

**Perkins County Commission
Regular Meeting**

Date: August 11, 2026

Present: Commissioners Carmichael, Foster, Campbell, Schweitzer and Finance Officer Stadler

Not Present: Wayne Henderson

Others Present: Jamie Gerbracht, Macy (Schiley) Crabtree, Steven Nash, Kelly Serr, Shane Penfield, Cody Green, Arlis Seim, press.

Call to Order

Chairman Carmichael called the Regular Commissioner Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Conflict of Interest

There was no Conflict of Interest to declare.

Approval of the Agenda

Foster moved, Campbell seconded to approve the Agenda as presented with the addition of September Meeting Date under Finance Office, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Foster moved, Campbell seconded to approve the Minutes from the July 7, 2026 Regular Meeting and the July 30, 2026 Special Budget Meeting, motion carried.

Monthly Reports

- Finance Officer's Account with the Deputy Finance Officer - To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners Perkins County: I hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash and cash items in the hands of the Deputy Finance Officer of this County as of July 31, 2026, Sara Stadler, Finance Officer, Perkins County. Total amount of deposits in banks \$5,244,477.75. Total amount of actual cash \$200.00; Dakota Plains Federal Credit Union: \$25,734.75; Certificates of Deposit \$516,969.40; Total \$5,787,381.90. The total represents state, county, schools, cities and township funds, which will be transferred to each entity of government after being apportioned.
- Sheriff's Fees in the amount of \$1,241.26 were reviewed.
- Motor Vehicle fees for the month of July 2026 were reviewed.
- Register of Deed's fees in the amount of \$5,565.00 were reviewed.
- Longevity increase of .10/hour will be realized for the following: A. Larson 8-1

Correspondence – Received from Dept of Ag & Natl Resources, US Forest Service, Paden Sexton, and Meadow Fire Department.

Highway – Cody Green

Superintendent Green presented his Monthly Project & Maintenance Report. Green reported the crew is working on maintenance and repairs of equipment as needed. The crew is currently working on hauling gravel to the Prairie City Road, mowing along county roads and they have begun grooming a few county roads. Green anticipates they will begin hauling gravel to the NW area in the next few weeks.

- Distribute Road & Bridge Money – Commissioners approved Superintendent Green to use all of the current Road & Bridge Levy money collected thus far to be used towards the Jensen Rock & Sand bill that will be paid in September.
- Resignation – Joseph Aukland – July 30 - Superintendent Green informed Commissioners that Joseph Aukland has accepted a position in the Perkins County Sheriff's Office and submitted his Highway resignation date effective July 30th.
- Chip Seal Courthouse Parking Lot – Green collected a quote from Jensen Rock and Sand to chip seal the courthouse parking lot for \$13,324.23. Schweitzer moved, Foster seconded to approve the Jensen Rock & Sand quote for \$13,324.23 and to authorize Chairman Carmichael as the signatory, motion carried.

4-H – Macy Schiley – Macy (Schiley) Crabtree was present to inform the Commissioners she took a paraprofessional position at the Lemmon School District and would like to continue working her 10-15 hours per week from home remotely and would continue working at the Bentley Building during the summer months. Commissioners approved her to work remotely.

Awarding Secondary Roads Mowing Bids – Schweitzer moved, Campbell seconded to authorize Chairman Carmichael to open the lone bid received for Mowing Secondary Roads in Perkins County, motion carried. The following bid was received:

Mo Bro Services LLC	NW Corner – 48.5 Miles at \$175.00/mile = \$8,487.50
	NE Corner – 86.6 Miles at \$175.00/mile = \$15,155.00
	SW Corner – 48.75 Miles at \$175.00/mile = \$8,531.25
	SE Corner – no bid
	TOTAL \$32,173.75

Foster moved, Campbell seconded to accept the lone bid from Mo Bro Services, LLC of \$32,173.75 to mow Secondary County Roads in the NW, NE, and SW Corners of Perkins County, motion carried.

Sheriff – Kelly Serr

- New Hires- Kimberly Stewart & Joseph Aukland – Foster moved, Campbell seconded to set the wage for Kimberly Stewart at \$19.68/hour effective her start date of July 27, 2026 and to set the wage for Joseph Aukland at \$22.97/hour effective his start date of August 3, 2026, motion carried.
- Resignation – Peter Schmeling, Tamara Buer, Noah Richards – Sheriff Serr informed the Commissioners that Peter Schmeling’s last day was July 20th. A resignation date for Tamara Buer and Noah Richards will be set at a future date. Campbell moved, Foster seconded to approve the termination date of July 20th, 2026 for Deputy Peter Schmeling, motion carried.
- Bank Signatory – Schweitzer moved, Foster seconded to authorize the removal of Tamara Buer as the Bank Signatory for the Perkins County Sheriff Office and to add Kimberly Stewart, motion carried.
- Surplus – 3 laptops (previously owned by City of Lemmon) – Sheriff Serr informed Commissioners he is trying to clean up items prior to his departure. These 3 laptops were acquired through Homeland Security Funds in 2012 for the Lemmon Police Department and then when the Perkins County Sheriff’s Office and the City of Lemmon Police Department combined, these were included at that time. Foster moved, Campbell seconded to declare these 3 Dell Latitude laptops Model E6430 (serial numbers: 7RYCSS1, 8RYCSS1, 9RYCSS1), as surplus and dispose of them as it is determined they have no value and to authorize Sheriff Serr to have the hard drive removed and dispose of them, motion carried.
- Executive Session – 911 Contracts/Agreement - Campbell moved, Foster seconded to enter in Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2(3) for Legal Matters at 11:34 a.m, motion carried. Chairman Carmichael declared the meeting out of Executive Session at 11:54 a.m.

States Attorney – Shane Penfield

- Resignation – Joanna Seim – States Attorney Penfield informed Commissioners that Joanna Seim has taken a position with the Department of Health and will be ending her employment in August. Commissioners will approve her termination when her last day is finalized.
- UJS Resolution 2026-08 – Foster moved, Schweitzer seconded to approve the UJS (Unified Judicial System) Resolution 2026-08, Roll Call: Campbell aye, Schweitzer aye, Foster aye, Carmichael aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2026-08 - UJS

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Unified Judicial System has announced a proposal to reorganize the Fourth Judicial Circuit and Seventh Judicial Circuit in an effort to improve administrative efficiency; and
WHEREAS, the people of South Dakota have faith in and benefit from a judicial system that is both accessible and reflective of the communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, the proposed combined circuit will consist of a massive geographic area including the metropolitan area of Rapid City, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the population of Pennington County alone is over 108,000 inhabitants, and one of the fastest growing areas in the Midwest and is expected to continue to experience significant population growth with the expansion of Ellsworth Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, the entire population of the Fourth Judicial Circuit is only 81,000 residents, furthermore the counties that make up the northern tier counties only have a population of less than 16,000, and constitute less populations than many neighborhoods found in Rapid City; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Judicial Circuit and Seventh Judicial Circuit serve communities with substantially distinct economic, geographic, social and cultural characteristics; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Judicial Circuit serves primarily rural communities and regional trade centers across the northern Black Hills and northern plains, while the Seventh Judicial Circuit principally serves the Rapid City metropolitan area and surrounding urban communities, reflecting distinctly different regional characteristics; and

WHEREAS, under South Dakota Law, judicial elections occur every eight years, and consolidation of the Circuits would likely create a substantial electoral advantage for judicial candidates residing within the Rapid City metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, Judges faithfully apply the Constitution and laws of this State; however, the communities they serve inevitably shape their experience and understanding of the practical issues presented to the Courts; and

WHEREAS, personnel re-allocations may be required for the orderly functioning of the Seventh Judicial Circuit and Fourth Judicial Circuit, this can be accomplished by internal administrative changes and the sharing of employees across the circuit boundary, without erasing the boundary; and

WHEREAS, erasing the boundary would substantially diminish the voice of citizens residing in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, especially the very rural counties of the northern plains, and could diminish public confidence in the judicial system; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Judicial Circuit and Seventh Judicial Circuit hear substantially different volumes and types of criminal, civil, juvenile, probate and family law matters, each requiring judicial familiarity with the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, any administrative efficiencies that may result from reorganization should be carefully weighed against the importance of preserving public confidence, judicial accountability, and the longstanding identity of the Fourth Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, the taxpaying citizens of the Fourth Judicial and this county respectfully request that the South Dakota Unified Judicial System keep the Fourth Judicial Circuit and Seventh Judicial Circuit separate for the reasons enumerated above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Perkins County Board of Commissioners respectively oppose the consolidation of the Fourth Judicial Circuit and the Seventh Judicial Circuit in order to preserve the public's confidence in our judiciary, maintain judicial accountability and recognize the distinct communities that contribute to the State of South Dakota, regardless of their size.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution be in the minutes of the Perkins County Board of Commissioners and copies transmitted to the Chief Justice, Associate Justices of the South Dakota Supreme Court, the State Court Administrator, the Governor and the legislators representing the Fourth Judicial Circuit.

Finance Office – Sara Stadler

- 2027 – Budget – Motion to publish the 2027 Provisional Budget – Campbell moved, Schweizer seconded to authorize Finance Officer Stadler to publish the 2027 Provisional Budget, motion carried.
- Open Meeting Laws – Commissioners reviewed the newest brochure for Open Meeting Laws.
- September Meeting Date – Foster moved, Schweitzer seconded to set the September Regular Meeting date for Tuesday, September 1st at 2 p.m, motion carried.

Claims

The following claims were presented and approved for payment: July payroll: 81,925.86; IRS, FICA, 7,953.77; SD Retirement, 6,334.42; Delta Dental, ins, 1,006.50; Medico Life, ins, 127.61; Wellmark, ins, 21,585.28; Mutual of Omaha, ins, 252.01; HRA, reimbursements, 12,659.06; Runoff Election Worker Salary, 5,700.00; Runoff Election Worker Travel, 1,214.50; Runoff Election Rent, 225.00; Active Data, maint, 945.00; A&B, supplies, 151.33; AT&T, utilities, 235.74; J. Bingaman,

gravel, 40,000.00; Bison Courier, publishing, 701.09; Bison Food, supplies, 12.94; Bison Grain, supplies, 3,186.05; Bison Implement, rep/suppl/maint, 4,643.89; Brosz, prof. fee, 4,825.00; Butler, repairs, 145.94; Current Connection, suppl/maint, 4,279.49; Dakota Feed, chemical, 6,158.13; Dakota Herald, publishing, 339.51; Eagle Nest, repairs, 1,463.87; Election Systems, supplies, 451.47; ESRI, gis fees, 550.00; Five Counties, prof. fees, 200.00; Godfrey, repairs, 271.68; Gooseneck, repairs, 938.35; Grand, utilities, 1,741.97; Hamand Tire, maint, 200.00; HR Direct, supplies, 74.03; Hunt, crt. appt. atty, 855.00; N. Johnson, chemical, 421.50; LACED, subsidy, 15,000.00; Laufer Vermeer, supplies, 69.46; Lemmon EMT, travel, 754.92; Lemmon Market, supplies, 7.98; Meade County, jail board, 1,296.00; Meadow Fire, subsidy, 4,500.00; Melling & Roseland, crt appt. atty, 2,106.12; Nippon Sanso, supplies, 55.45; NW Tire, supplies, 3,879.12; S. Penfield, rent, 400.00; Pitney Bowes, supplies, 585.11; Prairie City Fire Dept, subsidy, 4,500.00; Print Shop, prof. fees, 1,188.75; Rapid Fire, supplies, 75.60; RDO, repairs, 7,325.70; SD Public Health, prof. fees, 300.00; SDAAO, dues, 1,000.00; SDVSOA, dues, 100.00; T. Seim, chemical, 149.50; Servall, supplies, 231.30; P. Sexton, rural atty program, 4,379.76; Stelter, repairs, 5,187.51; Town of Bison, utilities, 332.49; Truenorth, supplies, 78,368.00; Tyler, vso comp program, 504.50; Vanguard, comp. program, 10,850.00; Verizon, utilities, 40.01; VISA, suppl/travel/maint, 2,707.11; West Group, lawbooks, 2,258.94; WRCTC, utilities, 1,309.79.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Carmichael declared the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next Regular meeting of the Perkins County Commission will be held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the Perkins County Courthouse.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Sara Stadler, Finance Officer

Kyle Carmichael, Chairman