

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING-TUESDAY, MAY 19TH, 2026

At 8:28 am Chairman Bruce Klein called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Commissioners present: Robert Flath, Wayne Wald, Jason Weigel and Keith Heidinger. Also present in person were: Jan Hamlin, Auditor; Fallon Kelly, States Attorney; Darrick Nitschke, Highway Superintendent; Art Hagebock, LaMoure County Chronicle; Terry Allbee with North Dakota Natural Resources Trust; and Bill Haase with North Dakota Game and Fish. Virtual were Daniel Romans and Kimberly Robbins.

Chairman Klein called for additions to the agenda. The addition was Special Event Permit. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

The May 5th minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Comm Weigel to approve the minutes presented, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Klein called for public comment; Paul Konrad joined the meeting and wanted to address the commission about 18 trees on the south end of Main Street in Kulm that are not in city limits but are an important part of the community. The landowner of the trees was sent a letter that they encroach on the sixty-six-foot county right of way. Mr. Konrad has visited many Kulm residents and no one was in favor of the trees being cut down. He would like to see them preserved. Since the trees are believed to have been there for more than 100 years, Mr. Konrad also wanted to know when the county right of way was set at sixty-six-feet. It is believed to have been done possibly in the 80's or 90's and would be in the minutes. The commission will keep the sixty-six feet in place but enforce the state constitution of thirty-three feet to keep in compliance with the state and federal funding issues. State's Attorney, Kelly Fallon, with consensus of the board suggested that a follow up letter be mailed out and if the property owner believes they have a special circumstance, they can request in writing to be put on a special meeting agenda. The commission will take each matter up on a case-by case basis to determine appropriate course of action with regard to their argument for consideration as a special circumstance. There will be no consideration for dead trees and safety issues.

Road Superintendent, Darrick Nitschke let the board know the north and west side of the old shop has been tinned. He has received a few quotes to spray foam it

before the cement. The low quote so far is \$55,000. The commission would like him to do some more checking into the pricing including a local business. Darrick has received quotes from Jensen's for the Kulm and Nortonville Roads. A patch per square foot is \$8.18. The road by Kulm would cost \$5,400 to \$6,000 for just the one patch. It would cost \$52,000 to do all of them by Kulm. The Nortonville Road would cost \$19,200. The county would do the milling, then Jensen would clean it out and patch. The commission have not made a decision on this project. The grinding on CR 65 should be done next week. The bids for the hot in place came in higher than expected. The state has agreed to cover the 80% of the increase. The total project bid was \$1,985,341.30. Comm Flath made a motion to sign the resolution for the hot in place project on CR 60, seconded by Comm Wald. All voting aye, motion carried. Comm Flath made a motion to remove the road restrictions on the paved roads, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried. The gravel road restrictions will remain in place and can be removed at Darrick's discretion or the next commissioner meeting.

Terry Allbee representing ND Natural Resources Trust (NRT) and Bill Haase from ND Game and Fish Department presented a resolution to the board regarding the sale of property in Glenmore Township owned by William Thomas to a non-profit organization American Foundation for Wildlife (AWF). NRT is acting as an agent of AWF in this matter. The land transaction must follow procedures under North Dakota Century Code 10-06.1-10 as AWF, as a non-profit organization, is considered a corporate farming entity. The intention of the seller is to continue in perpetuity the wildlife use and value of the property. The property is currently under a 30-year USDA Wetland Reserve easement until 2045. Allbee outlined the process that would be involved if the board adopts the resolution in support. The first step would be to forward the resolution to the ND Ag Commissioner and he has 45 days to set a public hearing in LaMoure County to be hosted by the commissioners. An advisory board consisting of the Ag Commissioner, Farm Bureau, Farmer's Union, ND Game and Fish, Stockmen's Association, Parks and Recreation Department, ND State Forester and the LaMoure County Commission would be at the public meeting to provide information and gather input. Following the meeting, a slate of recommendations is forwarded to the Governor and he has 30 days to make a decision on the sale to a non-profit. If all is approved, the plan of the AWF is to immediately put NDGF in the management of the property and as soon as possible transfer title to the State of ND Game and Fish for long-term ownership and management. Haase described the criteria that makes this site ideal for a wildlife management area including wetlands and wildlife habitat. Grassland could be

improved with rotational grazing practices under USDA requirements. Property taxes would continue to be paid to LaMoure County by the State. Hunting would be allowed on the property, but signs would be posted to protect residences from hunting. Landowners within one mile, Glenmore Township and cities within 12 miles will get a letter notifying them of the intention and the process. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the Resolution of Support, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

Break 10:04 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

DES/911 Coordinator, Kimberly Robbins, presented on Storm Ready County and Community. LaMoure County goes through the process to renew every six years. LaMoure County has completed the process and been approved and received their certificate. The change this time is that the two representatives for LaMoure County will be Kimberly and Deputy Fleck. The National Weather Services will present a Skywarn class on Thursday, May 28th at 6:00 pm at Prairie Farmer Coffee (7 Main Ave N. Kulm). All ages of community members are encouraged to attend. Next, the state has approved the LaMoure County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Comm Flath made a motion to approve the Resolution for the LaMoure County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried. LaMoure County has sent out a test and two incidents with the Everbridge notification system. There has been good feedback on the system from the public. Kimberly is still training and correcting data with the new system. If you would like to be on the calling list for notifications, please contact Kimberly at 883-6096. Kimberly explained how the current Fire Emergency & Burn Restrictions is working. When the North Dakota Fire Danger Rating for LaMoure County has been very high, an E-Dispatch text has been sent out to First Responders. When the rating goes to extreme by the National Weather Service, ND Administrative Code 33.1-15-04 takes effect, which mean "burning is prohibited" in the respective county. A county wide open burn ban notification is sent. So even if the county doesn't have a burn restriction in place, the Administrative Code is in effect and LaMoure County residents are not exempt from burning. The commissioners decided not to put a burn restriction in place at this time since the Administrative Code prohibits open burning at the Extreme designation. Kimberly discussed the county flood plain ordinance. The county has received and approved two permits. One was a culvert and the other was a building improvement. If anything is done to a structure in the flood plain, a permit must be submitted to the county. The county permit is free and all the information is currently on the county website. The county is required to

enforce this ordinance so a yearly noticed will be published in the official newspaper.

Chairman Klein mentioned that the pieces for the storm shelter are at Memorial Park and will be put together soon.

Tax Director, Angela Mahin, updated the commission on the residential sales ratios. She has been working with a CAMA Representative and CPT and have the residential sales ratios up to 74.16%. She will continue working to close the gap on residential before the next meeting when the county will set all the sales ratio to be in compliance with the state.

Comm Flath made a motion to approve the Gaming Site Authorization for Jamestown Area Youth BB at The Rabbit Hole, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried. It was noted that the commission would like to see local gaming organizations in county businesses.

Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve a Special Event Permit for Horseshoe Saloon to serve and sell liquor and beer on the premises of LaMoure County Memorial Park Auditorium for a wedding on June 20, 2026, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

Auditor Jan Hamlin gave an election update. Her office has processed absentee/vote by mail applications and mailed 663 ballots with 193 ballots returned. She has been testing equipment and keeping up on publication deadlines. Comm Flath made a motion to enter into a JPA with the Oakes School District to have their school election on the primary 2026 ballot, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

The county bills were reviewed. A motion was made by Comm Flath to pay bills as presented, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ALCOHOL MONITORING SYSTEMS, INC.	9.96
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	376.53
CENEX FLEETCARD	1,781.01
CHAMP SOFTWARE INC	9,793.00
D & B PORTABLES LLC	1,330.00
DACOTAH PAPER CO.	277.01
DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC	73.56

Vendor Name	Amount
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE, LLC	7,604.03
FASTENAL COMPANY	367.93
FLATH/ROBERT	378.30
FRONTIER BUILDERS SUPPLY	1,494.00
HAMPTON INN - BISMARCK	220.00
HEIDINGER/KEITH	324.70
HENRY SCHEIN	236.01
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT	2,239.90
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	555.45
KLEIN/BRUCE	431.24
KLJ ENGINEERING LLC	7,173.99
LAMOURE FOODS, INC.	299.22
LAMOURE PRINTING COMPANY	52.50
LYONS/JOEL, LYONS ENTERPRISES LLC,	419.00
MAERTENS WELDING AND MACHINE COMPANY	2,604.50
MAIN STREET FARM & HOME	23.48
MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	50.45
NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION	125.00
NEWMAN SIGNS INC	51.04
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	3,926.98
PENGUIN MANAGEMENT, INC.	4,104.00
PITNEY BOWES	1,000.00
RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	1,746.89
VAN DIEST SUPPLY COMPANY	19,710.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	397.70
VERONA TAVERN	50.00
WALD/WAYNE	387.00
WALK-N-ROLL, INC	367.50
WARCKEN/BILLI	282.50
WASTE MANAGEMENT	99.74
WEIGEL/JASON	258.00

Vendor Name	Amount
WEX HEALTH, INC.	83.00

Chairman Klein adjourned the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

APPROVED THIS 2nd DAY OF JUNE, 2026

BRUCE KLEIN, Chairman

ATTEST:

JAN HAMLIN, County Auditor

5/19/2026 Minutes