The Corson County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner Room of the Courthouse on December 3, 2024. Vice Chairman Darren Bauer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Shawn Hinsz, Lucas Sutherland, and Benjamin Bieber present. Also in attendance was States Attorney Shane Penfield and Commissioner Elect Joshua Schmeichel. Jacob Nehl was absent. All motions were approved unanimously unless indicated otherwise.

Approve Minutes

All voted in favor of a motion by Hinsz, seconded by Sutherland, to approve the minutes of the regular November 7, 2024 meeting.

Agenda

All voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz, to approve the agenda as posted.

Special Year End Commission Meeting

A special year end commission meeting to finalize 2024 business will be conducted on December 30th at 9:00 a.m. MT.

Building Repair Bid Notice

Bauer presented the bid notice for repairs the hail damaged building roofs and gutters. Following discussion, all voted in favor of a motion by Bieber, seconded by Sutherland to advertise for Bids for Building Roof and Gutter Repairs according to insurance specs to be opened at the January 7th commission meeting at 10:00 a.m. MT.

2024 Bridge Inspections

Chelsey Sheridan with IMEG presented the 2024 Bridge Inspections report. Discussion was held on ways to preserve bridges. No action taken.

Highway Report

Discussion was held on blade repairs, road conditions, gravel hauling, and radio for pickup. No action taken.

Sheriff’s Office

Sheriff Alan Dale met with the commission to discuss courthouse camera system replacement with UJS Grant Funds and getting a quote for Highway shop camera system. No action taken.

Lake County Jail Contract

All voted in favor of a motion by Bieber, seconded by Hinsz, authorizing Vice Chairman Bauer to sign the 2025 Lake County Jail/Inmate Housing Contract.

New Hire

Sheriff Dale informed the commission that he has hired Parker DeRouchey as the new Deputy Sheriff beginning January 1, 2025 at an annual salary of $46,840 with a 6-month probation period. Following discussion, all voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Bieber to approve the hiring of Parker DeRouchey at $46,840 with a 6-month probation period.

Longevity Pay Policy

Following discussion, all voted in favor of a motion by Bieber, seconded by Sutherland to adopt the following longevity pay policy effective immediately for all employees with the exception of commissioners and add it to the Personnel Handbook:

6.9 Longevity Pay Policy

Full time employees shall be eligible for longevity pay based upon length of service with Corson County. Length of service shall be the full number of years of service as of anniversary date of the employee’s employment. Upon eligibility of longevity pay each employee will receive a bonus check starting at 200 dollars on year one and increase 200 dollars every year. Part time employees will receive a 100 dollar bonus check that will increase 100 dollars per year.

If an employee moves from one county office/department to another the longevity pay will continue as that employee remains employed by Corson County. However, if an employee resigns from Corson County and then comes back at a later date, that longevity pay will start over.

Further, at the date this policy takes effect, Corson County will figure out all current employee’s years of service and pay a bonus check to the employee starting at 200 dollars times their years of service and 100 dollars times their years of service for part time employees.

The longevity pay will be paid the 1st full week of every December and prorated for employees time with Corson County.

Retention and Signing Bonus Policy

Following discussion, all voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz to adopt the following policy effective immediately and add it to the personnel handbook:

4.15 Retention and Signing Bonus Policy

The Corson County Board of Commissioners may, at the request of a department head, extend a signing bonus to prospective job candidates, or a retention bonus to employees with less than 2 years of service to Corson County, for the purposes of hiring and retaining employees.

The terms and the amount of the bonuses shall be determined by the Board of Commissioners, with input from the respective department head.

Upon acceptance of the bonus, the employee would be required to sign a legally binding contract to which they would be responsible for adhering.

Two different signing and retention bonus contract options were reviewed and it was decided to have department heads fill in the contract with their requested amount and present to the board at the December 30th meeting.

Sheriff’s Office Retention Policy

Sheriff Dale asked the Commission to consider a retention bonus for his newly hired deputies Blaze Eagle Horse, Isaac Sauder, and Parker DeRouchey in the amount of $5,000 payable over three years. Following discussion, all voted in favor of a motion by Hinsz, seconded by Bieber to offer Blaze Eagle Horse, Isaac Sauder, and Parker DeRouchey a $5,000 Retention Bonus payable over three years with first payment being made after 12 months of employment in the amount of $1,000; $1500 after 24 months of employment; and $2500 after 36 months of employment.

Timber Lake School Opt Out

Following discussion on the Timber Lake School District payable 2024 OptOut levy miscalculation, all voted in favor of a motion by Hinsz, seconded by Bieber to pay Timber Lake School District the difference in the amount of $12,575.84.

New Hire

Weed and Pest Supervisor Craig Hunter introduced himself to the Board. Craig began working on November 26, 2024. All voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz to approve the hire of Craig Hunter as part-time Weed and Pest Supervisor at $21.50 per hour with no benefits and a 6 month probation period.

Railroad Authority Board

Discussion was held on dissolving the Railroad Authority Board. Following discussion, Sutherland made a motion to dissolve the Railroad Authority Board. Motion died due to lack of second. Consensus was to add it to agenda for December 30th meeting for more discussion.

Post Election Audit Results

Auditor Bertolotto presented the results of the Post Election Audit for the November 5, 2024 General Election. The Public Utilities Commissioner Race and the Constitutional Amendment F race were audited by a five person board for McLaughlin Precinct. After manually counting the ballots for each of the above mentioned races, in the above mentioned precinct, the results of both races matched the election night tabulator count and County canvass with 100% accuracy. After review of the post election audit results, all voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz to accept the results of the Post Election Audit for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

On roll call vote: Sutherland, yes; Bieber, yes; Hinsz, yes; Bauer, yes; Nehl, absent. Motion carried.

Signature Authorization

All voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz to remove Kimberly Olson from the Corson County Register of Deeds checking account signature card with 1st Interstate Bank.

SDSU Memorandum of Understanding

4H Secretary Dawne Donner presented the 2025 Memorandum of Understanding between SDSU Extension and Corson County. All voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz authorizing Vice Chairman Bauer to sign the 2025 Memorandum of Understanding.

4H Secretary

4H Secretary Dawne Donner briefed the commission on recognition event, shooting sports, 4H enrollment numbers, grants she will be applying for, and building a crows nest at the arena. No action taken.

Statement of Fees Collected Approved:

Register of Deeds, November, 2024: $3,803.01; Petty Cash: $50.00

Auditor’s Account with Treasurer

October 2024 Cash on hand: $621.67, Checks in Treasurer’s possession less than 3 days: $221,029.29, Demand Deposits: $1,017,066.41, Time Deposits: $4,308,444.44, Petty Cash Accounts: $2,657.00

The following bills were presented and ordered paid out of their respective funds:

Salaries of officials and employees by department:

Commission 4583.35

Auditor 5986.66

Treasurer 8135.66

States Attorney 4766.66

General Government Buildings 430.50

Director of Equalization Wages 4333.34

Register of Deeds 6553.34

Veterans Service Officer Wages 750.00

Sheriff 22056.86

Emergency Manager 550.00

4-H Secretary 1668.34

Road & Bridge 39770.00

E911 416.66

OASI 7354.82

South Dakota Retirement System 5828.99

Group Insurance 26092.34

The following bills were presented and ordered paid out of their respective funds:

ACME TOOLS 32.38 Supplies, AMERICAN SOLUTIONS 234.89 Office Supplies, AT & T MOBILITY 691.55 Monthly Cellphone, AUTO VALUE MOBRIDGE 7.56 Supplies, AXON ENTERPRISE, INC 2880.00 Taser Certification, DARREN BAUER 109.69 Weed & Pest Mtg/Mileage, BEADLE'S SALES 111.30 Vehicle Maintenance, BEN BIEBER 148.96 Weed & Pest Mtg/Mileage, BIEGLER EQUIPMENT, INC 342.73 Shop Supplies, BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY 650.55 Supplies, CENTRAL DIESEL SALES INC 167.42 Supplies, CENTURYLINK 1537.27 Monthly Phone Service, CHS INC 349.63 Propane, CITY OF MCINTOSH 254.10 Monthly Utilities, CITY OF MCLAUGHLIN 96.60 Monthly Utilities, CITY OF MOBRIDGE 3105.00 November 911 Remittance, TWOTREES TECHNOLOGIES 1586.25 Trend Micro, CSDED 8525.71 Membership Dues, THE CURRENT CONNECTION 749.96 Toner, DAKOTA GLASS AND ALIGNMENT LLC 88.07 Vehicle Maintenance, DAKOTA OIL 342.20 Supplies, KATY DELAHOYDE 401.80 Transcript, ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE 2613.64 Annual Equipment Maintenance, FOUR SEASONS TROPHIES 293.80 Ribbons, G & O PAPER SUPPLIES 91.50 Supplies, GRAND CENTRAL MOBRIDGE LLC 92.95 Vehicle Maintenance, COLTON HUNTER 660.00 '21 Explorer Equip Removal, KINNEY LAW, PC 3701.65 Court Appointed Attorney Fees, KNIGHT SECURITY INC. 70.00 Courthouse Monitoring, LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC 52.43 Cylinder Rental, CHRIS LYNCH 142.84 Weed & Pest Mtg/Mileage, MCINTOSH CO-OP 10079.28 Supplies/Gas, MCLEOD'S PRINTING & SUPPLY 425.47 Gen Election Supplies, MEADE COUNTY AUDITOR 760.00 Oct. Board of Prisoners, MELLING & ROSELAND LAW 3150.00 November Public Defend Contrac, MCLAUGHLIN AUTO REPAIR LLC 403.49 Supplies, NATIONAL MEDICAL RESOURCES,INC 175.00 Prisoner Care, CORSON SIOUX NEWS MESSENGER 309.93 Publishing, NORTHWEST TIRE INC 778.08 Tires INV #5262576, OLSON HEATING & AIR 169.92 Furnace Maintenance, REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY 206.93 Lab Services, RUNNINGS SUPPLY INC 229.89 Supplies, BENNY JOE SCHELL 100.00 Weed & Pest Mtg/Mileage, SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL, LLC 10507.00 Software Maintenance, SD SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION 617.06 Annual Dues, SDAAO 75.00 Conference, SD ASSN OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER 807.00 3rd Quarter CLERP, SD ASSN OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2058.00 2025 SDACC & NACo Dues, SD ASSOC OF HIGHWAY SUPT 350.00 2025 NACE & SDACHS Dues, SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS 853.70 2025 SDACO Membership Dues, SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS 46.00 November M & P Fund, SERVALL UNIFORM & LINEN SUPPLY 310.09 Monthly Rug Service, US POSTAL SERVICE 4089.80 Envelopes, STATE TREASURER 42926.17 November MV/DL, T C & G WATER ASSOC, INC 25.00 Monthly Utilities, TIMBER LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT 12575.84 Payable '24 Opt Out, TRUENORTH STEEL, INC 249.70 Supplies, UNIFORM CENTER 148.47 Uniforms, VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC 4575.00 Service Fees, CORSON COUNTY TREASURER 2071.17 Partial Payment, CORSON COUNTY TREASURER 250.00 Investigation Services, LEMMON EMT ASSOCIATION 2500.00 2024 Budget Allocation, MASTERCARD 2449.27 Supplies/Gas/Hotel, NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL 119.47 4H Awards, STANDING ROCK AMBULANCE 2500.00 2024 Budget Allocation, TC&G WATER ASSOC INC 25.00 Monthly Utilities, CORSON COUNTY TREASURER 4.89 Partial Payment, CORSON COUNTY TREASURER 137.15 Partial Payment, CORSON COUNTY REGISTER OF DEED 30.00 Reconveyance Deed, DIV OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION 26.75 Background Check, CORSON COUNTY TREASURER 5000.00 Partial Payment, DIV OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION 26.75 Background Check

Adjourn

All voted in favor of a motion by Sutherland, seconded by Hinsz to adjourn at 1:13 p.m. A special meeting will be held on December 30, 2024 to finalize year-end business and the next regular commission meeting will be held January 7, 2025.

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Tammy Bertolotto, Corson County Auditor Darren Bauer, Commission Vice Chairman

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