

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, April 07, 2026

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Call for public comments. 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 April 07, 2026, agenda**
5. **Action to approve March 24, 2026, minutes of the Board of Codington County Commissioners**
6. **Monthly Reports**
 - a. **4-H Educator**
 - b. **Veteran Service Officer**
7. **Action to approve to advertise and hire seasonal Memorial Park technician**
8. **Action to approve Delta Dental Insurance renewal rates and County/Employee splits**
9. **Note the Board will meet as a County Board of Equalization at 1:00 PM, April 14, at the Court House**
10. **Note the Board will meet as a Consolidated Board of Equalization at 6:30 PM, April 14, in the chambers of Watertown City Council**
11. **Action to approve abatement applications**
12. **Action to approve claims for payment**
13. **Action to approve automatic budget supplements**
14. **Action to approve personnel changes**
15. **Action to approve travel requests**
16. **Public Notices – a possible quorum of Commissioners could be in attendance at:**
 - a. **Sioux Valley Commissioners meeting, Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 12:00 p.m., DeSmet, SD**
17. **Old Business**
18. **New Business**
19. **Open**
 - a. **Public Comments**
 - b. **Commission Comments**
20. **Action to enter into Executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2**
 - (1) **Discussion of personnel issues (SDCL 1-25-2(1))**
 - (2) **Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters (SDCL 1-25-2(3))**
 - (3) **Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives (SDCL 1-25-2(4))**
 - (4) **Discussion of pricing or marketing strategies when public disclosure may harm the competitive position of the county owned business (SDCL 1-25-2(5))**

(5) Discussion of information pertaining to the protection of public or private property (SDCL 1-25-2(6))

21. 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**

March 24, 2026

The Codington County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at the Codington County Court House. Commission members present were: Lee Gabel, Tyler McElhany, Myron Johnson, Randall Schweer, and Troy VanDusen; VanDusen, presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST ITEMS

Chair VanDusen 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 Gabel, second by McElhany, to approve the agenda for March 24, 2026, as posted; all voted aye; motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Johnson, second by Schweer, to approve the minutes of March 17, 2026; all voted aye; motion carried.

APPROVAL TO SELL ALCOHOL AT EXTENSION FOR A WEDDING EVENT

Carla Coplan met with the Board to request authorization for alcohol sales at the Coplan/Bach wedding scheduled for July 18, 2026, at the Codington County Extension Center Complex. The liquor license held by Cloud 9 will be transferred for this event. Cloud 9 will be regulating all alcohol sales, security, and minor control. Motion by Johnson, second by McElhany, to approve the request for alcohol sales on July 18, 2026, at the Extension Center Complex, as requested; all voted aye; motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Glen Vilhauer, District V Senator, met with the Board to update them on some of the bills that passed during the session which there is only 1 day remaining. Property tax and election bills once again were a couple of the top topics. Glen mentioned that it was a challenging session. Commissioner Johnson commended Glen for good job that he has done.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Emergency Management Director, Andrew Delgado, updated the Board: Fire Chiefs meeting discussing mutual aid – came with a new way forward; discussed Code Red with local radio stations; did an ICS overview for National Guard Leadership; hosted a roundtable discussion on how they would fit into local response efforts with leaders and local responders; LEPC meeting; attended the annual township meeting to discuss Crisis Track, got a couple more permissions to set up, the training is scheduled for tonight at 6:30 p.m. for townships and tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. for city, county and municipal utilities; the first spring hydrologic outlook was released with no surprises, lower than average chance of flooding this spring; coordinated with local partners due to the forecasted blizzard the weekend of the Girls State Basketball Tournament, talked with school staff and arranged for Red Cross and state shelter trailers to be staged there, got permission for the use of both trailers, Search and Rescue staged the snowcat at the Fire Department; applied for the Homeland Security Grant and Cheri applied for the

HEMP; weather spotter training is open to the public, it is scheduled for April 8th, 2026, with one session at 1:00 pm, the other at 6 pm, at the Codington County Extension Center, classes last about 2 hours.

WORSHIP SERVICES AT MEMORIAL PARK

Motion by Johnson, second by Schweer, to allow the Lutheran Church of our Redeemer to conduct worship services at Memorial Park during the 2026 park season, in the picnic area on Sundays from Memorial Weekend, through Labor Day Weekend, the worship services begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at approximately around 10:30 a.m.; all voted aye; motion carried.

SD DOT NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL CONTRACT

Motion by Johnson, second by McElhany, to authorize the Chair to sign the contract with the SDDOT to authorize the County Weed Dept. to provide noxious weed control in 2026 within the State highway right of way for an estimated cost of \$32,395.00; all voted aye; motion carried.

CONTRACT TO ASSIST WITH COMMUNITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to authorize the Chair to sign a contract with Production Monkeys, to assist with the Community Awareness Campaign, for up to \$40,000 per year which will be covered utilizing the SD Opioid Settlement funding grant, Community Service Director, Sara Foust, appeared before the Board to explain the details of the grant; all voted aye; motion carried.

SURPLUS OFFICE EQUIPMENT AT CODINGTON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany, to declare the following office equipment, at the Codington County Extension Service Office, surplus to be destroyed: 1- Kensington Keyboard, S/N E1029A004950; all voted aye; motion carried.

RESOLUTION TO COMBINE PRIMARY ELECTION PRECINCTS

Auditor, Brenda Hanten, presented the Board with a resolution to combine voting precincts for the 2026 June 2, 2026, Primary Election in Codington County. The Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2026-07

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Codington County, South Dakota, is required by the provision of SDCL 12-14-1 to provide for election precincts throughout the County and shall designate polling places within such precincts; and

WHEREAS, a Primary Election is to be held on June 2, 2026, and where the Board of County Commissioners may change the boundaries of election precincts already established and where it has been determined it would be in the best interest of County taxpayers to combine some of the current precincts for said election.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following precincts are established for the 2026 Primary Election to be held on June 2, 2026

- Precinct A1, A2, A3, A4 & D1
- Precinct B1, B2, B3, B4, C1, & E5
- Precinct C2, D2, D3, & D4 & Elmira Township
- Precinct, C3, C4 & Pelican Township
- Precinct E1, E2, E3, E4, & Lake Township
- Dexter Township

Eden & Phipps Townships & Wallace Village
Fuller Township & Florence Village
Germantown and Rauville Townships
Graceland & Henry Townships & Henry Village
Kampeska & Richland Townships
Kranzburg Township & Village
Leola Township & South Shore Village
Sheridan Township
Waverly Township

The above and foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Commissioner Johnson, second by Commissioner McElhany, all voted aye; motion carried.

Dated this 24th day of March 2026

Troy VanDusen

County Commission Chair

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten

Auditor

COUNTY AND CONSOLIDATED BOARDS OF EQUALIZATION

The Board noted that the County Board of Equalization will meet at 1:00 p.m., April 14th, 2026, at the Court House and the Consolidated Board of Equalization will meet at 6:30 p.m., April 14th, 2026, in the chambers of the Watertown City Council.

EASTER HOLIDAY

The Board noted the Court House, and all County offices will be closed on Friday, April 3rd, 2026, and Monday, April 6th, 2026, in observance of the Easter Holiday.

NOTE NO BOARD MEETING

Due to previously adopted policy the Board will not meet Tuesday, March 31st, 2026.

CLAIMS

Motion by McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve for payment the following claims: LEWIS & CLARK BHS 450.00 SVC, MINNEHAHA COUNTY AUDITOR 843.77 SVC, STEVE'S WORLD 12170.83 EQUIP, all voted aye; motion carried.

Motion by McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve for payment the following jail claims: Beckenhaurer Construction 1,569,846.19, Architecture Inc., 26,082.00, Geotek 868.00, Tegra Group 20,998.30; all voted aye; motion carried.

Motion by McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve for payment the following claim: SV Commissioner meeting/Kingsbury County 70.00; all voted aye; motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion by McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve the following travel request: Veteran Service office staff to attend conference; Community Service office staff to attend training, and Director of Equalization office staff to attend meeting; all voted aye; motion carried.

Codington County, 24 March 2026

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Gabel provided a construction update on the new jail. The steel columns and beams erection is progressing well; Commissioner Gabel and Commissioner Schweer toured the plant where the precast walls are manufactured.

OPEN

Public Comments – Ryan Kohl, candidate for District 4, State Representative introduced himself to the Board.

Commission Comments – Commissioner Johnson will be attending the SD State Retirement meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Schweer, second by McElhany, to enter executive session, per SDCL 1-25-2 (2) Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters (SDCL 1-25-2(2)) at 9:38 a.m.; all voted aye; motion carried. The Board returned to regular session at 10:07 a.m., and no action was taken. Veteran Service Officer, Jay Roberts, Facility Manager, Steve Molengraaf, and Auditor, Brenda Hanten, were present for executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon conclusion of all business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Johnson; second by Gabel to adjourn at 10:08 a.m.; all voted aye; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten
Codyington County Auditor

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

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$ _____

March 2026

Commissioners: 12,482.75 total salaries. Auditor: 25,194.62 total salaries. Co. Treasurer: 50,801.55 total salaries. States Attorney: 60,935.59 total salaries. Gov. Buildings: 22,571.99 total salaries. Dir. Equalization: 62,580.60 total salaries. Reg. of Deeds: 33,613.97 total salaries. Veterans Service: 13,349.31 total salaries. Sheriff: 150,682.71 total salaries. Jail: 174,728.05 total salaries. Coroner: 5,167.20 total salaries. Welfare: 38,768.49 total salaries. CO. Nurse: 6,456.62 total salaries. Park: 0 total salaries. Ag. Bldg.: 13,391.03 total salaries. Co. Extension: 14,573.75 total salaries. Weed: 6,413.70 total salaries. Planning Board: 0 total salaries. Road & Bridge: 125,326.20 total salaries. Emergency Management: 16,896.53 total salaries. Crime Victim: 9,332.90 total salaries. W.I.C.: 5,939.65 total salaries. 24/7: 8,060.46 total salaries Total 857,267.67

Breakdown of withholding amounts which are included in the above:

S.D. Retirement 82,068.84; VSP 977.06 eye insurance; S.D. Supplemental Retire. 5,405.00 suppl. retire.; Sanford 116,761.85; Reliance Standard Life Insurance 1228.67 life ins.; Delta Dental 7,738.70 ins.; Codington County 8,513.83 employee HSA contribution; AFSCME Council 65 535.60 employee union dues; AFLAC 4,165.63.; VSP 443.05 eye insurance; John Hancock 3,515.00 suppl. retire.; AFLAC 1,727.40 ins.; Sioux Valley Credit Union 21,318.60 employee payments; John Hancock Roth 400.00 suppl. retire.; SDRS Supplemental Retirement 5,000.00 Roth retirement; Teamsters Local Union 120 469.00 employee union due; Codington County Deputy Sheriff's Association 135.00 employee union dues; ReliaBank Dakota 57,237.05 federal withholding; ReliaBank Dakota 77,668.28 social security; ReliaBank Dakota 18,164.46 Medicare; United Way 25.00 employee contributions; Health Equity 8,513.83 employee HSA contribution.

PERSONNEL TRANSACTION - NEW HIRE/CHANGE OF STATUS

EMPLOYEE NAME : Name Jacob Redman		DATE: 3/25/2026
EFFECTIVE DATE: 4/1/2026	POSITION TITLE: Corrections Officer Part Time	DEPARTMENT: Jail
CURRENT STEP:	NEW STEP: Step 1	
CURRENT PAY RATE:	NEW PAY RATE: \$27.66	
REASONS FOR CHANGE: New hire		

✓ EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE Jacob Redman

✓ DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE [Signature]

✓ DATE 3-25


COUNTY COMMISSIONERS _____

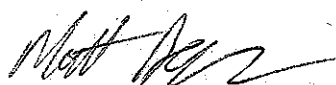
DATE _____

PLEASE SUBMIT FORM TO THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE OR ANNIVERSARY DATE.

PERSONNEL TRANSACTION - NEW HIRE/CHANGE OF STATUS

EMPLOYEE NAME : Name Edwin Henry		DATE: 3/5/2026
EFFECTIVE DATE: 4-1-26	POSITION TITLE: Corrections Officer Part Time	DEPARTMENT: Jail
CURRENT STEP:	NEW STEP: Step 1	
CURRENT PAY RATE:	NEW PAY RATE: \$27.66	
REASONS FOR CHANGE: New hire		

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE 

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE 

DATE 3-25-26

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS _____

DATE _____

PLEASE SUBMIT FORM TO THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE OR ANNIVERSARY DATE.

CODINGTON COUNTY

INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEE TRAVEL REQUEST

Department Emergency Management

Name of traveling employee _____

Employee title _____ Employee status exempt _____ nonexempt

Purpose of travel Region 2 Exercise

Method of transportation County Vehicle - EM pickup

Destination _____

Departure date and time _____ Destination arrival date and time _____

Return departure date and time _____ Return arrival date and time _____

Costs of travel

Conveyance expense (airplane, vehicle mileage, vehicle rental, etc.) Fuel

Lodging expense None

Meals \$18⁰⁰ Lunch x1 Registration —

Other costs —

Overtime costs involved in the requested travel None - Flexed or Comp

Can the traveling employee's hours be flexed to reduce or eliminate overtime costs? Yes

Yes No _____ If no, why _____

Is this travel a budgeted item? Yes No _____

County Commission

Travel request approved: yes _____ no _____ Comments _____

Commission Chairman, _____ Date _____

FILED

APR 01 2026