

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
IPSWICH, SOUTH DAKOTA
January 3, 2023

The Edmunds County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on January 3, 2023 at the county courthouse. Members present were: Dean Mehlhaff, Morris Grosz, Micheal J. Geditz, Chad Preszler, and Timothy Thomas. Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Others present for portions of the meeting were: Vaughn Beck, Brittney Duvall, Joshua Finer, Diane Geditz, Gwen Geditz, Michael Jager, Bonnie Nehlich, Sandra Northrop, Cody Peterson, Dale Preszler, Heather Shuff, Ryan Vogel, Jonathan Waldner, and via teleconference Tracy Hutson.

MINUTES APPROVED: Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Mehlhaff to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN: The County Auditor called for nominations for Chairman. Dean Mehlhaff nominated Timothy Thomas as Chairman. Motioned by Grosz, seconded by Geditz that nominations cease. Motion carried. Timothy Thomas was elected Chairman for the year of 2023.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: The County Auditor called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Timothy Thomas nominated Chad Preszler as Vice-Chairman. Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Thomas that nominations cease. Motion carried. Chad Preszler was elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2023.

APPOINTMENTS: The Chairman made the following appointments:

4-H Advisory Board – Chad Preszler as commissioner representing the Board.

ABC Regional Railroad Authority – Morris Grosz as commissioner representing the Board and Micheal J. Geditz as alternate.

E911 Board – Jonathan Waldner, Sheriff and Chad Preszler as commissioner representing the Board.

Northeast Council of Governments – Chad Preszler and Timothy Thomas as commissioners representing the Board.

Zoning Board – Morris Grosz and Timothy Thomas as commissioners representing the Board.

BANK DEPOSITORIES: "Cortrust Bank of Bowdle", "Farmers State Bank of Hosmer", "First State Bank of Roscoe", and "Ipswich State Bank" are the named Edmunds County depositories.

BIDS: Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Mehlhaff to purchase new & recap tires, road chemicals/road salt, weed & pest chemicals, bulk ethanol, regular unleaded, and diesel fuel all off the state bid. Motion carried.

ELECTION: Rent paid, to precinct polling places for each election, will be set at a maximum of \$75.00 per day for the year 2023. Election workers will be paid a flat amount of \$40.00 for attending election training and \$230.00 for working election day.

INVESTMENT & ACCOUNTING POLICIES: Patricia Nigg, Edmunds County Treasurer, was advised by the Board on the investment policy. The county sets the investment policy of the Treasurer pursuant to SDCL 4-5-8. Such policy to be that the Treasurer is authorized and directed to invest all idle cash to gain maximum interest for the county. The change fund for the Treasurer's Office will be \$1,200.00. The change fund for the Register of Deed's Office will be \$100.00

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS: "The Ipswich Tribune", "The Pride of the Prairie", and "The Roscoe – Hosmer Independent".

BLOOD ALCOHOL FEES: The payment for drawing blood alcohol tests will be \$125.00.

JAIL RATE: The jail rate for out of county prisoner care will be \$100.00 per day per prisoner and an additional \$25.00 per day for work release.

ZONING BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED: Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Mehlhaff to appoint Peter E. Eisenbeisz to the Edmunds County Zoning Board, for a 5-year term ending December 31, 2027. Motion carried.

SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES 2023: Commissioners (Micheal J. Geditz - \$13,860.00, Morris Grosz - \$13,860.00, Dean Mehlhaff - \$13,860.00 per year, Chad Preszler - \$13,860.00, Timothy Thomas - \$13,860.00) Chairman will receive an additional \$600.00 per year; Auditor (Keith Schurr - \$58,572.00, Dionne Olson - \$44,695.00); Treasurer (Patricia Nigg - \$53,550.00, Diane Geditz - \$44,695.00); States Attorney (Vaughn Beck - \$52,811.00); 4-H & Courthouse Custodian (Blake Holland - \$41,600.00); Director of Equalization (Sandra Northrop - \$53,550.00, Brittney Duvall - \$44,695.00); Register of Deeds (Gwen Geditz - \$53,550.00, Jodi Wagner - \$44,695.00); Veteran Service Officer (Barbara Schaefer - \$15,571.00); Sheriff (Jonathan Waldner - \$63,810.00, Kyle Couchey - \$60,156.00, Daniel Hardison - \$52,304.00, Peter Eng - \$51,304.00, Cody Peterson - \$50,304.00, John Abshire - \$20.00 per hour part time, David Hunter - \$20.00 per hour part time, Theodore Huss - \$20.00 per hour part time, Kenneth Wientjes - \$20.00 per hour part time, Gavin Wright - \$20.00 per hour part time, Andrea Carlson - \$21.90 per hour, Nathan Jaenisch - \$20.91 per hour, Cynthia Sahli - \$20.91 per hour, Sarah Sahli - \$20.91 per hour); Emergency & Disaster Coordinator (Tracy Hutson - \$16,923.00); Highway Department (Michael Jager - \$60,726.00, Dale Preszler - 22.92 per hour, Heather Shuff - \$21.49 per hour, Jordan Boulais - \$21.86 per hour, Rodney Kirschenmann - \$21.86, per hour, Bernel Lee - \$21.86 per hour, Jason Onken - \$21.86 per hour, Jeremy Schlecht - \$21.86 per hour, Jason Shaykett - \$21.86 per hour; Dewayne Sowards- \$21.86 per hour, Cody Stager-

\$21.86 per hour, Anthony Wika- \$21.86 per hour, Jonathan Wipf - \$21.86 per hour); Weed Spraying (highway men will received 50 cents per hour more while weed spaying and attending weed & pest training); 4-H Department (Bonnie Nehlich - \$45,687.00); Coroner (Kyle Couchey - \$150.00 per call); Zoning Board Members (Audie Crouch, Peter Eisenbeisz, Susan Malsom - \$50.00 per meeting).

CLAIMS APPROVED: Vaughn P. Beck, professional services \$1,500.00; First District Association of Local Governments, GIS website hosting 5,000.00; Gibson Publishing Co, publishing 427.72; Safe Harbor, marriage and divorce fees 165.00.

2023 Budgeted Apportionments: Area IV Senior Nutrition \$3,000.00; Aspire 1,000.00; Bowdle Ambulance 10,000.00; Bowdle Senior Citizens 1,500.00; Edmunds County Conservation District 16,950.00; Edmunds County Rescue Unit 2,000.00; Grow South Dakota 2,000.00; Hosmer Senior Citizens 1,500.00; Ipswich Ambulance 10,000.00; Northeastern Mental Health 2,500.00; Roscoe Senior Citizens 1,500.00.

25% Road & Bridge (SDCL 10-12-9.4): Bowdle City Office \$768.00; Hosmer City Office 308.00; Ipswich City Office 1,411.00; Roscoe City Office 490.00.

Phone & Utilities: Bowdle City Office \$90.10; Century Link 53.29; Ipswich City Office 472.48; Montana Dakota Utilities 155.18; Reuer Sanitation 39.00.

Travel Expenses, Dues & Registration: Audie Crouch \$40.32; Daniel Hardison 72.00; Susan Malsom 58.24; Dean Mehlhaff 107.52; Werner Mohr 134.40; Chad Preszler 181.44; Keith Schurr 14.00; Jerome Schaffner 88.48; SD Association County Commissioners 1,548.00; SD Association County Officials 826.26; Timothy Thomas 201.60.

Supplies, Parts & Repairs: Auto Value Parts Stores \$45.15; Beadle Ford Inc 28.28; Andrea Carlson 6.63; Century Business Products 31.20; G & O Electric LLC 951.62; Government Forms & Supplies 82.73; Hutson Construction 212.50; Ipswich Post Office 1,260.00; Knight Towing & Recovery 1,125.00; SD Department of Transportation 5,670.00; Jonathan Waldner 420.32.

Salaries of Officers and Employees for Month of December: Commissioners \$6,045.00; Auditor 8,132.48; Treasurer 7,723.64; States Attorney 4,151.82; Courthouse Maintenance 3,466.66; Director of Equalization 7,723.64; Register of Deeds 7,723.64; Veteran Service Officer 1,224.16; Sheriff's Department 30,194.99 (Speed Overtime pay: Peter Eng 259.04); County Jail 6,165.47 (Overtime Pay: Andrea Carlson 627.55; Nathan Jaenisch 479.52; Cynthia Sahli 593.40; Sarah Sahli 534.19); Coroner 300.00; Emergency Management 1,330.40; Highway Department 47,403.84 (Overtime Pay: Bernel Lee 61.86, Jason Onken 231.98; Jeremy Schlecht 139.19); Planning/Zoning 550.00; 4-H 3,591.74; 24/7 Sobriety 103.30.

Payroll Deductions and Benefits: AFLAC \$1,520.66; AIG 60.00; Delta Dental 1,105.60; Colonial Life 298.00; First Concord Benefits Group 727.86; Ipswich State Bank, social security, withholding,

and fees 30,328.81; SD Retirement 15,421.52; SD Supplemental Retirement 775.00; Washington National Health Insurance 23.95; Standard Insurance 516.16; Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield 33,338.00.

Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Grosz to pay all above claims. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION – WEIGHT & SPEED LIMIT ENFORCEMENT: The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Mehlhaff, who moved its adoption: Resolution #2023-1-1, establishing the enforcement of weight & speed limits in Edmunds County. The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded by Geditz. Roll call vote: Geditz – yes, Mehlhaff - yes, Grosz - yes, Preszler - yes, Thomas - yes. Resolution adopted.

WHEREAS, the County of Edmunds, South Dakota, is responsible for the maintenance of certain highways under its jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the Edmunds County Board of Commissioners, desires to protect existing Edmunds County Highways, ultimately saving tax dollars, and

WHEREAS, said highways, by reason of seasonal climatic changes, will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless vehicle weight and speed restrictions are imposed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all county roads in Edmunds County will be under a 6 ton per axle load limit restriction and speed limit restrictions of 40 mph for trucks, effective at 12:01 A.M. on March 1, 2023, through 11:59 P.M. on April 30, 2023, or as posted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Edmunds shall request and authorize the South Dakota Highway Patrol to enforce weight limitations and speed restrictions, as established by this resolution, on all Edmunds County roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be as set forth in SDCL 32-22-55.

EMERGENCY/DISASTER RESOLUTION: The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Grosz, who moved its adoption: Resolution #2023-1-2, declaring Emergency/Disaster conditions to exist in Edmunds County. The motion was seconded by Preszler. Roll call vote: Geditz – yes, Mehlhaff - yes, Grosz - yes, Preszler - yes, Thomas - yes. Resolution adopted.

WHEREAS, Edmunds County, South Dakota, has suffered severe damage, brought on by highly above normal snowfall and blizzard conditions, that has impacted the county so as to request a declaration for a winter storm emergency commencing on December 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Edmunds County Board of Commissioners and local municipalities are responsible for keeping streets and roads open, especially school bus routes, delivery routes, and for service and emergency vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the county and cities have committed all available equipment, and taken all possible action within the jurisdictional boundaries to combat and alleviate the emergency/disaster. Local resources are no longer adequate to cope with the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Edmunds County, South Dakota declare a snow emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, We, the Board of Commissioners of Edmunds County respectfully petition the Governor of the State of South Dakota to declare an emergency/disaster to exist in the County of Edmunds.

CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINE: Rod Dillon, Aaron Eldridge, Trevor Jones, and Dana Siefkes-Lewis, all with Summit Carbon Solutions, met with the Board to give updates and answer questions concerning the proposed carbon dioxide pipeline.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS: Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Grosz to approve and allow the chairman to sign the joint powers agreement, between Edmunds County and Vermont Township for the rental of county blade/motor grader, snow removal equipment and an operator. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL POLICY: Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Grosz to amend the Edmunds County Personnel Policy Section 6.5.3 – Workers’ Compensation. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Geditz to table the discussion on amending the personnel policy section 5.2 – Administrative Leave/snow day/emergency closing of Courthouse, to the January 17th meeting. Motion carried.


TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION: Motioned by Grosz, seconded by Preszler to allow Andrea Carlson, Peter Eng, Cody Peterson, and Jonathan Waldner to attend SD Sheriffs’ Association Sheriffs Institute in Pierre on January 23rd–27th. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Preszler to enter executive session at 9:45 a.m., according to SDCL 1-25-2(3). Motion carried. Executive session declared over at 10:00 a.m.

Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Grosz to enter executive session at 10:30 a.m., according to SDCL 1-25-2(3). Motion carried. Executive session declared over at 11:00 a.m.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED: The next regular Edmunds County Commissioner Meetings will be held at 9:00 a.m. on January 17th and February 7th.

ADJOURN: Motioned by Geditz, seconded by Grosz to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. Motion carried.



Timothy Thomas
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST: 

Keith Schurr
Edmunds County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$_____.