

Commissioner Meeting
May 5, 2026

Chair Kacey Holm called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioners Jerry Walsh, John Hokana, Brandon Carlson, and Marke Roberts were also present. Auditor Sheppard and States Attorney Radermacher were also present. The media was not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the Agenda

JDA guideline clarification

Leak on roof and damage on lower level of Courthouse update

State line pods project

Home Rule

Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes from April 21st as amended. Walsh seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Carlson made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted. Hokana seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Commission discussed the report of the power being shut down in the city of Ellendale starting at 4:00 pm Wednesday May 6th. There were mixed messages as to who would be affected. With the amount of computer equipment that could be affected by the power cut, Carlson made a motion to close the courthouse at 4:00 pm. Holm seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Sheppard reported to the Commission on what was discussed at the 5-County meeting on April 29th concerning combining with the five counties and using the 911 call center in Richland County. The presentation from Richland County has been shared ahead of time and is on file at the Auditor's office. Roberts stated he would want to see a more complete plan before any consideration. The discussion included how it would affect fire and ambulance as well. Sheppard will contact Richland County to answer the question about fire and ambulance. Depending on the information given, the Commission will consider if Richland County should present to the Commission at a different meeting.

Treasurer Wonada Lematta joined the meeting to discuss with the Commissioners a letter received from US Fish & Wildlife, requesting permission to access county property to count ducks and to allow their use of ATVs. Because of liability issues, Carlson made a motion to not allow them access to county property. Roberts seconded. Roll call was Carlson yes; Holm yes; Roberts yes; Walsh no; Hokana no. Motion carried.

Walsh spoke with the Commission concerning JDA loans and how they should be overseen. Walsh stated at the JDA meeting that there was a discussion concerning granting money and/or interest buy downs, versus granting a loan. The conversation to define the interest buy down or the possibility of paying a considerable sum off the current loan and therefore reducing their loan payments, instead of the money used for purchasing items needed for the business. Sheppard stated that she was told that counties cannot do interest buy downs legally. Discussion included the need for clear written guidelines for the JDA board. Sheppard and Radermacher will check into this with the SouthCentral Dakota Regional Council to find out how they oversee interest buy downs.

Tax Director Don Flaherty and Recorder Schmidt joined the meeting at 10:00, along with Balcony Technology Group, Inc. representatives Alex McGee, Jason Hargrove, and Austin Talty who were on electronic means. Schmidt informed the Commission that this product would be helpful for the tax and the Recorder's offices. Flaherty stated there may be other uses for the product that other offices could use as well. The system will use blockchain to cross-index the information that is in the current DocuPro system, which will be required by the state of North Dakota so the county will be ahead of the schedule. Flaherty stated that this product would replace the PAT system that Dickey County currently uses to complete ag land valuations and pays an outside vendor for rural parcel splits. In 2027 the county would need to pay for the PAT software and the Balcony. In 2028, it would only be paying for Balcony. Schmidt stated that there will be daily exports to Balcony and will be managed in her office, along with the other exports they complete every day. Radermacher stated that the contract has been reviewed and the requested changes will be made. The plan is to have a revised contract in hand for the next meeting. No action was taken.

KLJ Engineer Bryan Tykwinski, Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen, and DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell joined the meeting at 10:34.

The meeting went into a short recess from 10:40 to 10:45.

Roberts made a motion to open the abatement hearing. Carlson seconded. Motion carried.

Flaherty stated he had six applications for homestead credit, all for the tax year of 2025 and coverage of 100%.

Roberts made a motion to approve all applications. Hokana seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Carlson made a motion to close the abatement hearing. Walsh seconded. Motion carried.

Walsh requested information from Sheppard about an e-mail earlier concerning a growing crack in the wall in the stairwell. Walsh stated that he had noticed crystals forming on a wall in the lower level.

Sheppard stated they were waiting for a call from a structural engineer. Sheppard will try to make contact again and will point out the crystals forming as well.

The possibility of putting a measure on the ballot for the General Election in November to approve a charter for Home Rule in Dickey County was discussed. Sheppard located information received from other counties in North Dakota and forwarded the information to Radermacher and the Commissioners. No action was taken.

Hagen presented the contract with Maple Township for the maintenance of Co Road 3C on a 50/50 basis. Carlson made a motion to sign the contract. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Hagen presented LoadPass contracts for James River Valley, Porter, and Keystone Townships. Walsh made a motion to sign the contracts. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Hagen presented a permit application from Ellingson Drainage to bore under the road in Whitestone Township. Roberts made a motion to approve the application, pending the receipt of a check to pay the fee. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Discussion followed concerning the use of DustPods on the State line road this summer. Hagen stated that he is down one staff so it may be hard, but he is looking for a new employee. The project will be harder until a new employee is hired.

Tykwinski updated the Commission on the state of Prairie Dog money at the state level. Tykwinski also stated that the bid opening for the County Road 12 project is set for November 13th at this time.

Tykwinski presented the construction engineering for the culvert project on 86th Street north of Oakes. Roberts made a motion to sign the contract. Carlson seconded. Roll call was Roberts yes; Holm no; Carlson yes; Hokana yes; Walsh yes. Motion carried.

Carlson made a motion to adjourn at 11:57.

Commissioner Meeting May 19, 2026

Chair Kacey Holm called the meeting to order at 9:08 am. Commissioners Jerry Walsh, Brandon Carlson, Marke Roberts, and John Hokana were also present. States Attorney Kim Radermacher, Auditor Sheppard, and Applied Digital representative Emma Perrotti were also present. The media was not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the Agenda

- Abstract update on land
- Drones for Sheriff/Highway department
- Riverbank on Ct. Rd 14
- Harvest Gardens Liquor license
- Co Rd 2

Hokana made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Two vouchers were added to the list presented to the Commission, in the amounts of \$36,469.01 for a sheriff foreclosure sale and \$4,405.20 for temporary easements for the 87th Avenue and 95th Street reconstruction project. Walsh made a motion to approve the bills with the two additions. Hokana seconded. Roll call was Carlson yes; Holm no; Roberts yes; Walsh yes; Hokana yes. Motion carried.

Roberts made a motion to approve the April 2026 financials. Carlson seconded. Motion carried.

Sheppard presented a quote from Rise Structural Associates Inc for \$1,800 to complete structural services inspection on the crack in the stairwell wall going to the second floor. Walsh made a motion to accept the bid for structural services. Hokana seconded. Roll call was Hokana yes; Walsh yes; Roberts yes; Hokana yes; Carlson no. Motion carried.

Sheppard presented a quote from Computer Express for monitors on the Commission table in the amount of \$584.61. The quote is for two, but the Commission would like three which increases the cost to \$814.60. Walsh made a motion to approve the quote. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried. The monitors will only be on the table when presentations are made on-line.

Resident Mike Visto joined the meeting at 10:30.

Carlson stated he had been asked if the abstracts will be updated with the current information on the land just sold at Pheasant Lake. Radermacher stated that the land was advertised as a quit claim deed with 10% due at the time of the sale. Visto stated his concern that the closing costs are the responsibility of the purchaser, not a shared expense. Roberts made a motion to have the Chair sign an affidavit for marketable title for the parcels sold. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Harvest Gardens representatives Aaron, Paula, and Joseph Tschosik joined the meeting at 10:00.

Holm updated the Commission on the land sale at Pheasant Lake. Four of the five lots available for sale were sold. The specifics as to price and ownership will be updated once the sales are final.

Harvest Gardens is requesting a liquor license for on-sale purposes only. The State of North Dakota needs the county to approve the application before the state can grant their license. Walsh made a motion to approve the license application. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Walsh made a motion to split the closing agent fee with the purchaser with a maximum cost to the county of \$200 for the land sold at Pheasant Lake. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

The meeting went into recess at 10:15 and returned at 10:25.

Tax Director Don Flaherty, Recorder Kelly Schmidt, Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen, and DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell joined the meeting at 10:25.

The grassy areas of Lots 2 and 3 at Pheasant Lake should be mowed and used for bale feed, as was done in 2025. Carlson made a motion to put an advertisement in the newspaper for the mowing and baling of the grass in Lots 2 and 3 at Pheasant Lake, with the removal of the bales completed by July 1st. Hokana seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried. The bid opening will be June 2nd.

Flaherty and Schmidt presented the updated contract with Balcony Technology Group that was discussed at the last meeting. It was reiterated that this will not prove ownership but will prove the records came from the Recorder’s office. Walsh made a motion to sign the contract. Hokana seconded. Roll call was Roberts yes; Walsh yes; Hokana yes; Carlson no; Holm no. Motion carried.

Sheriff Chris Estes joined the meeting at 11:00. KLJ Engineer Bryan Tykwinski joined the meeting at 11:00 via electronic means.

Hagen informed the Commission that Ellingson Water Management found that the 36” culvert on County Road #2 where they were boring needs to be replaced. Hagen stated that he will look at the other culverts on that road to see if any other culverts that are needing to be replaced.

Discussion followed concerning the ditch mowing ordinance and the requirement to mow in July. Also discussed is the width of the mowing in July and October. Sheppard will add to the agenda for the next meeting.

Carlson expressed concerns on County Road 14 along the James River. The rock placed earlier looks good, but it is eroding out before and after the rock. Tykwinski stated that it could be a safety project but that is three years before construction. Use of the flex fund money received may be a better option. Hagen and Tykwinski will look at the road and get back to the Commission, as the road is going to keep getting worse.

Estes updated the Commission on the grant money received from Applied Digital to place cameras on Highway 281. This will allow the Sheriff’s office the ability to get vehicle information on vehicles coming through Ellendale. The city of Ellendale is also assisting with the cost.

Hokana made a motion to adjourn at 11:45.

Salaries		196,129.02 64084-64184	
Human Services	Monthly Expenses	1,190.79	121428-121434
Balco Uniform	Uniforms	440.10	121435
Carlson Brandon	Hotel Stay- AG Comm	94.00	121436
Dickey County Leader	Sheriff's Office Paper Renewal	42.00	121437
Election System & Software INC	Audio, Media, Election svcs level 1	2,326.22	121438
Ellendale True Value	Shop Supplies	26.47	121439
Flaherty Don	Mileage to twp. meetings	108.75	121440
Geffdog Designs	Cap and Beanie	270.00	121441
Marquart Andrew	Court Appointed Attorney	198.00	121442
Miller Cresta	Mileage to get Merch for Plow Contest	29.00	121443
Miller Cresta	Mileage to Oakes for Plow Contest	43.50	121444
Montana Dakota Utilities	Park Utilities	93.44	121445
Overpayment Refund	Overpayment of Taxes	432.67	121446
Q & N Corporation	Ink for Printer, Computer for Counter	2,855.99	121447
RTS Shearing LLC	Rock for Pheasant riprap	288.35	121448
Secure Software Solutions	2026 Parcel Splits	2,199.00	121449
Simple Wolf	Sticker- Frostbite Decal	114.99	121450
Starion Insurance Agency	Added 2026 Ram	1,410.00	121451
Economy Oil Co	Fuel for Oakes Shop	3,034.41	121452
Oakes Golf Course	Easement	300.00	121453

Schmit Douglas	Easement	900.00	121454
Southeast Water Users	West Shop Utilities	51.82	121455
Harvest Gardens LLP	Promissory Note- JDA	33,000.00	121456
Gemar Justion	Mileage	27.55	121457
Hansen Stephen	Mileage	107.30	121458
John Quandt	Mileage	8.70	121459
Ellendale City Auditor	Courthouse, Sprinklers, Park, Hwy Dept., Weed Board- Utilities	569.16	121460
ND Public Employees Retirement	BCBS	55,182.80	121461
ND Public Employees Retirement	Life INS	485.82	121462
ND Public Employees Retirement	BCBC HD	9,474.20	121463
ND Public Employees Retirement	Dental	458.72	121464
ND Public Employees Retirement	Vision	56.76	121465
ND Public Employees Retirement	Life INS HD	138.04	121466
Dakota Plains Credit Union	New CD 9 Months 4% APR	500,000.0 0	121467
Cities, Townships, Schools	Cities, Townships, Schools	1,699,807. 64	121468- 121517
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp	1,910.18	121518
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp HD	746.00	121519
Wex Health Inc	Flex	2,139.10	121520
ND Public Employees Retirement	HSA	712.18	121521
ND Child Support Division	Garnishments	508.50	121522
Wex Health Inc	Flex	1,239.10	121523
Community Volunteer EMS of LaMoure	Ambulance Collections, SAD	335.38	121524
Kulm Ambulance Corps Inc, C/o Jennifer McDermid	Ambulance Collections, SAD	13,101.44	121525
Edgeley Ambulance Service	Ambulance Collections, SAD	435.41	121526
Oakes Volunteer Ambulance Service	Ambulance Collections, SAD	10,129.88	121527
Ashley Ambulance Service	Ambulance Collections, SAD	198.06	121528
Ellendale City Auditor	Airport, SAD, Ambulance Collections	voided	121529
Oakes City Auditor	Ambulance Collections, SAD	3,241.83	121530
Garrison Diversion	Collections, SAD	8,966.69	121531
James River Soil Conservation	Collections, SAD	21,643.24	121532
Ellendale Fire	Collections, SAD	7,756.38	121533
Oakes Fire	Collections, SAD	10,690.99	121534
Dickey County Senior Citizens	Collections, SAD	8,820.19	121535
Dickey County Historical	Collections, SAD	2,205.13	121536
Sargent County Drain #1	Sargent County Drain #11 Specials	138.59	121537
LaMoure Fire	Collections, SAD	342.27	121538
ND State Treasurer	State Medical, Clerk of Court Fees	8,659.66	121539
Dickey County Treasurer	Clerk of Court Fees	582.00	121540
Ellendale City Auditor	Airport, SAD, Ambulance Collections	10,142.20	121541
Wex Health Inc	Cancer	75.32	121542
Human Services	Monthly Expenses	15,060.09	121543- 121548

Advanced Business Methods	Postage	177.79	121549
Chads Electric Inc	Clean Air Tank wtr Valve/ Test for Leaks	368.00	121550
Clay County Sheriff's Office	Paper Service	52.15	121551
Clerk of District Court	Foreclosure Sale	8,975.73	121552
Dickey County Fair Board	Taxes Collected	12,201.77	121553
Election System & Software INC	Media For Ballots	5,196.69	121554
Farmers Union Oil Co	Parts	53.98	121555
Foreclosure Sale	Execution	469.01	121556
Foreclosure Sale	Foreclosure Sale	27,024.27	121557
Hoven Perry	Part Time Salary	1,050.00	121558
Information Technology Dept	Tech Fee	1,817.95	121559
Napa Central	Windshield Washer Fluid	28.74	121560
ND State Tax Commissioner	Homestead Credit Filed	1,840.38	121561
ND Sheriff's & Deputies Association	ND Sheriff's Association Annual Dues	400.00	121562
Otis Elevator Company	Maintenance	175.00	121563
Q & N Corporation	Monthly Service Agreement	2,000.00	121564
Quadient Finance USA, Inc	Postage	4,000.00	121565
Schimke Andi	Clerk Conference- Mileage and Meals	265.50	121566
Starion Insurance Agency	Premium added Dodge and Tahoe	1,771.00	121567
Vestis	Rug Service- Invoice 2520770881	166.26	121568
Agtegra Oakes	Fuel for Hwy Dept	2,778.79	121569
Dickey County	20% Road and Bridge	1,923.01	121570
Ellendale True Value	Shop Supplies	93.42	121571
Farmers Union Oil Co	Fuel for West Shop, Gasoline for DES	2,249.99	121572
Lorena's Cleaning Serv,	Cleaning of Shop	400.00	121573
Napa Central	Oil Filter, Washer Fluid, Hose	337.18	121574
Ottertail Power Company	Utilities for Oakes Shop	79.17	121575
Team Laboratory Chemical LLC	Fine Road Patch	1,979.00	121576
Vestis	Rug Service- invoice 2520767416 and 2520774366	405.30	121577
Overpayment Refund	Easement For 87th Ave and 95th st	4,405.20	121578-121582
Office of Attorney General	24/7 Program	150.00	121583
Stutsman Correctional Center	Held to Inmates for 33 days	3,300.00	121584
Christ the King	Programs	315.00	121585
Dakota Valley Electric Coop	Park Utilities, Guelph Tower Utilities	137.00	121586
Dickey County	Funds	80.75	121587
Dickey Rural Networks	Phone Charges	1,429.84	121588
Montana Dakota Utilities	Courthouse, Hwy Dept., Fullerton Shop, Weed Board Building Utilities	4,075.38	121589
Baker Trapping Services	Set Trap and check them	331.40	121590
Ohnstad Twichell PC	Legal Fees	2,443.86	121591
JP Morgan	office Supplies, Travel, Service Contract, Postage, License, Utilities	2,797.08	121592
ND Public Employees Retirement	Retirement	25,772.18	121593
ND Public Employees Retirement	Retirement	3,452.53	121594
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp	1,910.18	121595
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp hd	746.00	121596
ND Public Employees Retirement	Retirement hd	58.49	121597

ND Public Employees Retirement	HSA	712.18	121598
Aflac	Cancer	2,391.56	121599
Delta Dental Plan of MN	Dental	2,397.38	121600
Ameritas Life Insurance	Vision	345.32	121601
ND Child Support Division	Garnishments	375.00	121602
ND Child Support Division	Garnishments	508.50	121603
James Valley Regional Lodge	Dues	66.34	121604

Wanda Sheppard, Auditor

Kacey Holm, Chairman