

Lincoln County Board of Commission
Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED
September 1, 2026

THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS convened at 8:30 a.m. on September 1, 2026, with Commissioners Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam and Herman Otten 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 Herman Otten and seconded by Joel Arends to approve Agenda. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Payroll: \$536,066.14

Commissioner's \$9,402.59; FICA 558.87, Medicare 130.70, SDRS 175.05
Auditor's \$18,187.36; FICA 1,019.92, Medicare 238.53, SDRS 1,087.06
Treasurer's \$22,040.52; FICA 1,208.49, Medicare 282.63, SDRS 1,315.23
States Attorney's \$87,467.32; FICA 5,072.40, Medicare 1,186.29, SDRS 5,147.66
Gen Gov Bldg \$20,520.35; FICA 1,127.71, Medicare 263.74, SDRS 1,219.52
DOE \$42,687.26; FICA 2,411.04, Medicare 563.87, SDRS 2,545.04
ROD \$11,349.50; FICA 629.56, Medicare 147.24, SDRS 675.28
VSO \$2,573.33; FICA 150.65, Medicare 35.23, SDRS 152.90
GIS \$6,567.33; FICA 367.07, Medicare 85.85, SDRS 391.34
IT \$12,785.18; FICA 760.94, Medicare 177.96, SDRS 762.90
HR \$7,121.00; FICA 390.66, Medicare 91.36, SDRS 423.06
Sheriff's \$140,163.19; FICA 8,226.13, Medicare 1,923.85, SDRS 10,456.70
Jail \$32,123.35; FICA 1,930.00, Medicare 451.37, SDRS 2,091.30
County 4-H \$5,031.38; FICA 297.16, Medicare 69.50, SDRS 299.18
Weeds \$4,662.21; FICA 289.06, Medicare 67.60, SDRS 279.73
P & Z \$14,683.71; FICA 894.83, Medicare 209.27, SDRS 852.53
Highway \$52,243.02; FICA 3,032.62, Medicare 709.24, SDRS 3,008.50
Communications \$36,068.61; FICA 2,075.77, Medicare 485.46, SDRS 2,161.82
EM MGMT \$4,378.75; FICA 248.86, Medicare 58.20, SDRS 259.73
Airport \$3,228.42; FICA 200.16, Medicare 46.81, SDRS 193.71
24/7 \$2,781.76; FICA 172.47, Medicare 40.34, SDRS 222.54

Reports:

Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG) Program First Quarter Matrix

Recognition of significant anniversaries: September 2026

Ron Straatmeyer – 911 Communications – 17 Years

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve County Commission Joint Meeting Minutes w/ City of Sioux Falls and Regular County Commission Meeting Minutes: 08.25.2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement with the State of South Dakota Department of Public Safety Office of Emergency Management 2027 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the Step Increase for Burdette Block, Equipment Operator, in the Highway, Roads, Bridges Dept, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 9/7/2026, HWY1/6 at \$29.87/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the Step Increase for Tanner Butler, GIS Analyst, in the GIS Dept, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 9/8/2026, 110/2 at \$34.71/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten. to approve the Step Increase for Travis Johns, Deputy Sheriff, in the Sheriff's Department, effective the first date of the biweekly pay period following 8/14/2026, SO1/14 at \$47.65/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the hire of Jaxon Mrsny, Equipment Operator, in the Highway, Roads, Bridges Dept, effective 9/8/2026 at HWY12 at \$26.54/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the hire of Kyler Vander Velde, Deputy Sheriff, in the Sheriff's Office, effective 9/28/2026 at SO1/2 at \$33.77/hr. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to cancel the public auction to end September 2, 2026, for parcel 100.49.36.3000 legally described as GOVT Lot 1, 36-100-49. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the date and time for the FIRST READING to occur September 8, 2026, and the SECOND READING & PUBLIC HEARING to occur between 6:30 p.m. and adjournment of the September 22, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting for an Ordinance of Lincoln County, SD, changing the zone of the property described as the North Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2NW1/4) (Except the North 507.22 feet of the West 1030.50 Feet, and except Lot B of Lot H-1, and except Lot H-1, and except lots 1-15, 22-26, 29-34, 41-44, 51, 52, 55, 56, 62 and 63 of Springdale Estates) of Section 26, Township 100 North, Range 50 West of the 5th P.M., Lincoln County, South Dakota from the A-1 Agricultural District and the RR Rural Residential District to the RR Rural Residential District and amending the Official Zoning Map of Lincoln County.. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Commissioner Schmidt entered the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Sheri Lund, Lincoln County Auditor, was present to answer questions from the Board regarding the 2027 budget for Lincoln County. The commissioners reviewed the information and put forward various motions to amend the budget. Public input was heard.

MOTION by Schmidt and seconded by Otten to make the following reductions to specified accounts - 101-4111-427000 Board of Commission – Travel: from \$21,000 to \$11,000; 101-4141-427000 Auditor – Travel: from \$3,000 to \$2,000; 101-4141-427100 Auditor – Training & Conference: from \$5,000 to \$4,000; 101-4142-426000 Treasurer – Supplies & Materials: from \$35,000 to \$34,000; 101-4142-426100 Treasurer – Motor Vehicle Supplies: from \$18,000 to \$17,000; 101-4161-432000 General Gov't Building – Buildings & Structures: from \$2,035,700 to \$2,033,700; 101-4163-426000 Register of Deeds – Supplies & Materials: from \$10,000 to \$9,500; 101-4172-427000 Human Resources – Travel: from \$6,000 to \$4,000; 101-4172-427100 Human Resources – Training & Conference: from \$12,000 to \$11,000; 101-4211-435000 Sheriff – Furniture & Minor Equipment: from \$169,500 to \$167,500; 101-4524-426000 County 4H – Supplies & Materials: from \$6,000 to \$5,000; 101-4524-427000 County 4H – Travel: from \$11,400 to \$10,400; 226-4222-429300 Emergency And Disaster – Emergency Services: from \$15,000 to \$13,000; 101-4410-429000 Other Economic Assistance – Other: from \$187,606 to \$153,028. Those reduction amounts, totaling \$60,078, will then be moved to the following account - 101-4424-422000 Ambulance Service. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Herman Otten, Nays; Doug Putnam. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following accounts - 101-4111-411000 Board of Commission – Salaries & Wages: from \$256,819 to \$247,752; 101-4111-412000 Board of Commission – OASI: from \$19,693 to \$18,999; 101-4111-414000 Board of Commission – Workers Comp. Insurance: from \$1,004 to \$967. Ayes; Joel Arends, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; Jim Schmidt. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4111-429100 Board of Commission – Dues & Subscriptions: from \$17,169 to \$0.

MOTION by Putnam and seconded by Arends to amend the previous motion to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4111-429100 Board of Commission – Dues & Subscriptions: from \$17,169 to \$15,614. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Doug Putnam, Nays; Tiffani Landeen, Herman Otten. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4111-429100 Board of Commission – Dues & Subscriptions: from \$17,169 to \$15,614. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to remove the requested full-time Administrative Assistant from the Sheriff's budget. Ayes; Joel Arends, Doug Putnam, Nays; Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Herman Otten. Motion Failed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4223-422500 Flood Plain Management – Fees & Contracts: from \$100,000 to \$0. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following accounts - 201-4311-429200 Road & Bridge – Road Projects: from \$5,961,000 to \$2,361,000; 201-4311-33900 Road & Bridge – Other Intergovernmental Revenue: from \$1,500,000 to \$0. Motion was withdrawn.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following accounts - 201-4311-429200 Road & Bridge – Road Projects: from \$5,961,000 to \$3,461,000; 201-4311-33900 Road & Bridge – Other Intergovernmental Revenue: from \$1,500,000 to \$0. Ayes; Joel Arends, Herman Otten, Nays; Tiffani Landeen, Jim Schmidt. Doug Putnam did not vote. Motion Failed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following accounts - 201-4311-429200 Road & Bridge – Road Projects: from \$5,961,000 to \$3,461,000; 201-4311-33900 Road & Bridge

– Other Intergovernmental Revenue: from \$1,500,000 to \$0. Ayes; Joel Arends, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen. Motion Passed.

MOTION by Arends and seconded by Putnam to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4410-429000 Other Economic Assistance – Other: \$97,035. Ayes; Joel Arends, Doug Putnam, Nays; Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Herman Otten. Motion Failed.

MOTION by Otten and seconded by Arends to make specified reductions to the following account - 101-4161-432000 General Gov't Building – Buildings & Structures: from \$2,033,700 to \$335,700. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

COMMISSIONER BRIEFING: Steve Swenson, Lincoln County Sheriff, presented to the Board a resolution in support of the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS) reclassification of 911 Telecommunicators to Class B public Safety members. Public input was heard.

MOTION by Jim Schmidt and seconded by Herman Otten to approve the resolution as follows: Resolution #2026-14 LINCOLN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA RETIREMENT SYSTEM RECLASSIFICATION OF 911 TELECOMMUNICATORS WHEREAS, a 911 Telecommunicator is defined in SDCL § 34-45-22 as any employee of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, whose primary full-time or part-time duties are receiving, processing, and transmitting public safety information received through a 911 emergency reporting system as defined in SDCL § 34-45-1. WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners assert that the primary duties of the Lincoln County 911 Telecommunicators are to protect life and property, and they must meet minimum qualifications and receive intensive and specialized training in accordance with SDCL §§ 34-45-26 & 34-45-29 and ARSD Chapter 2:05:01 to carry out those duties; and WHEREAS, Lincoln County 911 Telecommunicators must be certified through the Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Training Commission in accordance with SDCL § 34-45-29 and ARSD Chapter 2:05:01; and WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners asserts the duties are hazardous to the employee, are physically and emotionally demanding, and research indicates that such hazards create a work environment that produces similar stressors as law enforcement officers; and WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners asserts that the capacity to effectively perform the duties declines with advancing age, resulting in increased risk to both the employee and public and justifying an earlier normal retirement age; and WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners acknowledges that both the employer's and employee's contributions to the South Dakota Retirement will increase by 2%, and family benefits are not payable upon the death of a member who has reached normal retirement age; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners recommends the South Dakota Retirement System Board of Trustees reclassify South Dakota 911 Telecommunicators as Class B public safety member as defined by SDCL § 3-12C-101(20). Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Commissioner Putnam postponed his discussion on the Justice Center.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were heard.

COMMISSIONER AND COMMISSION OFFICE REPORT (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)

Reports were given by the Commission Administrative Assistant and Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was needed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Joel Arends and seconded by Jim Schmidt to adjourn at 11:24 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on September 8, 2026. Ayes; Joel Arends, Jim Schmidt, Tiffani Landeen, Doug Putnam, Herman Otten, Nays; None. Motion Passed.

Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

Tiffani Landeen, Lincoln County Chair

Attest: _____
Alicia Cafaro, Deputy Auditor

To be approved: September 8, 2026
Please publish the week of September 7, 2026