nominated Commissioner Materi. Commissioner Materi nominated Commissioner Gartner. Commissioner Vander Vorst nominated Commissioner Miller. The Commission voted by paper ballot and Commissioner Materi, receiving the highest number of votes, was declared Chairman for 2025.

Chairman Materi opened nominations for the 2025 Vice Chairman. Commissioner Magrum nominated Commissioner Miller. Chairman Materi nominated Commissioner Gartner. The Commission voted by paper ballot and Commissioner Miller, receiving the highest number of votes, was declared Vice Chairman for 2025.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of zoning ordinance update, Morton County Road Committee, culverts and blading. Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Old and Unfinished Business:

Further discussion was held regarding policy and procedures in the county's employee handbook for employees who are active volunteer firefighters/EMS, and whether permission be granted to these employees to respond to calls during regular working hours. The commission agree that employees should be able to volunteer as firefighters/EMS with approval from their supervisor with some compensation, and will work on a rough draft on amending the employee handbook with States Attorney Joseph M. Hanson. Further discussion will be held at the February 4, 2025 meeting.

Tabled was the farm equipment damage from road project (rock and ruts in field) pending information from the NDIRF Insurance adjuster.

New Business:

Commissioner Magrum motioned to appoint or re-appoint the following board members:

County Park Board – Andrew J. Reis
County Park Board – Dean Weiss
Weed Board – Sterling Larson
Weed Board – James Nagel
Water Board – Richard Keller
Public Health Board – Erin Magrum
Emmons County Housing Authority – David Moch
County Committee – Steven Nieuwsma

Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to re-appoint Marlys Ohlhauser to the South Country Human Services Board. Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Vander Vorst motioned to appoint or re-appoint the following officers:

Director of Tax Equalization – Christina Seppanen
VA Officer – Brad Huber
Risk Manager – Marlys Ohlhauser
911 Coordinator – Gary Sanders

Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Acacia Stuckle and Nancy Deis, Extension Agents, provided a quarterly narrative report. Commissioner Vander Vorst volunteered to be assigned the portfolio for the Emmons County Extension Agents, and will participate in their performance reviews.

Eric Hoberg, Napoleon Economic Development, and Jim Guler, Moore Engineering, Inc., appeared and presented information regarding a potential Irrigation project that they've been working with the Department of Water Resources on that would bring water out of the Missouri River into Logan County for Irrigation. Hoberg stated that Logan County currently has about 6,000 acres that could be productive with the use of irrigation. If a

pipeline is run through Emmons County from the Missouri River, Logan County could increase that acreage to 66,000.

In order to make a request for the irrigation to become a project that the state would consider was to form an Irrigation District which meant that you need a comprehensive study, and you need 51% of the potential landowners to sign a petition. Eric Hoberg collected the signatures for the petition identifying the area on lands that would be good for irrigation. A draft study conducted by Moore Engineering, Inc. was submitted to the state. The cost of the study is approximately \$200,000. There is a cost share program with the state for 75% of the cost with a local cost share of 25% if partnered with a county.

During discussion, it was noted that the Horsehead Irrigation District that was formed years ago has become active again where two meetings were held. Eric Hoberg will be reaching out to the district.

Jim Guler approached the Commission about a joint effort or to team up in some capacity as the pipeline project would run straight through Emmons County. Commissioner Magrum asked if there was a preliminary design or a rough draft? Also, having a rough pipeline size and knowing a rough depth of the pipeline are questions that are going to be asked by the landowners.

Commissioner Magrum questioned whether the water moving through the pipeline would be considered potable due to recent updated zoning ordinances. Another question asked by Commissioner Magrum was are there plans on adding outlets to the pipe with the idea that you could add irrigation for Emmons County? Eric Hoberg stated that he's hoping to design this project so that they can service all of the land in Emmons County and Logan County that's irrigable.

VA Officer, Brad Huber, appeared and gave his quarterly report.

Commissioner Gartner motioned authorizing the Chairman and the County Auditor to sign the County Deeds conveying the county's interest in tax deed property as follows:

Anthony J.P. LaFond and Samantha A. Fond – Lots Ten (10), Eleven (11) and Twelve (12), Block Two (2), Dillman's Addition to Strasburg City, Emmons County, North Dakota.

City of Strasburg – Lots One (1) and Two (2), Block Fifteen (15), Milwaukee Land Company's Second Addition to Strasburg City, Emmons County, North Dakota.

City of Strasburg – Lots Three (3) and Four (4), Block Fifteen (15), Milwaukee Land Company's Second Addition to Strasburg City, Emmons County, North Dakota.

Seconded by Commissioner Magrum. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to remove Kathleen Dosch and add Robin Mosset to have authorization to sign on the Clerk of Court/Recorder checking account at BNC National Bank. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The Commission directed Auditor, Marlys Ohlhauser, to reach out to Tanya Wieler, to propose a limited contract for Human Resource Consulting.

Russell Lawler, Road Superintendent, reported on activities for the county road department.

Time card processing discussion was held. Equipment is being moved to repair the bridge in the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 28 of Township 133, Range 75, approximately 5.5 miles east and 2 miles north of Linton, ND. The Commission noted positive comments received from the public on the recent blading done to the roads. Discussion was held regarding the tar tank owned by the county and if they would sell tar to cities where Russ Lawler commented that he will do some research and report back.

Commissioner Vander Vorst, Commissioner Miller and Road Superintendent, Russell Lawler, attended a meeting at Morton County and reported that they have a good system where two commissioners, road supervisor and a couple of citizens from the community meet to discuss road matters/projects, and bring their ideas and recommendations before the commission at their regular meeting. Chairman Materi and Commissioner Gartner will be attending the next meeting at Morton County on January 15, 2025.

Commissioner Gartner motioned to approve the building permit for Orville Dykema to erect a 34 X 30 residence with a 54 X 30 attached garage on the SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 21, Township 129, Range 77. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Magrum abstained from voting due to conflict of interest.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to approve the application for abatement or refund of taxes for parcel #52-0006-00523-000 for tax year 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call "YES": Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the bid in the amount of \$1,182,691.99 from Industrial Builders, Inc. received in the bid opening of December 13, 2024 for Project BRJ-0015(021) was the low bid received.

WHEREAS, this bid is considered reasonable.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Emmons County will award to Industrial Builders, Inc. the contract for Project BRJ-0015(021) and hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign said contract.

It is further understood that the County shall reimburse the North Dakota Department of Transportation for any payments made under this contract, which are not collectible from the Federal Highway Administration.

DATED at Linton, North Dakota this 7th day of January, 2025.

ATTEST:
s/s Marlys Ohlhauser
Emmons County Auditor

APPROVED:
s/s Daniel Materi
Emmons County Chairman

Seconded by Commissioner Gartner. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Magrum motioned to hire Wold Engineering, P.C to perform construction engineering for road project BRJ-0015(021) PCN 23706, replacement of structure No. 15-131-31.1, located 3 miles north and 9 miles east of Strasburg, ND on Section 4 and 5, Township 131, Range 74. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

Commissioner Vander Vorst commented that the stinger bits on the blades have really improved the roads. Also mentioned was the culvert on 14th Ave SE near Dennis Haan’s needs to be repaired.

Commissioner Miller brought forward the Zoning Ordinance Manual that needs to be updated. Further discussion will be held at the February regular meeting with States Attorney, Joseph M. Hanson.

The Commission reviewed a letter from the office of State Tax Commissioner congratulating Director of Tax Equalization, Christina Seppanen, on a successful review of the Emmons County agricultural land valuation methods. Emmons County is fully compliant with North Dakota Century Code #57-02-27.2(8).

Commissioner Magrum motioned to appoint Commissioner Gartner as a member to the Community Action Program Region VII Board of Directors. Seconded by Commissioner Miller. Roll Call “YES”: Gartner, Magrum, Materi, Miller and Vander Vorst. Motion carried.

The following payroll and expense for reimbursement vouchers were examined, approved and ordered paid:

General and 911 – Voucher Numbers LP16644 – LP16668, LP16707 – LP16710, Payroll - \$110,693.62
Highway Tax – Voucher Numbers LP16711– LP16719, LP16669, Payroll - \$48,104.65

The following vouchers were reviewed and approved for payment:

45792	MDU	Utilities	152.07
45796	CNH Industrial Accounts	Inspection and Repairs	7,833.11
45873	Advanced Business Methods	Extension Copier Contract	424.09
45874	Auto Value Linton	Parts/Supplies	661.46
45875	Beastrom Oil Co.	Propane	1,848.50
45876	Braaten Law Firm	Legal Service	968.00
45877	Burleigh Morton Detention Center	Prisoner Billing	3,200.00
45878	Butler Machinery Co.	Parts	3,205.44
45879	Central Dakota Six County Org.	Dues	300.00
45880	CHS, Inc.	Propane	806.00
45881	Hazelton City	Water Bill	36.00
45882	Linton City	Water Bill	84.61
45883	Comstock Construction, Inc.	Courthouse Project	49,053.46
45884	D & E Supply, Inc.	Supplies	99.74
45885	Dakota Dust Tex, Inc.	Service	233.25
45886	Deere Credit, Inc.	Tractor Rental	5,600.00
45887	DMC Wear Parts, LLC	Parts	8,621.34
45888	Electronic Communications, Inc.	Programming	450.00
45889	Emmons County Record	Publishing	646.18
45890	Emmons County Treasurer	Dues/Supplies/24-7	109.00
45891	Emmons County Treasurer	Postage	2,732.26
45892	Emmons County Treasurer	Special Assessments – Strasburg Shop	778.17
45893	Fireside Office Products	Supplies	197.84
45894	Governsoft	Software	16,424.00
45895	Hanson, Joseph	Attorney License Renewal	395.20
45896	Harry Petrie Library	Contribution	2,500.00
45897	HP, Inc.	Computer	1,308.69
45898	Information Technology Dept.	Internet Access & Netmotion	1,630.85
45899	Innovative Office Solutions	Toner	206.62

45900	Jerome Distributing, Inc.	Water Refills	69.50
45901	Keller's Hardware	Supplies	17.95
45902	KEM Electric	Utilities	369.52
45903	Kramer Electric	Service	740.20
45904	Lewis & Clark Reg. Development	Dues	6,625.84
45905	Lexipol LLC	Law Enforcement Manual	5,393.95
45906	Linde Gas & Equipment, Inc.	Parts	402.10
45907	Linton Auto Parts	Parts/Supplies	1,620.31
45908	Linton Fire Dept.	County Contribution	2,500.00
45909	Martin Oil Co.	Gas	520.46
45910	Midwest Investigation & Security	Alarm Monitor	130.00
45911	MDU	Utilities	1,944.77
45912	Moos Repair & Sales	Seal Kit	9.50
45913	Mountain Plains Youth Service	Attendant Care Contract	1,750.00
45914	NACO	Dues	450.00
45915	Nodak True Value	Supplies	216.34
45916	North Central International LLC	Parts	90.51
45917	NDACO	Dues	7,224.00
45918	NDACO Resources Group, Inc.	NRG Secure Cloud	1,212.00
45919	ND County Auditor/Treas. Assn.	Dues	400.00
45920	ND County Commissioners's Assoc.	Dues	1,725.00
45921	ND 911 Association	Dues	100.00
45922	ND State Surplus Property	Chairs	100.00
45923	Pahlke Steel	Window Guards	555.13
45924	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	549.63
45925	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	791.93
45926	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	563.17
45927	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	394.63
45928	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	128.86
45929	Payment Remittance Center	Gas/Fuel/Supplies	396.34
45930	RDO Truck Center	Parts	699.57
45931	Renschler, Norman	Maintenance to Rice Lake	380.00
45932	Rigging and Tools, Inc.	Material for Schwab Bridge	688.23
45933	Sanders, Gary	Reimbursement for 6 Tier Rack	299.98
45934	Sayler Implement, Inc.	Filters	1,375.06
45935	Schneider, Jackie	Food Pantry	500.00
45936	Softchoice Corp.	Office Standard	319.96
45937	South Central Regional Water	Water Bill	76.80
45938	Specialty Sling Company	Material for Schwab Bridge	556.80
45939	Strasburg Fire Dept.	County Contribution	1,000.00
45940	Strasburg Insurance Agency, Inc.	Notary Public	50.00
45941	TC Specialties	Service	114.00
45942	TK Elevator Corp.	Elevator Maintenance Contract	2,083.73
45943	Tower Communications	Tower Rent	600.00
45944	Tri-County Exhibitors	Contribution	2,000.00
45945	Tyler Technologies	Software	5,385.00
45946	Verizon Wireless	Cell Service	412.75
45947	Walk N Roll	Parts	6,842.06
45948	Warrens Locks and Keys	Digital Key Pad	240.00
45949	Wold Engineering, PC	Engineering Services	65,316.25
45950	Wolbaum, Kenneth and Connie	Gravel Lease	356.50
45959	BNC National Bank	Box Rent	15.00
45960	BEK Communications	Telephone Service	3,122.17
45961	Strasburg City	Water Bill	92.56
45962	ODP Business Solutions	Supplies	118.41
45963	Quadient Finance USA, Inc.	Postage	4,000.00

There being no further business before the board, Commissioner Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Vander Vorst. The meeting adjourned at 12:55 P.M.

Approved: February 4, 2025.

Daniel Materi, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Marlys Ohlhauser
Emmons County Auditor

