

Gregory County Commission Proceedings

The regular meeting of the Gregory County Commission was held Monday, September 16, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Burke with the following members present: Jessy Biggins, Byrain Boes (via telephone) and Doug Janousek. Members absent: Lance Matucha and Jeff Johnson. Also present: Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor and Patty Connealy, Gregory Times Advocate.

Chair Jessy Biggins called the meeting to order and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to approve the agenda as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024 meeting as read. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conflicts of Interest: The Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest from members present. None were notated.

Ex-Parte Communications: The Chair inquired if there have been any ex-parte communications by any member present. None were notated.

Public Input: The Chair opened the meeting for public input.

Mark Tuttle, Pastor of the Lucas Baptist Church, met with the Board to relay the Church's plans to extend their parking lot, whereby the Church will want to relocate the road on the south side of the property. The project will not likely happen until next spring. The Board will check into what procedures are necessary for moving a road on the south side of the existing property.

GF&P Trapper's Report: Brent Vander Ley, Trapper for the Game, Fish and Parks, met with the Board to present his annual report for the past year. It was reported that the number of calls for coyote nuisances were much higher this spring. The Board thanked Mr. Vander Ley for the report.

Gregory County 2025-2029 5-year Highway & Bridge Improvement Plan: The public hearing for the 2025-2029 5-year Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan was held at 9:30 a.m. as advertised.

Tyler Plumbtree, Interim Highway Superintendent, went through the projects slated for each year of the plan, discussing each and the importance of such. The Commission reviewed the project listings and the maps attached for each year's proposals.

Individuals present for the hearing were the Patty Connealy, Richard Bruns, Kimberly Bruns, Richard Rubel, Ray Stevicks and Bill Warnkvist. There were no public comments on the proposed plan.

The Chair closed the public hearing. The finalization of the plan will be held October 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Rural Access Infrastructure Plan-Small Structure Program for Organized and Unorganized Townships:

Tyler Plumbtree, Interim Highway Superintendent, presented the 5-Year Small Structure Improvement Plan for the Unorganized Townships and any projects for the organized townships.

Total 2025 funding expectations from the Rural Access Infrastructure Funds for the unorganized townships is \$108,000 and \$16,800 for the organized township of Edens. For years 2026 – 2029, the funding expectations are \$352,160 for the unorganized townships and \$152,800 for the organized townships of Dixon, Edens, Fairfax Civil, Landing Creek and Schriever.

Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to accept the 5-year plan for the small structure program and proceed with the application process for said projects for the year 2025. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

2025 Annual Budget Adoption: The Chair opened up the meeting for discussion of the 2025 Gregory County Annual Budget finalization.

The Board reviewed various budgets, noting that salaries will be budgeted at 4% plus longevity pay. The following changes were made from the Provisional Budget to the Annual Budget:

<u>Department/Line Item:</u>	<u>Provisional:</u>	<u>Annual:</u>
Commissioners	\$ 104,483	\$ 102,385
Auditor	117,629	117,038
Treasurer	153,114	152,942
States Attorney	124,377	121,459
Courthouse	282,368	216,875
Director of Equalization	202,220	172,428
Register of Deeds	138,678	129,034
Veterans Service Officer	25,946	20,558
Sheriff	575,976	508,333
Solid Waste	192,911	133,172
County Nurse	61,114	60,771
4-H/Extension	76,400	77,228
Weed	181,156	116,221
Planning & Zoning	22,320	25,326
Road & Bridge	4,273,089	3,870,409
911 Service	83,000	87,000
EM & DS	36,734	35,556
Courthouse Building	0	2,600,336
Elections	1,840	1,843
Courts	25,000	21,000
Senior Dining	10,400	10,440
Transfers Out	1,555,000	1,075,000

The finalization of the budget will be held later in the meeting.

2024 Sheriff's Budget Discussion: Sheriff's Deputy Cody Spann and Sheriff Tim Drey met with the Board to discuss reallocation of unused salary to the certified officers in the form of bonuses at the end of the

year. The officers have been filling in extra hours in the absence of a deputy who resigned in July. The Board will address this at the end of the year.

Lucas Baptist Church Parking Lot Discussion: Don Even met with the Board to express his concerns about water drainage from the proposed Lucas Baptist Church parking lot onto his property. The Board advised Mr. Even that no approval was given to relocate the road. Further conversations will take place regarding this project.

State Highway Project Easements: Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to authorize the Chair to sign an Amendment to Agreement Number 511789 (Parcel Acquisition of Lot H-3 in the SW4 of section 28, T95N, R68W, except US Hwy 18 right of way therein, containing .43 acre (18,638 sq. ft.), more or less); and to sign the Right of Way Agreement for the same described property. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Doug Janousek to enter into executive session at 10:52 a.m. to discuss personnel. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to adjourn from executive session at 11:16 a.m. with no action taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adoption of 2025 Annual Budget: Upon review of the budgets presented for 2025, motion Doug Janousek, second by Byrain Boes to offer the following resolution adopting the 2025 Gregory County Annual Budget:

RESOLUTION:

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET FOR
Gregory County, South Dakota

Whereas, (7-21-5 thru 13), SDCL provides that the Board of County Commissioners shall each year prepare a Provisional Budget of all contemplated expenditures and revenues of the County and all its institutions and agencies for such fiscal year and, Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners did prepare a Provisional Budget and cause same to be published by law, and Whereas, due and legal notice has been given to the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for the consideration of such Provisional Budget and all changes, eliminations and additions have been made thereto.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That such provisional budget as amended and all its purposes, schedules, appropriations, amounts, estimates and all matters therein set forth, SHALL BE APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURES FOR Gregory County, South Dakota and all its institutions and agencies for calendar year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025 and the same is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Gregory County, South Dakota, this 16th day of September, 2024. The Annual Budget so adopted is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the county

auditor Gregory County, South Dakota. The accompanying taxes are levied by Gregory County for the year January 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2025.

COUNTY TAX LEVIES:	DOLLARS	\$'s/1,000
WITHIN LIMITED LEVY:		
General County Purposes (10-12-9)	\$ 2,892,200	\$ 3.753
OUTSIDE LIMITED LEVY:		
Courthouse Building (7-25-1)	\$ 192,500	\$ 0.250
OTHER SPECIAL LEVIES:		
Secondary Roads (31-12-27)	\$ 218,400	\$ 0.546
Fire Protection (34-31-3)	\$ 72,571	\$ 0.094

Upon roll call: Lance Matucha-absent; Byrain Boes-aye; Doug Janousek-aye; Jeff Johnson-absent; and Jessy Biggins-aye. Resolution passed.

Adjourn: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Doug Janousek to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST: _____
Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor

Jessy Biggins, Chair