

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING  
IPSWICH, SOUTH DAKOTA  
January 6, 2026

The Edmunds County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on January 6, 2026 at the county courthouse. Members present were: Dean Mehlhaff, Micheal J. Geditz, Chad Preszler, Timothy Thomas and William Tweedy. Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Others present for portions of the meeting were: Andrea Carlson, Brooke Jensen, Wendy Knittel, Patricia Nigg, Dale Preszler, Jonathan Waldner and Morgan Weisser.

**MINUTES APPROVED:** Motioned by Tweedy, seconded by Mehlhaff to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Motioned by Geditz, seconded by Mehlhaff to approve the minutes of the December 23, 2025 special meeting. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN:** The County Auditor called for nominations for Chairman. Chad Preszler nominated Timothy Thomas as Chairman. Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Preszler that nominations cease. Motion carried. Timothy Thomas was elected Chairman for the year of 2026.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN:** The County Auditor called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Timothy Thomas nominated Chad Preszler as Vice-Chairman. Motioned by Geditz, seconded by Mehlhaff that nominations cease. Motion carried. Chad Preszler was elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2026.

**APPOINTMENTS:** The Chairman made the following appointments:

4-H Advisory Board – William Tweedy as commissioner representing the Board.

ABC Regional Railroad Authority – Dean Mehlhaff 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 – Dean Mehlhaff and Timothy Thomas as commissioners representing the Board.

Zoning Board – Timothy Thomas and William Tweedy as commissioners representing the Board.

**BIDS:** Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Preszler 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 \$200.00 per day for the year 2026. Election workers will be paid a flat amount of \$50.00 for attending election training and \$300.00 for working election day. Post-Election Audit Board members shall receive a minimum of \$60.00 or \$17.50 per hour if their time exceeds 3.5 hours.

**FINANCIALS:** The change fund for the Treasurer's Office will be \$1,200.00 and the change fund for the Register of Deed's Office will be \$100.00. "Farmers State Bank of Hosmer", "First State Bank of Roscoe", "Ipswich State Bank", and "South Dakota Funds Investment Trust (FIT)" are the named Edmunds County bank depositories.

**OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS:** "The Edmunds County Tribune", and "The Pride of the Prairie".

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

**SALARIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES 2026:** Commissioners (Micheal J. Geditz - \$15,440.00 per year, Dean Mehlhaff - \$15,440.00, Chad Preszler - \$15,440.00, Timothy Thomas - \$15,440.00, William Tweedy - \$15,440.00) Chairman will receive an additional \$600.00 per year; Auditor (Dionne Olson - \$60,520.00 Missy Kleffman - \$50,520.00); Treasurer (Patricia Nigg - \$59,370.00 Diane Geditz - \$50,520.00); States Attorney (Vaughn Beck - \$59,272.00); 4-H & Courthouse Custodian (Blake Holland - \$47,424.00); Director of Equalization (Sandra Northrop - \$59,370.00, Brittney Duvall - \$50,520.00); Register of Deeds (Gwen Geditz - \$59,370.00, Jodi Wagner - \$50,520.00); Veteran Service Officer (Barbara Schaefer - \$17,346.00); Sheriff (Jonathan Waldner - \$69,630.00, Kyle Couchey - \$31.72 per hour, Cody Peterson - \$27.95 per hour, Daniel Braun - \$27.95 per hour, Bryan Warner - 27.95 per hour, David Hunter - \$25.90 per hour part time, Bruce Sahli - \$25.90 per hour part time, Andrea Carlson - \$27.95 per hour, Nathan Jaenisch - \$23.71 per hour, Cynthia Sahli - \$23.71 per hour, Brooke Jensen - \$24.70 per hour Lily Hohn - \$23.71 per hour, Robin Lesnar - \$23.71 per hour); Emergency & Disaster Coordinator (Tracy Hutson - \$18,852.00); Highway Department (Dale Preszler - \$66,550.00, Wendy Knittel - \$24.29 per hour, Jordan Boulais - \$24.66 per hour, Rodney Kirschenmann - \$24.66, per hour, Jason Onken - \$24.66 per hour, William Osborne - \$24.66 per hour, Robert Rutt - \$24.66 per hour, Jeremy Schlecht - \$24.66 per hour, Jason Shakett - \$24.66 per hour; Dewayne Sowards- \$24.66 per hour, Cody Stager- \$24.66 per hour, Jonathan Wipf - \$24.66 per hour); Weed Spraying (highway men will received 50 cents per hour more while weed spaying and attending weed & pest training); 4-H Department (Morgan Weisser - \$24.29 per hour); Coroner (Kyle Couchey - \$150.00 per call); Zoning Board Members (Audie Crouch, Peter Eisenbeisz, Susan Malsom - \$75.00 per meeting).

**CLAIMS APPROVED:** Faulk County Highway Department, Road 23-1 Cost Share \$4,102.88; North Central Regional E911, Phone Surcharge 17,457.57; Safe Harbor, Marriage and Divorce Fees 75.00; SD Association of County Officials, Monthly M&P 136.00; SD Municipal League, Workmen's Comp Insurance 59,883.00.

Gravel Stockpile Rent: Allen Beyers \$250.00; Kelly Hettich 250.00; Darren Schumacher 250.00.

Law Enforcement Center: GA Johnson Construction \$294,226.07; HMN Architects 7,416.09.

Phone & Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$639.79; Ipswich City Office 324.73; Lincoln County Auditor 110.00; Midcontinent Communications 140.39; Montana Dakota Utilities 1,009.40; Venture Communications 86.74; Verizon 159.07.

Professional Services: Bantz, Gosch, & Cremer LLC \$151.20; First Concord Benefits Group 400.00; Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck 60.00; Freddrikke Stroeh 125.00.

Publishing: Gibson Publishing \$368.47; The Pride of the Prairie 251.99.

Travel Expenses, Dues, & Registration: National Sheriff's Association \$125.00; Northeast Council of Governments 8,945.77; SD Associations of County Commissioners 1,627.00; SD State Attorney Association 815.96.

Supplies, Parts & Repairs: Active 911 Inc \$1,826.14; Agtegra Cooperative 7,922.23; American Solutions for Business 157.34; Century Business Products 143.03; Dakota Electronics 27,400.00; Heier's Body & Repair 143.50; Ipswich Lumber & Hardware 112.35; Menards 92.08; Midwest Card & ID Solutions 750.00; PM Auto & Truck Repair 519.07; Thomson Reuters-West 237.96; Titan Machinery 293.47; Twotrees Technologies 1,369.75; Two Way Solutions 450.00; US Bank 1,863.58.

Salaries of Officers and Employees for Month of December: Commissioners \$6,295.80; Auditor 8,993.32; Treasurer 8,897.50; States Attorney 4,759.32; Courthouse Maintenance 3,822.00; Director of Equalization 8,897.50; Register of Deeds 8,897.50; Veteran Service Officer 1,403.40; Jail 4,569.60; Sheriff's Department 47,644.22; (Highway Safety Grant: Daniel Braun \$204.00; Kyle Couchey 464.55; Cody Peterson 612.00; Bryan Warner 727.92); (County Overtime: Lily Hohn \$275.52; Nathan Jaenisch 287.52; Brooke Jensen 574.80; Robin Lesnar 287.52; Cynthia Sahli 275.52; Cody Peterson 81.60; Bryan Warner 808.80); (On Call Pay: Daniel Braun \$113.00; Kyle Couchey 121.50; Cody Peterson 118.50; Bryan Warner 106.00); Coroner 450.00; Emergency Management 1,525.24; Planning/Zoning 225.00; Highway Department 52,408.51; 4-H 3,954.72; 24/7 Sobriety 239.50.

Payroll Deductions and Benefits: AFLAC \$1,509.58; Delta Dental 1,182.10; Colonial Life 587.88; First Concord Benefits Group 693.34; Ipswich State Bank, social security,

withholding, and fees 35,519.11; SD Retirement 19,861.12; Optilegra 115.27; SD Supplemental Retirement 1,862.04; Washington National Health Insurance 23.95; Standard Insurance 598.80; Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield 37,526.00.

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

**RESOLUTION – WEIGHT & SPEED LIMIT ENFORCEMENT:** The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Preszler, who moved its adoption: Resolution #2026-1-1, establishing the enforcement of weight & speed limits in Edmunds County. The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded by Tweedy. Roll call vote: Mehlhaff - yes, Geditz – yes, Preszler - yes, Thomas – yes, Tweedy - 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, 2026, through 11:59 P.M. on April 30, 2026, 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.

**HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT:** Motioned by Tweedy, seconded by Preszler to purchase one used 2016 Mack HD CHU613 Day cab truck, from Transource Equipment, in the amount of \$49,900.00, for the Highway Department. Motion carried.

**GUARDIAN RFID:** Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Tweedy to accept the quote from Guardian RFID for public safety software for Edmunds County Law Enforcement Center with a startup cost of \$6,877.75 and an annual cost of \$6,545.00 for years two through six. Motion carried.

**JAIL:** Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Preszler to approve and allow the chairman to sign the Jail Agreements, with Beadle County, to provide housing for Edmunds County prisoners at a rate of \$105.00 adult per day and \$325.00 juvenile per day in the Beadle County facility. Motion carried.

**REGISTER OF DEEDS:** Motioned by Preszler, seconded by Mehlhaff to accept the Register of Deeds Statement of Fees for the month of November 2025 in the amount of \$3,613.40. Motion carried.

**VETERANS SERVICE:** Motioned by Mehlhaff, seconded by Tweedy to approve the request for State Aid for salary of County Veteran Service Officer. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motioned by Geditz, seconded by Tweedy to enter into executive session at 10:25 a.m., according to SDCL 1-25-2(1). Motion carried. Executive session declared over at 10:47 a.m.

**MEETINGS SCHEDULED:** The next regular Edmunds County Commissioner Meetings will be held at 9:00 a.m. on January 20<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**ADJOURN:** Motioned by Tweedy, seconded by Mehlhaff to adjourn at 11:07 a.m. Motion carried.

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Timothy Thomas  
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Dionne Olson  
Edmunds County Auditor

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