

**Lincoln County Board of Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2026**

THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened at on January 13, 2026, with Commissioners Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam present. Alicia Cafaro, Deputy Auditor, served as Clerk of the Board. Chief Civil Deputy State's Attorney, Drew DeGroot, was also present.

Chair, Tiffani Landeen, called the meeting to order.

ROUTINE BUSINESS:

MOTION by Betty Otten and seconded by Joel Arends Board to remove Item #1 from Regular Business and move Item #7 in Regular Business to #1 and approve Agenda. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Reports:

December 2025 Register of Deeds Report

Commission Report - US Bank Department Expense Report

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve Consent Agenda items. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve County Commission Minutes: 01.06.2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve Lincoln County Claims in the amount of: \$1,695,373.57 -

Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve out-of-state travel for the GIS department to send one employee to attend the Esri User Conference in San Diego, CA, from July 13-17, 2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve and authorize the Chair and Auditor to execute the quarterly single signature sheet for the Local Emergency Management Performance Grant. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to authorize the fourth quarter 2025 Highway Fund Transfer Request -- Fuel/Materials & Parts/Labor cost transferred to the Highway Fund from and in the amounts as follows: Auditor (Elections) - \$26.74; Buildings & Grounds - \$2744.25; Emergency Management - \$434.42; Equalization - \$1179.10; Planning & Zoning - \$665.99; State's Attorney - \$693.24; Sheriff - \$14,210.46; Airport - \$204.44; Weed Control - \$117.27. Transfer effective 12.31.2025. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to transfer the following inventory from the Sheriff's Office to the State's Attorneys Office: Item #:7312, 2021 Ford Explorer, 124,121 miles, VIN# 1FM5K8AC1MNA08863. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve the Step Increase for Toby Brown, Planning Director, in the Planning & Zoning Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 01/25/2026, 116/9 at \$5,571.95 bi-weekly. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve the Step Increase for David Erdmann, Appraiser, in the Department of Equalization, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 01/22/2026, 108/8 at \$34.15/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve the Step Increase for Seth Rozeboom, Deputy Sheriff, in the Sheriff's Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 01/17/2026, SO1/4 at \$34.31/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to set the date and time for a PUBLIC HEARING to occur between 6:30 p.m. and adjournment of the January, 27, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting regarding the intent to enter into a lease with Ryan Good Aviation site P3, Ryan Good Aviation site S1, James Huntimer site L1, THP Partners site M, John Muhle site K7, Bryan Bost/ Brian Neeves site N, Steve and Alice Rokahr site Q8, Tow's Cold LLC site M4, Greg Alvine site A for a term exceeding 120 days and an amount exceeding \$500.00 at the Marv Skie/Lincoln County Airport. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to approve compromise of the following County liens of at-least-5-years deceased as of January 1, 2026 as follows (lien number, amount, date of death) 01-05960, \$24.00, 06.26.2020; 01-04862, \$2,500.00, 10.10.2020; 01-00401, \$15.69, 02.19.2020; 01-01978, \$1,573.53, 01.10.2020; 01-04855, \$2,500.00, 07.09.2020; 01-02522, \$216.43, 02.07.2020; 01-02843, \$76.00, 05.30.2020; 01-00354, \$3.63, 09.10.2020; 01-02271, \$2,051.08, 09.10.2020; 01-00121, \$213.99, 03.06.2020; 01-06791, \$126.10, 12.16.2020. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to declare as surplus and remove from inventory the following items from the State's Attorney's Office; Item #5924, 2018 Dodge Charger, VIN#: 2C3CDXKT4JH297936 and authorize the Auditor to advertise and proceed with the online auction. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Drew DeGroot, Chief Civil Deputy State's Attorney, discussed with the Board the current public comments policies. Public input was heard.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Doug Putnam to approve the Lincoln County Board of Commissioner Public Comment Policies with the following changes; comments are limited to five (5) minutes per speaker and there will be no limit to the number of speakers wishing to speak on the same topic. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION: Jamie Gravett, Director of the Minnehaha County Juvenile Detention Center, gave an update on Lincoln County's agreement for detention services with Minnehaha County and what resources were utilized by Lincoln County juveniles in Minnehaha's Detention Center during 2025. Public input was heard.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, asked the Board to approve the 2026 Spring Load Limits and for the Chair to sign the resolution stating the load limits. No public input was heard.

MOTION by Betty Otten and seconded by Jim Schmidt to approve the resolution stating: Whereas, seasonal climatic changes can be detrimental to our Highways and create dangerous driving conditions and, Whereas, the Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners desires to protect existing Lincoln County Highways, Ultimately saving tax dollars and, Whereas, The Lincoln County Board of County Commissioners, Desire the enforcement of weight limitations on Lincoln County Highways as set forth and posted by the Lincoln County Highway Department. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; Whereas the limits on Lincoln County Highways shall be set at seven (7) tons per axle (40 Ton Max) on designated asphalt surfaced roads and six (6) tons per axle on designated gravel roads, during the spring thaw period and when load limit signs are in place and that the South Dakota Motor Carrier Services is hereby requested to enforce said reduced weight limitations on Lincoln County Highways. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be set forth in SDCL 32-22-55. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, asked the Chair to sign a letter requesting assistance from South Dakota Carrier Services for the enforcement of load limits in Lincoln County. No public input was heard.

MOTION by Jim Schmidt and seconded by Betty Otten to authorize the chair to sign a letter requesting assistance from South Dakota Carrier Services for the enforcement of load limits in Lincoln County. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, No public input was heard.

MOTION by Betty Otten and seconded by Jim Schmidt to award Rural Access Infrastructure Fund grants. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, No public input was heard.

MOTION by Doug Putnam and seconded by Betty Otten to authorize the highway superintendent advertise for the annual supply bids for the Highway Department. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was heard.

COMMISSION OFFICE REPORT (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)

COMMISSIONER REPORT (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)

Commission reports were given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was needed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Doug Putnam and seconded by Betty Otten to adjourn at 9:25 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. on January 27, 2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

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