

Commissioner Meeting
August 4, 2026

Chair Kacey Holm called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. Commissioners Jerry Walsh, John Hokana, Marke Roberts, and Brandon Carlson were also present. Auditor Sheppard was also present. The media was not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the Agenda

Growing Small Towns debate with State's Attorney candidates Kim Radermacher and Jeff Diemert

2026 appointment of Doctor Tara Mertz-Hack to the American Academy of Rural Physicians Health Advisory Committee and named ND Family Physician of the year for 2026.

ND Association of Counties Conference Dickey County delegate

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Carlson made a motion to approve the July 21st Minutes with corrections. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Roberts made a motion to approve the vouchers with the additional vouchers. Walsh seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Hokana thanked Growing Small Towns for hosting the debate between the two State's Attorney candidates.

Hokana informed the Commission that Doctor Tara Mertz-Haack was appointed to the 2026 American Academy of Rural Physicians Health Advisory Committee.

County Agent Breana Kiser, Family and Community Wellness Agent Kasi Holm, and NDSU Central District Director Dena Kemmet joined the meeting at 8:30 and presented their quarterly narrative.

Custom Touch Operations Manager Gary Dathe attended the meeting at 8:39.

Kemmet discussed the resignation of Family and Community Wellness Agent Holm, effective August 8/12. NDSU will likely not open the position at this time, as there is a hiring freeze at NDSU. Discussion followed concerning the mills needed to meet the extension expenses, as there is a shortfall for the 2027 budget. North Dakota Century Code has the number of mills capped at 2 mills for extension, with the possibility of an additional 2 mills with voter approval

Dathe updated the Commission on the worker housing located south of Pheasant Lake. Dathe informed the Commission about the four sites located in Dickey County. The Pheasant Lake location has a recreation room and restaurant on the site. The restaurant is open to the public, but no alcohol is served there. One of the current concerns is electric cars and the lack of charging stations. Dathe stated they are currently using three vans to bus individuals to the work site. Dathe stated that Water is currently being hauled from Ellendale. A contractor is pumping the septic tanks and hauling it to another location.

State's Attorney Kim Radermacher joined the meeting at 9:00.

The 2027 Land Use Administrator budget was discussed, as well as the salary of the Land Use Administrator. Walsh made a motion to start Amy on Step 1 of the appointed supervisor level on the pay scale, as of February 1st, when she was appointed to the role as a full-time position.

Hokana seconded. Roll call was Hokana yes; Walsh yes; Carlson yes; Holm yes; Roberts no.

Motion carried.

At the request from the Dickey County Senior Citizen Board, Carlson made a motion to place a measure on the General ballot to increase the mills collected for the Senior Citizen services from one mill to two mills. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Sheppard presented a letter received from LaMoure Community Ambulance requesting an increase in the mills collected for rural ambulance service in Dickey County. Sheppard had informed all ambulance services that serve residents in the county. Several were in attendance through electronic means or in person. Commission asked for feedback from the two main services, Ellendale and Oakes, for their thoughts on increasing the mill levy, which is currently at 3.50 mills. Oakes Paramedic Curt Halmrast and Ellendale Paramedic Don Flaherty both stated they were okay with leaving it at 3.50 mills. No action was taken.

Holm made a motion to appoint Walsh as the Dickey County representative at the ND Association of Counties conference in October. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

A short break was taken.

Deputy Treasurer Chris Robey joined the meeting to discuss the CD rates for the money from the land sale at Pheasant Lake. Holm made a motion to purchase a CD with CDARS for one year at 4.08% in the amount of \$82,500. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

The Road budget for 2027 was discussed. The decision was made to remove the purchase of a new blade and reduce the trailer purchase from \$150,000 to \$100,000.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen, KLJ Engineer Bryan Tykwinski, and resident Pam Cook joined the meeting at 11:07.

Tykwinski presented the joint agreement for the micro-surfacing project with LaMoure County, which has been reviewed by Radermacher. Roberts made a motion to approve the contract with LaMoure County. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous; motion carried.

Hagen presented a utility permit received from Jeff Roehl to bore a water line under the road. Carlson made a motion to approve the permit. Hokana seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

DES/911 Charlie Russell joined the meeting at 11:18 am.

The following budgets were reviewed: Social Services, Planning Board, state-funded projects prairie dog, construction in progress; civil asset forfeiture, special assessment, emergency fund, capital projects, Job Development Authority. Basement project bond.

The deficient mills for County Agent were discussed. Kiser joined the meeting to discuss. Kiser stated she had made a few adjustments for the 2027 budget. Walsh made a motion to transfer money from General to cover the expected shortfall. Carlson seconded. Roll call was Hokana yes; Walsh yes; Roberts no; Holm no. Carlson yes. Motion carried.

Sheppard will make the adjustments and present the final preliminary numbers at the next meeting. The budget hearing was set for Sept 15th at 1:30.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Commissioner Meeting August 18, 2026

Chair Kacey Holm called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioners Jerry Walsh and Brandon Carlson, Kacey Holm, and John Hokan Marke Roberts were also present. Applied Digital representative Emma Perrotti, State's Attorney Kim Radermacher, and County Auditor Wanda Sheppard were also present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the Agenda

Flock cameras

Assessor cost for City of Ellendale

Hokana moved to approve the amended minutes from the July 16th budget meeting and the August 4th Commission meeting. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Sheriff Chris Estes and Clerk of Court Andi Schimke joined the meeting at 9:14.

Walsh moved to approve the vouchers as presented. Carlson seconded. Roll call was Walsh yes; Hokana yes; Carlson yes; Holm no; Roberts yes. Motion carried.

Carlson made a motion to approve the July 2026 financials. Walsh seconded. Roll Call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Schimke discussed changes to the mailing requirements of passport paperwork, requiring the purchase of a special printer. Walsh moved to approve the printer purchase. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

A quote for grinding the tree stumps in the Courthouse yard was reviewed. Sheppard stated this was not included in the 2027 budget as the quote was received too late. Walsh will check if the county could use the grinder the city has.

The difference in the cost of the assessor between Oakes and Ellendale was discussed. Tax Director Flaherty joined the meeting. Roberts stated Oakes pays \$12,000 for their own assessor, while Ellendale is charged by the county \$3,500 in 2025 last year. Flaherty stated the county charges the city based on the number of houses. Discussion followed about the fairness of the fees. Oakes can contract with the county at the county rate.

Estes spoke with the Commission concerning the Flock cameras that would be installed on Highway 281. Estes stated there needs to be a policy in place for their use. The camera is looking at the type of vehicle, not the person that is in the vehicle. Estes stated that a person can't be prosecuted off the camera. The policy will be presented at the time of activation. Someone from another area cannot use our cameras without our permission. A decision was made not to activate at this time. Commission asked Radermacher to review the policy as well.

The meeting went into recess from 10:30-:45.

Walsh moved to approve the ballot measure wording to increase the mills collected for senior citizen services from 1 mill to two mills, which was requested by the Senior Citizen Board. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried

Hokana moved to put a ballot measure to increase the mills for extension from two mills to 4 mills. And approve the wording of the measure. – Carlson seconded. Roll call: Hokana yes; Walsh yes; Roberts yes; Carlson no; Holm yes; Motion carried.

Hokana moved to accept the 2027 preliminary budget. Holm seconded. Roll call: Holm yes; Hokana yes; Walsh yes; Roberts no; Carlson no; Motion carried.

Walsh moved to sign the Task Order with KLJ Engineering for the County Road 2 project shared with Lamoure County. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous – Roberts moved to sign Amendment

#3 to the professional services contract with KLJ, extending the contract to May 2028. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous.

A Permit for Dickey Rural Network to bore under the road to install fiber optic cable along 95th Street. Carlson moved to approve the application; Walsh seconded. Motion carried.

Hokana made a motion to Adjourn at 11:50.

Salaries	211,057.88 64285-64383		
Cities, Townships, Schools	Cities, Townships, Schools	111,245.05	122018-122063
Monthly Expenses	Human Services	1,511.76	122064-122068
Bert's Truck Equipment	Snow Equipment for the new Truck Purchased in 2025	113,692.00	122069
Central Specialties INC.	Payment for 87th ave- 96th st project	233,854.59	122070
Amazon Capital Service	Office Supplies	101.91	122071
Chads Electric INC	Lights in Clerk of Court Vault	117.36	122072
Chads Electric INC	Pheasant Lake Shed Lights	300.00	122073
Chads Electric INC	Worked on Air Compressor	700.00	122074
Dakota Business Solutions	Annual Maintenance on Mail Machine	375.00	122075
Ellendale True Value	Bulb, Towels, filter, glass cleaner, traffic seed, weed killer, paper towel, snap link, cab tie, EMT strap	288.89	122076
Graham Tire Co	Tires	344.98	122077
Holm Kasi	Mileage- Fair Supplies, NDSF	483.36	122078
Lematta Wonada	Mileage to Aud- Treasurer's Conference, Office Supplies	259.59	122079
Montana Dakota Utilities	Park Utilities	94.57	122080
Pierson Ford-Lincoln Inc	Oil Change ON 2023 Explorer	168.10	122081
Valley Plains Equipment	Drive Belt for Lawn Mower	489.00	122082
Vestis	Rug Service Invoice-2520811247	170.75	122083
Bear Creek Gravel LLC	Crushing Service	24,070.00	122084
Maertens Welding and Machine Company	Disk, Disc Washer and Bearing, C Spring	1,344.68	122085
Mertz Const & Supply	Replace Shop Side Wall Steel- Fullerton Shop	3,975.00	122086
Oakes Truck and Trailer	Amber Strobe Lights, Work done on 2008 Kenworth	6,266.01	122087
Retzlaff R Trucking LLC	Gravel Hauled on DC 1,3,7,7A,9	59,667.31	122088
Southeast Water Users	Utilities at West Shop	51.05	122089
Vestis	Rug Service Invoice-2520807941 and 2520801325	405.36	122090
Western Dakota Energy Association	2026-2027 County Truck Permit dues	500.00	122091
Web Water Dev Assoc Inc	ND Hwy 11 Waterline Relocation	8,552.53	122092
Mountain Plains Youth Service	461 Fargo Shelter Annual Contract	1,591.00	122093
Amazon Capital Service	Prime Business Annual Membership Fee	179.00	122094
Dickey County Leader	Paper Renewal	42.00	122095
Ellendale True Value	Office Supplies	127.87	122096
Kiser Breana	ND State Fair Superintendent Mileage, Meals	587.72	122097
Pakonen Monica	Mileage - Babysitting Clinic Assistance	45.60	122098
Dickey County Leader	Legal June 16th min., DC Veterans Office Ad	411.30	122099
Ellendale City Auditor	Irrigation, Courthouse, Park, Hwy Dept., Weed Board Building- Utilities	2,583.94	122100
KLJ Engineering LLC	HD Hwy 11 RT Turn Lane, FXS- 0011(035) PCN 24676 86TH STREET SE	197,501.87	122101
ND Public Employees Retirement	BCBS	60,296.26	122102

ND Public Employees Retirement	Life Ins	534.46	122103
ND Public Employees Retirement	BCBS HD	7,579.36	122104
ND Public Employees Retirement	Dental	323.98	122105
ND Public Employees Retirement	Vision	42.57	122106
ND Public Employees Retirement	Life ins HD	122.48	122107
Aflac	Cancer	2,326.12	122108
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp	1,910.18	122109
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def comp hd	661.00	122110
Wex Health INC	Flex	1,219.45	122111
ND Public Employees Retirement	HSA	712.18	122112
ND Child Support Division	Garnishments	508.50	122113
NDWCA	Conference Registration for Terry and Amy	600.00	122114
Community Volunteer EMS of LaMoure	Ambulance SAD	70.54	122115
Kulm Ambulance Corps INC	Ambulance SAD	57.52	122116
Edgeley Ambulance Service	Ambulance SAD	67.27	122117
Oakes Volunteer Ambulance Service	Ambulance SAD, Collections	731.30	122118
Ellendale City Auditor	Airport, SAD, Ambulance SAD, Collections	752.32	122119
Oakes City	Airport, SAD	201.26	122120
Garrison Diversion	Collections, SAD	586.63	122121
James River Soil Conservation	Collections, SAD	474.99	122122
Ellendale Fire	Collections, SAD	171.28	122123
Oakes Fire	Collections, SAD	309.43	122124
Dickey County Senior Citizens	Collections, SAD	426.72	122125
Dickey County Historical	Collections, SAD	106.77	122126
ND State Treasurer	State Medical, Clerk of Court Fees	198.88	122127
Dickey County Treasurer	Clerk of Court Fees	1,215.00	122128
Wex Health INC	Cancer	75.48	122129
Dickey County Fair Board	Taxes Collected	79.02	122130
Dickey County Leader	Agenda and legal mins	157.50	122131
Farmers Union Oil Co	Oil Change on Law Enforcement Vehicles	241.93	122132
Information Technology Dept	Tech Fee	1,817.95	122133
Lexipol LLC	Annual Law Enforcement Policy Manual/ Training	3,948.47	122134
Martin Construction	250 Tons of Rocks	1,250.00	122135
NDAAO	Dues	100.00	122136
Q&N Corporation	10 Rolls zebra Labels	64.99	122137
Rapid Response Plumbing Heating & Air	Repaired Mini Split System	4,770.00	122138
Software Innovations	Taxation 2.9 5-4 Assessments Notice Upgrade	5,800.00	122139
Vestis	Rug Service Invoice-2520756980	166.26	122140
Agtegra Oakes	Fuel for Hwy Dept	2,817.56	122141
Bear Creek Gravel LLC	Loading Gravel	1,268.40	122142
Dakota Improvement	Hauling in July	111,255.10	122143

Dakota Valley Electric Coop	West Shop Utilities	131.00	122144
Dickey County	20% Road and Bridge	23.66	122145
Economy Oil Co	Fuel for Hwy Dept	3,177.08	122146
Ellendale True Value	Trimmer Line	19.20	122147
Fullerton Farmers Elevator	Tire	127.54	122148
John Deere Financial	Toggle/Rocker, Multi-purpose SD polyurea grease tube, Replaced seat switch- diagnostics test	1,283.92	122149
Lorena's Cleaning Serv.	Cleaning Offices- Hwy Shop	400.00	122150
Montana Dakota Utilities	Fullerton Shop Utilities	145.76	122151
Napa Central	Bearing-disc Harrow, Screw, boot seal, Air Spring, Toggle, Grease Fitting	730.30	122152
Oakes Truck and Trailer	Fender, Maple Pin, Brake Chamber, Clevis Kit, Cabin Filter, Tensioner Fan	3,926.49	122153
Ottertail Power Company	Oakes Shop Utilities	70.07	122154
Retzlaff R Trucking LLC	Gravel Hauled on c/5 Brokaw Pit	8,568.90	122155
Team Laboratory Chemical LLC	Fine Road Patch	2,001.00	122156
Vestis	Rug Service invoice-2520787940	204.96	122157
Vestis	Rug Service- Invoice 2520814538	208.20	122158
Vistos Carquest	Fan Belt	81.39	122159
Waste Management	Waste Pickup	217.70	122160
Office of Attorney General	24/7 Program	310.00	122161
Pharmchem INC	Sweat Patch Analysis, Fentanyl Screen	63.90	122162
Stutsman Correctional Center	Held two inmates for 10 days total	1,000.00	122163
Aberdeen Chrysler Center	Underpaid bill	7.87	122164
Dickey County Leader	Summer Spray Notice	22.50	122165
Ellendale True Value	Shop Supplies	66.06	122166
Farmers Union Oil Co	Propane for Weed Board Building	190.37	122167
Postmaster	Box Renewal for Weed Board	80.00	122168
Dakota Valley Electric Coop	Wilson Dam, Guelph Tower- Utilities	134.00	122169
Dickey Rural Networks	Phone Bill	2,045.83	122170
Dickey County Hwy Dept	County Car gas, Gasoline for VSO and DES, Lawn Mower	691.86	122171
Farmers Union Oil Co	Oil change on county car, Propane for hwy shop, Fuel for hwy shop, Wire Clip	5,310.33	122172
KLJ Engineering LLC	ND Hwy 11 RT Turn Lane, FXS-0011(035) PCN 24676 86TH ST SE	130,111.17	122173
Montana Dakota Utilities	Courthouse, Storage shed, Hwy Shop, Weed Board Building Utilities	2,630.72	122174
NDSU Extension Service AG Budget	County half of Breana Kiser and Kasi Holm Salary for 4/1/26-6/30/26	122,175.00	122175
Human Services	Monthly Expenses	16,934.83	122176-122186
JP Morgan Chase Bank	Hotel stay, Membership dues, safety gloves, license, postage, office supplies, car wash	1,009.59	122187
ND Public Employees Retirement	Retirement	27,377.01	122188
ND Public Employees Retirement	Retirement	3,094.42	122189
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def comp	1,910.18	122190
ND Public Employees Retirement	Def Comp HD	661.00	122191

Wex Health INC	Flex	1,361.12	122192
ND Public Employees Retirement	HSA	712.18	122193
Delta Dental Plan of MN	Dental	2,585.94	122194
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	Vision	386.32	122195
ND Child Support Division	Garnish	375.00	122196
ND Child Support Division	Garnish	508.50	122197
James River Soil Conservation	Dues	66.34	122198
Baker Trapping Services	Trap Setting and Checking them, Dam removed	744.20	122199
Ohnstad Twichell Pc	Legal Fees	675.60	122200

Wanda Sheppard, Auditor

Kacey Holm, Chairman