

Regular Meeting Minutes
Butte County Courthouse
Commission Meeting Room
839 5th Avenue
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Tuesday, February 03, 2026

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, February 03, 2026. Commissioners present were Erk, Brunner, Batterman, Kari, and Ager.

Chair Erk called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Batterman, Second by Brunner to adopt the meeting agenda with addition of Executive Session Personnel 1-25-2 (1) at 11.5 Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Pastor Rick Brennan led in a moment of prayer.

Beginning at 9:32 AM, the opportunity for public comments was opened, with Dale Simanton and Bud Harris speaking on public perception of government corruption, current legislation to recall elected officials, and acknowledgment/appreciation of work done by the Highway Department.

Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce Director Mikayla Horn gave an activity report including a Strategic Report that will be provided soon, Cracker Barrel, and upcoming events. Sabrina Harmon with Whatever it Takes also commented on the Cracker Barrel held in Newell. There were over 2000 views on the live feed.

Motion by Brunner, Second by Kari, to approve the Consent Agenda Items with no changes. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Jail and court-appointed costs were high in December.

Consent Agenda - The following items were placed on the consent agenda for final action to be taken on all items by a single vote. Any item may be removed from the consent agenda by any member of the Commission for separate consideration.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Regular meeting minutes – 20Jan2026
- b. Bills per Printout
- c. Apportioning and Other Payments
- d. Auditor's Monthly Settlement with Treasurer

**AUDITOR'S MONTHLY SETTLEMENT WITH TREASURER
BUTTE COUNTY
December 31, 2025**

CHECKING/SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Wells Fargo Checking	\$	-	
First Interstate Bank	\$	2,177,879.51	
Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	51,065.95	
Total Checking/Savings Accounts			\$ 2,228,945.46

INVESTOR ACCOUNTS

Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	50,336.17	
First Interstate Bank	\$	371,367.70	
Total Investor Accounts			\$ 421,703.87

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

First National Bank	\$	3,081,883.87	
First Interstate Bank	\$	1,339,370.64	
Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	1,376,694.51	
Total Certificates of Deposit			\$ 5,797,949.02
Cash on Hand			\$ 1,745.00

engineers. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Dispatch Supervisor Julia Day gave a January activity report including types of calls, answer times, and comparison to December. Low fire calls, and flooring completed. Keith replaced ceiling tiles, and the filters need to be cleaned. State phone system to be updated in May.

Sheriff Lamphere introduced Rick White and Caleb Cheney from Whites Electric and provided information regarding the history and needs of the current emergency backup system. Rick White and Caleb Cheney gave an overview of the system for public safety answering points (PSAP). Recommendation is to separate the critical operation supply from the rest of the courthouse and to get a feasibility study completed. Two quotes were provided: ASCO – \$10,000 ARC test and \$50,000 feasibility study and West Plains Engineering in Rapid City - \$5,700.

Insurance company could do an audit. PSAPs talked about consolidating.

Motion Batterman, Second Ager, to hire West Plains Engineering to conduct a study of our emergency backup center. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Recess was taken at 10:42 AM. Meeting reconvened at 10:50 AM.

State's Attorney Tim Barnaud gave an activity report, including the number of cases, types of cases, and jail numbers.

Auditor Capp provided an activity report including 2026 election activities, 2026 property tax bill status, annual report, and new IT services. Foam on front steps to be inspected by building maintenance.

Motion Ager, Second Kari to accept the 2025 Butte County Report Fair Board Report. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Auditor Capp provided the 2026 Payable 2027 CPI from DOR – 2.5%.

Motion Brunner, Second Kari to authorize Chairman Erk and Auditor Capp to sign the City/School Combined Election Agreements for the 2026 Election. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

A discussion was held regarding conflicting scheduled dates for commission meetings and court trials. A meeting will be set for February 5th at 2:00 PM with Judge Day, Court Services, Clerk of Courts and SA Barnaud.

Motion by Ager, Second by Brunner to enter into Executive Session: Personnel 1-25-2(1) at 11:13 AM. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Exited Executive Session at 12:18 PM. There was no action as a result of the Executive Session.

Committee Reports were given –

- Ager/Kari - Ambulance – James elected chair, bookkeeping issues have been resolved, Newell ambulance arrived.
- Batterman - Railroad Authority project going full bore, elected officers: Batterman is secretary/treasurer.
- Brunner - BH Local Governments – plans to use more as a resource
- Erk - Fair board – quotes received for siding (16-18,000 for barns, 50,000 for Pavilion). Raised premiums for 4H projects. Budget \$100,000 for 2027 budget to do work on Pavillion.

Old Business - Motion Ager, Second by Batterman to approve New Application Retail (On-Off Sale) Malt Beverage Sunday Sales for Silver Spur Ranch LLC. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Informational

- Batterman reviewed security issues at the County Highway Shop. Estimate received from Wishbone Fencing in the amount of \$52,760.00. Ask Keith to inspect to see what needs to

be done to fix the fence and paint. Bring information and pictures to the 17Feb2026 meeting.

Motion by Brunner, Second by Ager to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 P.M. Vote Unanimous.
Motion Carried.

PAYMENTS

SALARY

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE/PLANNING \$7,670.72, AUDITOR'S OFFICE \$14,286.83, BUILDING- \$1,282.50, COMMISSIONERS \$4,173.46, DISPATCH \$20,583.98, ELECTION- \$0, EM/911 \$1,018.54, EXTENSION \$1,994.40, HIGHWAY DEPT/WEED CONTROL \$33,276.81, JUDICIA- \$0, NURSE'S/WIC OFFICE \$0, REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE \$4,934.73, SHERIFF/JAIL DEPT \$29,454.90, STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE \$16,782.18, TREASURER'S OFFICE \$10,884.91, VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE \$905.22

COUNTY SHARE FICA

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$11,264.56

SDRS RETIREMENT

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$8,267.17

GROUP INSURANCE

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$0

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

A-Z SHRDNG \$50.00, JRORS \$955.20, ALPNE MPRSNS \$96.00, ARCHTCTRL SPCLTS \$1,687.25, BH COLG \$5,685.00, RPD CTY \$80.00, CLBTH \$408.90, CO DRG \$611.63, EAST RVR PSYCH \$2,500.00, FSH WNDW \$186.00, HVY CNSTRCTRS \$96,740.74, HILLS NTRIRS \$2,676.19, JACQLYN NLSN \$100.00, KARN HNT \$1,250.00, KTHRN DLHD \$313.60, KNNY LW \$2,415.48, MEAD CO ADTR \$39,140.00, MIKE WLBR \$2,800.00, NLSN LW \$1,771.16, PTNY BWS \$160.63, RDWTR 4-H \$50.00, R BCHMN \$60.00, RSHMR COMM \$702.00, SCHLMGN LW \$3,288.40, SDML WRKRS COMP \$50,730.00, SUZI RYN \$60.00, TNA HGEN \$60.00, WCKRLE LW \$15,416.95, YLW ROBE \$1,800.00, YNGBRG LW \$240.00

PUBLICATIONS

BH PIONEER \$584.58

RENT/LEASE

A&B BSNSS SLTNS \$247.87, CBP \$1,056.12, DJ CNSTRCTN \$2800.00, RELX \$367.00, THMSN RTRS \$371.97

REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE

BH WNDSHLD \$255.00, G & R CNTRLS \$4,596.08, WEST TIRE \$26.35, WHITES ELCTRCL \$86.50

SUPPLIES

A&J CLTHNG \$145.00, ADRY PRUT \$207.20, BH AMMO \$1366.80, BUTTE CO EQPMT \$1,109.85, DKTA LMBR \$50.83, E&M PIPE \$194.00, MCLEOD'S \$365.09, NWL SRVC CNTR \$1,292.00, OFFC MPRM \$106.70, PHEASANTLAND \$504.93, QQP \$293.96, QUIL \$49.49, SD DOT \$532.62, SD SOS \$40.00

TRAVEL/CONFERENCE

ECONO LODGE \$171.29, SDSU XTNSN \$127.16

UTILITIES

BH NRGY \$583.39, BLUPK \$2,583.59, CNTRYLNK \$91.27, BF CTY \$369.76, MDU \$1,902.95, REFUS SLTNS \$419.11

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

Chad Erk, Chairperson

ATTESTED BY:

Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor