

GREGORY COUNTY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

A special meeting of the Gregory County Commission was held Tuesday August 13, 2019 at 10 a.m. in Burke, South Dakota with the following members present: Myron Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Jessy Biggins, Kelsea Sutton, and Bob Hausmann. Also present: Julie Bartling, Auditor; Brad Christensen, EM Director; and Brad Ellwanger, Highway Superintendent.

The meeting was called for the purpose of assessing the storm damages that occurred due to the August 6, 2019 tornado and the August 9, 2019 excessive rain fall.

Courthouse Damage: Julie Bartling, Auditor reviewed the damages the Courthouse and Records Storage Building received due to the tornado that hit the City of Burke. An adjuster from Claims Associates, Inc. of Sioux Falls has been on site several times working to identify damages and appropriate estimates to repair such.

County Truck Shop Damage: Brad Ellwanger, Highway Superintendent discussed the destruction of the county truck shed, the minimal damage to several vehicles and the need to rebuild the structure. Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Bob Hausmann to authorize the Highway Superintendent to advertise for construction bids for a replacement truck shed at the Highway Department site in Burke. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Disaster Declaration: Motion by Kelsea Sutton, second by Jeff Johnson to offer the following amended disaster declaration:

EXCESSIVE RAIN/FLOODING/TORNADO DISASTER DECLARATION (AMENDED)

WHEREAS, heavy rains and flooding have once again devastated Gregory County and a tornado has caused considerable destruction to the City of Burke, South Dakota and surrounding rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, the excessive moisture and flash flooding of August 2, 2019, and heavy rains received on August 9, 2019, continues to cause extensive damage to roads, bridges, dams, farm sites, and farm ground; and,

WHEREAS, damage of roads, bridges, dams, farm sites, and farm ground continues to add to the financial burden of the farmers and ranchers of Gregory County, and;

WHEREAS, a tornado on the night of August 6, 2019, caused extensive damage to the City of Burke and surrounding rural areas, destroying businesses, homes, trees and personal property, and damaging many of the businesses and homes throughout the city and surrounding rural areas;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gregory County Board of Commissioners to declare Gregory County a disaster area due to the excessive rain and flash flooding damage of August 2, 2019 and August 9, 2019, and due to the tornado damage to the City of Burke and surrounding rural areas on August 6, 2019; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to urge the Gregory County FSA committee and the Governor of the State of South Dakota to take appropriate action to prohibit any further economic injury to Gregory County producers.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2019, at Burke, South Dakota.

Upon call for vote, all members present voted aye. Amended Disaster Declaration Resolution passed.

Carpet Quotes: Motion by Kelsea Sutton, second by Jeff Johnson to reject the previously submitted carpet quotes and to request new quotations due to additional rooms receiving damage from glass and tree debris caused by the tornado of August 6, 2019. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Emergency Purchases: Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Jeff Johnson to declare that the Gregory County Courthouse and the Records Storage Building have immediate needs to be repaired to assure safety of the employees and to prevent any further damage to the structures and its contents per SDCL 5-18A-9. It is further motioned to authorize Julie Bartling, Auditor, to receive quotations for necessary repairs and replacements and to keep all necessary records per SDCL 5-18A-10. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Kelsea Sutton to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST: _____
Julie Bartling, Gregory Co. Auditor

Myron Johnson, Chair