

AGENDA
Codington County Board of County Commissioners
Codington County Court House, 14 1st Ave SE, Watertown, SD
Commission Chambers Room #114
9:00 a.m., January 7, 2025

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Call for public comment. Public comments may be submitted via telephone at 605-882-6297 or 605-882-6248**
3. **Conflict of interest items**
4. **Action to approve the January 7th, 2025, agenda**
5. **Action to approve the minutes of December 31st, 2024**
6. **Old Business**
7. **Action to adjourn sine-die**
8. **Newly elected and re-elected Commissioners take oaths of office**
9. **Nominations and action to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2025**
10. **Action to set Commissioner's salaries for 2025**
11. **Monthly reports**
 - a. **Extension**
 - b. **Veterans Service**
12. **Action to approve 2025 Zoning Services Contract**
13. **Year-end Planning and Zoning report**
14. **Discussion/possible action to appoint Commissioner Liaison/Board/Duty assignments**
15. **Action to designate legal papers for Codington County publications**
16. **Action to approve the list of employee cell phone stipends**
17. **Action to approve bank depositories for 2025 and authorize warrant signers**
18. **Action to advertise and hire a full-time Highway Maintenance Tech II position to fill a vacancy**
19. **Action to approve a notice to bidders for annual Highway supplies and Weed chemicals**
20. **Action to approve a weight and speed limit resolution #2025-1**
21. **Action to appoint Weed board members**

22. **Action to approve abatement applications**
23. **Action to approve claims for payment**
24. **Action to approve automatic budget supplements**
25. **Action to approve personnel changes**
26. **Action to approve travel requests**
27. **Public Notices – a possible quorum of Commissioners could be in attendance at:**
28. **Old Business**
29. **New Business**
30. **Open**
31. **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)**
32. **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**

January 7, 2025

The Codington County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at the Codington County Court House. Commission members present were: Lee Gabel, Myron Johnson, Troy VanDusen and Randall Schweer; absent Charlie Waterman; 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 January 7, 2025, agenda as posted; all voted aye; motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve the minutes of December 31, 2024; all voted aye; motion carried.

BOARD ADJOURNS SINE-DIE FOR 2024

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to adjourn sine-die, at 9:02 a.m., for the year ending 2024; all voted aye; motion carried.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Commissioners Troy VanDusen and Tyler McElhany, took their oaths of office.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Auditor, Brenda Hanten, called for nominations for Chair for 2025. Commissioner Gabel nominated Commissioner VanDusen, seconded by Commissioner Schweer. There were no other nominations forthcoming. Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner VanDusen; all voted aye; motion carried. Chair VanDusen then called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Gabel nominated Commissioner Schweer, second by Commissioner McElhany. There were no other nominations forthcoming. Motion by Gabel, second by Johnson, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Schweer; all voted aye; motion carried.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2024 WAGE

Motion by Johnson, second by McElhany, to increase Commissioners salaries, 4% over the 2024 rate of \$2,144.02, the same increase provided to all County employees in 2025, resulting in a salary of \$2,229.78 per month for 2025, a substitute Motion by Gabel to increase the salary by 2% as budgeted, which died due to a lack of a second; Johnson, Schweer, VanDusen and McElhany voted aye; Gabel voted no; motion carried. Additional compensation of \$100.00 per month for Board Chair was discussed, no one made a motion to do so.

MONTHLY REPORTS

4-H/Youth Program Advisor, Jodi Loehrer, updated the Board: shooting sports archery & BB gun will begin this week with 31 in BB gun, 51 in archery and 16 in air pistol/air rifle will continue on Tuesday and Thursday nights through April, thank you to the shooting sports volunteers; Farm Show prep is underway for the 4-H Leader's three lunch counters, will need volunteers to help with the lunch counters, community members can call the office to volunteer to help, there is also open class quilts and photography, a Farm Safety Poster Contest and a Youth LEGO contest; NE 4-H Calf Show will be held at the conclusion of the Farm Show on Saturday, February 15, it is open to youth in the NE SD Counties of: Brookings, Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Marshall, Roberts, and Spink Counties; there are 20 families – 42 youth, participating in the Food, Fun and 4-H program to learn recipes and cook at home with their family; members are still enrolling and re-enrolling in 4-H for the new year.

ZONING SERVICES CONTRACT

Zoning Officer, Luke Muller reviewed a letter of agreement, between Codington County and the First District Association of Local Governments, for zoning services in 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$33,000.00, plus mileage costs projected at \$0.670 per mile not to exceed \$650.00. The Zoning Officer noted this contract is identical to the 2024 agreement other than the rate increase. Motion by Johnson, second by Schweer, to authorize Chair Schweer to sign the letter of agreement between Codington County and the First District Association of Local Governments for administrative and technical assistance to the Codington County Planning Commission and County Commissioners in the area of zoning, beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025; all voted aye; motion carried.

ANNUAL PLANNING/ZONING BOARD REPORT

Zoning Officer, Luke Muller, reported year-end statistics: Building permits issued 122, estimated value of construction \$18,233,168; new residences 19; fees from building permits \$37,690. 32 Variance/conditional use permit applications processed; and \$3,550.00 collected from fees for special meetings and variance, conditional use, and rezoning applications. The Zoning Officer advised the Board that Board of Adjustment fees should be increased to bring Codington County into line with current costs and comparable fees charged by neighboring Counties.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Gabel suggested to have this added to the January 14th, 2025 Board meeting to give more time to decide some of the assignments.

LEGAL NEWS PAPERS

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to designate, per SDCL 7-18-3, legal newspapers, the Watertown Public Opinion and South Shore Gazette, for Codington County 2025 publications, all voted aye; motion carried.

EMPLOYEE CELL PHONE STIPENDS

Motion by Gabel, second by Schweer to approve the cell phone stipend list for 2025 based on each applicable employee's salary classification per the wage scale; all voted aye; motion carried.

**2025
ANNUAL REQUEST FOR CELL PHONE STIPENDS**

EMPLOYEE	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT
Bakken, Alison	25.00	States Attorney
Case, Jeff	25.00	Highway
Dargatz, Matt	25.00	Highway
Dolen, Jamie	25.00	Highway
Escamilla, Maria	40.00	Detention Center
Falvey, Randy	40.00	Highway
Halajian, Justin	40.00	Detention Center
Hartley, Ron	25.00	Ag. Building
Hedding, Dave	25.00	Highway
Hedges, James	25.00	Ag. Building
Kallhoff, Mitch	25.00	Highway
Kohn, Rich	25.00	Govt. Bldg.
Kosak, Erik	25.00	Highway
Miller, Klayton	25.00	Highway
Nills, Shawn	40.00	Detention Center
Pauli, Thomas	40.00	Director Equalization
Pederson, Michelle	40.00	Director Equalization
Riter, Robyn	25.00	Highway
Rounds, Harold	25.00	Highway
Schwinger, Brad	25.00	Highway
Sears, Melissa	40.00	Director Equalization
Selchert, Heidi	40.00	Director Equalization
Solberg, Lynn	40.00	Highway
Stahlke, Steve	25.00	Detention Center
Swanson, Scott	25.00	Ag. Building
Torstenson, Doug	25.00	Highway
Torstenson, James	20.00	Emergency Management
Vogelsang, Lonie	25.00	Highway

BANK DEPOSITORIES

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve bank depositories for 2025; as submitted by Treasurer, Carol Maloney; all voted aye; motion carried: Reliabank Dakota will continue to be used for checking and the depositing of cash. The following banks will be authorized to sell the County certificates of deposit and for investments at competitive bids: American Bank & Trust, Dacotah Bank, First Bank & Trust, First Premier Bank, First Interstate Bank, Minnwest Bank, Plains Commerce Bank, Reliabank Dakota, SD Fit, and Wells Fargo Bank. The list of Authorized warrant signers will be staff from the Treasurers' Office and Auditor's Office and said list will be secured in the Auditor's Office for security purposes.

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE TECH II POSITION

Motion by Gabel, second by Johnson, to advertise to hire full-time Highway Maintenance Tech II Position, due to a promotion within; Human Resource Representative, Natalie Remund and Highway Supt., Randy Falvey, informed the Board that this position will be a pay grade 25/\$22.35 up to \$29.32/per hour, will advertise internally and externally until filled; all voted aye; motion carried.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS' ANNUAL HIGHWAY SUPPLIES AND WEED CHEMICALS

Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany to authorize a notice to bidders for annual Highway supplies and Weed Chemicals; all voted aye; motion carried. Bids will be opened and announced at the Board's meeting on Tuesday, February 18th, 2025; all voted aye; motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-1

CODINGTON COUNTY WEIGHT & SPEED LIMIT ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, the County of Codington, South Dakota, is responsible for the maintenance of certain highways under its jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the Codington County Board of Commissioners, desires to protect existing Codington County Highways, ultimately saving tax dollars, and

WHEREAS, said highways, by reason of seasonal climatic changes, will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless vehicle weight and speed restrictions are imposed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the limits on Codington County roads shall be forty miles per hour, truck speed limit, and a maximum load limit shall be seven (7) tons per axle on all asphalt surfaced roads, during the Spring thaw period, effective from February 15th, 2025, to May 1st, 2025 inclusive, when limit signs are posted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Codington requests and authorizes the South Dakota Highway Patrol to enforce weight limitations and speed restrictions, as established by this resolution, on Codington County roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be as set forth in SDCL 32-22-55.

Moved for adoption by Commissioner Gabel, second by Commissioner Johnson, all present voted aye; motion carried.

Dated this 7th day of January, 2025, at Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota.

Troy VanDusen
Codington County Commission Chair

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten
Codington County Auditor

WEED BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve the following Weed Board appointments: Re-appoint Jim Thyen and Bret Henricks, and newly appointed Melvin Ries, for 3 year terms; Arlen Boehnke retired Board member; all voted aye; motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

Motion by Gabel, second by Schweer, to approve the following travel requests: Weed & Pest Dept. staff to attend the Weed & Pest Conference, and Farm Show; all voted aye; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Gabel noted that the Jail design team will meet to focus on the site analysis and nail down a time line for the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gabel noted that staff from the Boys and Girls Club will attend the January 14th, 2025 to discuss the JDAI programming and JJRI funds.

OPEN

Public Comments - Rita Brownlee addressed the Board with her concerns about the Co2 pipeline.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon conclusion of all business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Johnson, second by Schweer to adjourn at 9:44 a.m., all voted aye; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten

Codington County Auditor

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