

**Lincoln County Board of Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2026**

THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened at on February 3, 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 Joel Arends and seconded by Jim Schmidt to approve Agenda. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Payroll: \$517,865.04

Commissioner's \$8,919.24; FICA 552.99, Medicare 129.33, SDRS 165.83
Auditor's \$16,189.12; FICA 1,003.73, Medicare 234.74, SDRS 971.35
Treasurer's \$21,135.19; FICA 1,310.38, Medicare 306.46, SDRS 1,268.11
States Attorney's \$82,875.83; FICA 5,138.30, Medicare 1,201.70, SDRS 4,930.83
Gen Gov Bldg \$19,886.26; FICA 1,232.95, Medicare 288.35, SDRS 1,191.55
DOE \$42,990.18; FICA 2,665.39, Medicare 623.36, SDRS 2,529.43
ROD \$10,759.63; FICA 667.10, Medicare 156.01, SDRS 645.58
VSO \$2,368.84; FICA 146.87, Medicare 34.35, SDRS 142.13
GIS \$6,105.72; FICA 378.55, Medicare 88.53, SDRS 366.35
IT \$12,057.64; FICA 747.57, Medicare 174.84, SDRS 723.45
HR \$6,140.84; FICA 380.73, Medicare 89.04, SDRS 368.45
Sheriff's \$139,466.12; FICA 8,646.90, Medicare 2,022.26, SDRS 10,599.37
Jail \$21,246.86; FICA 1,317.31, Medicare 308.08, SDRS 1,460.32
County 4-H \$4,917.61; FICA 304.89, Medicare 71.31, SDRS 295.06
Weeds \$4,811.98; FICA 298.34, Medicare 69.77, SDRS 288.71
P & Z \$13,893.77; FICA 861.41, Medicare 201.46, SDRS 809.63
Highway \$55,528.34; FICA 3,442.76, Medicare 805.16, SDRS 3,214.86
Communications \$38,404.84; FICA 2,381.10, Medicare 556.87, SDRS 2,278.67
EM MGMT \$4,229.67; FICA 262.24, Medicare 61.33, SDRS 252.16
Airport \$3,057.83; FICA 189.59, Medicare 44.34, SDRS 183.47
24/7 \$2,879.53; FICA 178.53, Medicare 41.75, SDRS 230.36

Reports:

Commission Report - US Bank Department Expense Report: \$21,627.21

2026 Annual Publication of Salaries and Wages per SDCL 6-1-10 - CORRECTED

Recognition of significant anniversaries - February 2026:

Joan Aslesen -Sheriff's Office – 34 Years

Todd Baldwin – Dispatcher Supervisor – 34 Years

Chad Brown – Chief Deputy Sheriff - 24 Years

Catherine Mastalir – Buildings & Grounds – 17 Years

Ryan Wiese – Senior Deputy State's Attorney – 15 Years

Donelda Golden – Dept of Equalization – 11 Years

Jonathan Bates – 911 Communications – 11 Years

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: 01.27.2026. 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 correction of Lincoln County Claims from 01.27.2026 in the amount of: \$2,084,914.04. 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 February 24, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting regarding the intent to enter into a lease with multiple properties 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 authorize the Highway Department to advertise for bids on the Roundabout project at CR 105 & 116 intersection north of Lennox. 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 Highway Department to advertise for bids on the 2026 surfacing project. 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 Highway Department to advertise for bids on the 2026 Microsurfacing project. 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 abatement of taxes for 2025 payable in 2026 on a parcel in the City of Sioux Falls, in the amount of \$2,672.98, per SDCL 10-4-40.. 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 abatement of taxes for 2025 payable in 2026 on a parcel in the City of Tea, in the amount of \$2,782.47, per SDCL 10-4-40. 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 from the Highway Department's inventory to the Building's and Ground's inventory item# 1688, 2014 Cat skid loader 299D, 3818hrs, Vin# CAT0299DAGTC01113. 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 Steven Diaconu, Deputy Sheriff, in the Sheriff's Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 02/24/2026, SO1/2 at \$32.66/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 Anthony Von Haden, Deputy Sheriff, in the Sheriff's Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 02/12/2026, SO1/3 at \$33.48/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 Jordan Wilcox, Correctional Officer I, in the 24/7 Sobriety Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 02/12/2026, 106/9 at \$30.56/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 Jake Oakland, IT Director, in the IT Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 02/14/2026, 116/14 at \$6,304.44 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 and authorize the Chair to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement update with South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance (SDPAA). Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION: Paul Anderson, Commission Administrative Assistant, introduced Wendy Sweeter, 4H Director, who informed the Board of the necessary facts pertaining to a Notice of Intent to Conduct a Raffle as follows: Name of Organization: Lincoln County Fairgrounds Foundation; Purpose/Benefit of the Raffle: Proceeds from the raffle will go toward building projects on the Lincoln County Fairgrounds; Start & End Date of Ticket Sales: Friday, Jan. 30, 2026 to Saturday, Mar 7, 2026; Cost of Tickets: \$10.00; Date of Drawing: Saturday, Mar 7, 2026; List of Prizes & Value: EAA 12-gauge shotgun (\$850,) Savage Axis XP 308 rifle w/ scope (\$450,) Henry 22 gauge (\$350), Legacy Pointer 12 gauge (\$400), Canik 933 compact (\$330.) No public input was heard.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, asked the Board to approve a transfer jurisdiction of county road CR103 (465th Ave/Cleveland Ave), beginning at SD Highway 44, ending about 4700' to the north, to the management of Lennox due to expansion on the west side of Lennox. The county will continue to maintain the road until 1/1/2032 as per a previous agreement, and then Lennox will accept responsibility for the maintenance. Nate Vander Plaats, City Administrator for Lennox, was present to answer questions. No public input was heard.

MOTION by Jim Schmidt and seconded by Joel Arends to approve and authorize the chair to execute an agreement with the City of Lennox to transfer jurisdiction for CR103 (465th Ave/Cleveland Ave), beginning at SD Highway 44, ending about 4700' to the north. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Terry Fluit, Highway Superintendent, asked the Board to sign a resolution hiring IMEG Consultants to conduct the 2026 bridge inspections. No public input was heard.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Jim Schmidt to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years. THEREFORE, Lincoln County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program. The County requests SDDOT to hire IMEG CONSULTANTS CORP (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Sheri Lund, Auditor, No public input was heard.

MOTION by Betty Otten and seconded by Joel Arends to approve the FY 2027 Budget Calendar and Planning Cycle. 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)

Reports were given by Commissioners and Commission Administrative Assistant.

COMMISSIONER REPORT (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Betty Otten to adjourn at 9:01 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on February 10, 2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Betty Otten, Doug Putnam, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

[MIN_FOOT]