

AGENDA
Codington County Board of Commissioners
Codington County Court House, 14 1st Ave SE, Watertown SD
Commission Chambers, Room #114
9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 03, 2024

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Call for public comment. Public comment may be submitted in person or via telephone at 605-882-6248 or 605-882-6297**
3. **Conflict of interest items**
4. **Action to approve the December 03, 2024, agenda**
5. **Action to approve the November 26, 2024, minutes of the Board of Codington County Commissioners**
6. **Discussion with Kranz Insurance regarding employee health insurance renewal rates**
7. **Action to renew employee health insurance coverage with Sanford Health Plan**
8. **Action to determine health insurance premium employee/employer payment split and HSA account manager and manager fee**
9. **Monthly Reports**
 - a. **Extension**
 - b. **Veterans Service Office**
 - c. **Community Service Office Director**
10. **Action to approve MOU between SDSU and Codington County for the provision of items relating to 4-H in Codington County**
11. **Discussion/possible action to accept the Department of Justice Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program grant and approve the Chair to sign**
12. **Discussion/possible action to approve the Chair to sign Helpline Center contract**
13. **Action to declare office equipment and radios surplus to be destroyed and to declare salt/and spreaders surplus to be sold as scrap at the Highway Dept.**
14. **Discussion/possible action to approve COLA for non-union employee 2025 wages**
15. **Summary of union contract changes**
16. **Note Christmas office closures**
17. **Action to approve abatement applications**
18. **Action to approve claims for payment**
19. **Action to approve automatic budget supplements**
20. **Action to approve personnel changes**
21. **Action to approve travel requests**
22. **Public Notices – a possible quorum of Commissioners could be in attendance at:**
 - a. **Farm Business Banquet, December 5th, 2024, Event Center, 6:00 p.m.**

23. Old Business

24. New Business

25. Open

- a. **Public Comments**
- b. **Commission Comments**

26. Action to enter into Executive session per SDCL 1-25-2

- (1) **Discussion of personnel issues**
- (2) **Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel regarding proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters**
- (3) **Preparing for contract negotiations with employees or employee's representatives**
- (4) **Discussing information listed in SDCL 1-27-1.5 (8) and 1-27-1.5 (17) (safety or disaster)**

27. Action to adjourn upon completion of agenda items

Codington County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of service.

**Official Proceedings
County of Codington
Codington County Court House
14 1st Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201**

December 03, 2024

The Codington County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 03, 2024, at the Codington County Court House. Commission members present were: Lee Gabel, Charlie Waterman, Myron Johnson, Troy VanDusen, and Randall Schweer; Chair Schweer, presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST ITEMS

Chair Schweer called for public comments to be taken up during the open portion of the meeting; none were offered. There were no conflict-of-interest items to note.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by VanDusen, second by Gabel to approve the agenda for December 03, 2024, as posted; all voted aye; motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve the minutes of November 26, 2024; all voted aye; motion carried.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN REVIEW

Kranz Insurance representative, Ray Kranz, met with the Board to review the County's employee health insurance plan and renewable premium rates for 2025 coverage with Sanford Health Plan. Ray mentioned the increase for 2025 is 9.4%. The expected loss ratio for November 2023 through October 2024 is 129.07%. Sanford took in approximately \$1,123,571 in premiums and expects to pay out \$1,450,232 in claims for Codington County's insureds during this period. This does not include any administrative costs.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion by VanDusen, second by Johnson, to approve employee health insurance premium renewal costs for 2025 with the Sanford Health Plan; all voted aye; motion carried.

<u>PLAN</u>	<u>TOTAL PREMIUM</u>
Single – option 1	\$1,033.10
Single – option 2	\$935.82
Single – option 3 – with HSA	\$734.92
Family – option 1	\$2,582.76
Family – option 2	\$2,339.56
Family – option 3 – with HSA	\$1,837.31

Motion by Gabel, second by VanDusen, to approve the 2025 employee health insurance premium employer/employee payment costs and continue the management of the HSA account with Health Equity and to pay the management fee up to \$3.00/per individual; all voted aye; motion carried.

<u>PLAN</u>	<u>COUNTY COST</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE COST</u>
Single – option 1	\$972.31	\$60.79
Single – option 2	\$935.82	\$0.00

Single – option 3 – with HSA	\$734.92 for premium, \$237.39 for HSA	\$0.00
Family – option 1	\$1,718.29	\$864.47
Family – option 2	\$1,707.45	\$632.11
Family – option 3 – with HSA	\$1,684.15	\$153.16

MONTHLY REPORTS

4-H/Youth Program Advisor, Jodi Loehrer, updated the Board: Cloverbuds are meeting and there are 39 cloverbuds so far; members are still enrolling and re-enrolling in 4-H for the new year; shooting sports registration is open for archery, bb gun, air pistol and air rifle, all programs will begin in January 2025, air rifle will be holding some December night practices; plans are in the works for the Farm Show lunch counters, in need of one more overall chair, if interested, please call the Extension Office; 4-H has a display at the Watertown Optimist Club Winter Wonderland which is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening from 6-9 pm through December 22. **Veterans Service Officer, Todd Rose**, updated the Board: metrics for the month, 189 open claims (working claims) 90 pending action from VA, 242 completed (YTD), Hamlin 12 open (working claims) 6 pending from VA, 20 completed (YTD), currently working for 16 veterans and have completed 31 claims for veterans from outside our county; \$5,249 for the month of November 2024, increase in monthly compensation for veterans or their dependents YTD monthly increase \$130,937; \$148,048 for the month of November retro-payment to bring a claim current to monthly compensation YTD retro-payments \$1,236,579; 4 veteran DAV transports in November, 3 - currently scheduled for December, 8 drivers with 1 application submitted; as a reminder we don't track walk-ins or phone calls with general questions or concerns, the tracker is for claims/paperwork submitted for action along with transports; Veterans are urged to protect themselves against claim scammers, The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs (SDDVA), is urging veterans to be aware of fraudulent activities targeting those seeking benefits, Veterans should never pay anyone for assistance in filing an initial claim for benefits, before filing a claim or sharing personal information, veterans are advised to work with SDDVA, CTVSOs, VSOs, or a trusted attorney, veterans should not sign contracts to pay unauthorized individuals or companies a portion of their benefit payments, do not engage with those who refuse to complete a VA representations form (VA Form 21-22A), safeguard personal identity information and never share VA.gov or eBenefits login credentials; and avoid companies that advertise guaranteed benefits awards or special relationships with medical professionals; Codington County Vets Council meets tonight at the VFW; Codington County Veteran of the Year was Jerney Storm from the American Legion Post 17, he was presented with a Patriotic Flag ring donated by Makepeace Jewelry and KXLG also did a good news report of him on the radio; Veterans/Military Appreciation Event @ Joy Ranch co-hosted by Sea of Good Will and Watertown Area Community Foundation seemed to be received well and had a good showing for the first time conducting this event, plans are for this to be an annual event; will be attending an Hamlin County December Commission Meeting and review/renew contract and funding for 2025.

Community Service Director, Sara Foust, updated the Board: CARES/ERA - \$4,000.00 was received for administrative fees; the IMPACT (Individuals Making Positive Actions Can Thrive) Medicaid Reimbursement - \$2,698 for November; Community Service Office – Reaching Rural awarded \$1million over 3 years for justice impacted people with substance disorders, will be applying for the Implementation Funding grant; attended the grantee convening event sponsored by South Dakota Community Foundation; planning a training to implement the Transition to Success case management model in the community; Systems of Care/Codington Connects – Interagency meeting will be meeting next week, Thursday at 9 a.m. at the police station, the Agency of the month is Chamber of Commerce for the Santaland display and Amanda Woodruff is individual of the Month for Rachel's Hope; Housing Summit was held with good results for prioritizing needs, will be working on next steps; Childcare – working with WDC & Klein Visioneering Group on a contract to address the complicated issues associated with childcare, want to create some partnerships for this effort, next meeting is December 18th; Centralized location – have identified a location and are working on a business plan; check out Codington Connects for more events and information about the community.

SDSU 4-H YOUTH ADVISOR M.O.U.

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the SDSU Extension and Codington County for partial salary support of the 4-H Youth Advisor position, the M.O.U. remains the same as the 2024 contract with these two exceptions: all references to 4-H Youth Program Advisor from the previous agreement are now replaced with the new positional nomenclature of 4-H Educator and the county cost share amount for 2025 will be \$23,050.; all voted aye; motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMPREHENSIVE, OPIOID, STIMULANT, AND SUBSTANCE USE SITE-BASED PROGRAM GRANT

Motion by Gabel, second by VanDusen, to accept and approve the Chair to sign the Department of Justice Comprehensive, Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program grant in the amount of \$999,997.00 over a 3-year period, as presented by Sara Foust, Community Service Office Director; all voted aye; motion carried.

HELPLINE CENTER CONTRACT

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve the Chair to sign a Purchase of Services Agreement between Codington County and the Helpline Center, in the amount of \$3,000.00, from December 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025; Sara Foust, Community Service Office Director, explained to the Board that this training will be necessary to implement the Transition to Success case management model that will be implemented with other social service agencies in Codington County; all voted aye; motion carried.

SURPLUS OFFICE EQUIPMENT, RADIOS AND SALT/SPREADERS AT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to declare various keyboards, monitors, printers, NOAA weather radio, R-49 Astron RS-12A power inverter, various 2-way radios that no longer work, surplus to be destroyed; and Monroe 14' V-box spreader, model MSV 168-84-50, Monroe 14' V-box spreader, model MSV 168-84-50, Monroe 14' V-box spreader model MV 168-84-56 and Monroe 14' V-box spreader, model MV 168-84-56, surplus to be sold as scrap, as per request of interim Highway Superintendent, Lynn Solberg; all voted aye; motion carried.

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES COLA

Motion by Gabel, second by Johnson, to approve a 4% COLA, effective January 1, 2025, for all non-union County employees, excluding the Board of County Commissioners salaries, which will be approved at the Board's January 7th, 2025 meeting; all voted aye; motion carried.

EMPLOYEE UNION/NON-UNION CONTRACT SUMMARY

Human Resource Representative, Natalie Remund, presented the Board with a summary of negotiations and applicable changes for all employees (Union/Non Union), effective 1/1/2025, including but not limited to: all employees will receive a 4% COLA adjustment, increase sick leave payout upon retirement to 40%, or 480 hours, in the event of employee's death, the County will pay out forty percent (40%) of accumulated sick leave up to a maximum of 480 hours to the employee's estate, new employee insurance rate amounts. Highway Dept. – boot allowance of \$300.00 for the year. Sheriff's Dept. – new stipend amounts, on call compensation increase to \$180/week, uniform allowance increases to \$1100/year, paid on January check, increase vacation accrual limit for under 10 years to a maximum of 240 hours. Correctional Officers – part time shift differential to \$1.00/hour, uniform allowance increase to \$650/year, paid on January check. Note: the Union Contracts are 2-year contracts (1/1/2025-12/31/2026) with wage opener only for summer/fall 2025.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Board noted the Court House and all County Offices will be closed on Monday, December 23rd, Tuesday, December 24th, and Wednesday, December 25th, 2024; and Wednesday, January 1st, 2025; per previously adopted policy.

CLAIMS

Motion by Gabel, second by VanDusen, to approve for payment the following claim; all voted aye; motion carried. Trav's Outfitter, Inc. - \$621.10.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gabel updated the Board, there will be meetings with the architect, construction manager, Sheriff, and Chief Correctional Officer to discuss needs also referred to as space program, once the space program is completed the architect will begin working on blue prints; survey of the property has been completed, with a groundbreaking in the Spring of 2025.

OPEN

Public comments – Kyle G. Horst, editor of Watertown Current, reported to the Board that the Watertown Current is a new publication that reports on local news and also shared his appreciation to the Board for all that they do.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon conclusion of all business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Johnson, second by Gabel to adjourn at 9:55 a.m., all voted aye; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten

Codington County Auditor

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