

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 6, 2026 9:00 A.M.**

Chairman Adam Smith called the meeting to order. Commissioners Robert Schmeling and Rory Farstveet were present for the meeting along with Gary Howard with the Golden Valley County News.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to accept the agenda as presented and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Farstveet moved to approve the December regular and special meeting minutes and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve the current vouchers for payment and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote-Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.

Current business brought forward to the Board:

- Commissioner Schmeling moved to appoint the following annual appointments for 2026: Commissioner Farstveet to the Roosevelt Custer Board, Commissioner Smith to the Community Action Board, Commissioner Schmeling to the GVC Zoning Board, Commissioner Farstveet to the Airport Board, Commissioner Smith to the Library Board, Commissioner Farstveet to the Human Services Board, and Commissioner Schmeling to the SW Correctional Center Board and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- The following resolutions were reviewed and approved as listed below:

RESOLUTION 2026-1

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, CLERKS, CUSTODIAN, & ROAD FOREMAN

STATES ATTORNEY
ASSISTANT STATES ATTORNEY
TAX & ZONING DIRECTOR
CUSTODIAN
ROAD FOREMAN
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER
CORONER
CAFETERIA PLAN ADMINISTRATOR
SAFETY RISK MANAGER
ENGINEER
DES DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA WENKO
STEPHEN FETCH
CARLA BEELER
DAVE HELSPER
PETER WIRTZFELD
JESSICA MCCLELLAN
JOHN FOSTER
TAMRA SPERRY
CASSANDRA SZUDERA
SELECTED PER PROJECT
RACHEL KEOHANE

ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS SHALL APPOINT THEIR DEPUTIES AND/OR CLERKS AND ARE SUBJECT TO LIMITATIONS OF THE FISCAL BUDGET APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET

MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-1;

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-2

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATES TO BE HELD IN THE COMMISSIONERS ROOM OF THE GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT BEACH, ND, AND THE HOUR OF BEGINNING OF MEETINGS

WHEREAS, UNDER PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 11-11-05 N.D.C.C., THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL DETERMINE THE DATES FOR REGULAR COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2026,

AND WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL OBSERVE DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME DURING THOSE MONTHS DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME IS OBSERVED AND MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME DURING THOSE MONTHS MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME IS USED,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS SHALL BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. ON THE FOLLOWING DATES AND MAY BE ADJOURNED FROM TIME TO TIME IF NECESSARY:

JANUARY 6	MAY 5	SEPTEMBER 1
FEBRUARY 3	JUNE 2	OCTOBER 6
MARCH 12	JULY 7	NOVEMBER 10-Election year
APRIL 7	AUGUST 4	DECEMBER 1

IN THE EVENT OF A SPECIAL SESSION CALLED EITHER BY THE COUNTY AUDITOR OR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE PERSON CALLING THE MEETING SHALL NOTIFY THE NEWS MEDIA ACCORDING TO THE PROVISION OF CHAPTER 11-11-05 OF THE N.D.C.C.

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-2;
COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-3

ESTABLISHMENT OF DAYS THE COURTHOUSE IS CLOSED DUE TO HOLIDAYS

WHEREAS, UNDER PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 1-03-01 OF THE N.D.C.C. AND BY ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO DECLARE DAYS THE COURTHOUSE WILL BE CLOSED,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COURTHOUSE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE FOLLOWING:

JANUARY 1	NEW YEAR DAY	NOVEMBER 11	VETERAN'S DAY
JANUARY 19	MARTIN LUTHER KING	NOVEMBER 26	THANKSGIVING
FEBRUARY 16	PRESIDENTS' DAY	NOVEMBER 27	THANKSGIVING
APRIL 3	GOOD FRIDAY	DECEMBER 24	CHRISTMAS EVE
MAY 25	MEMORIAL DAY	DECEMBER 25	CHRISTMAS
JUNE 19	JUNETEENTH	DECEMBER 31	NEW YEARS EVE
JULY 3	INDEPENDENCE DAY		(CLOSE AT NOON)
SEPTEMBER 7	LABOR DAY	JANUARY 1, 2026	NEW YEARS DAY

COURTHOUSE CLOSINGS WILL ALSO BE OBSERVED UPON ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.A. AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF N.D.

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-3;
COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-4

BUSINESS HOURS OF COURTHOUSE OFFICES

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL DETERMINE THE HOURS THE COURTHOUSE OFFICES WILL BE OPEN,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COURTHOUSE OFFICES WILL BE OPEN MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 12:30 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M., FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. WITH THE EXCEPTIONS OF HOLIDAYS.

THEREFORE, IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER THE COUNTY WILL FOLLOW THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CLOSURE SCHEDULE.

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-4;
COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-5

REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE, MEALS AND LODGING

WHEREAS, COUNTY EMPLOYEES MAY INCUR EXPENSES FOR MILEAGE, MEALS, AND LODGING IN THE PERFORMANCE OF CARRYING OUT THE DUTIES REQUIRED BY THE COUNTY,

AND WHEREAS, IF COUNTY EMPLOYEES OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO INCUR SUCH EXPENSE, THE COUNTY AUDITOR, UPON BEING PRESENTED WITH DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE AND IS

SATISFIED WITH AUDIT OF EXPENSES, MAY APPROVE PAYMENT BETWEEN
REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY ALLOW
REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES INCURRED ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 11-10-
15, 11-15-12, AND 54-06-09 OF N.D.C.C. AS FOLLOWS:

IN-STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATES:

MEALS: BREAKFAST – \$9.00; LUNCH – \$14.00; DINNER – \$22.00

BREAKFAST – TRAVEL MUST BEGIN BY 7:00 AM

LUNCH – 12:00 PM: MUST BE IN TRAVEL 1 HOUR BEFORE AND AT LEAST 1
HOUR AFTER (MUST BE IN TRAVEL BY 11:00 AM AND AFTER 1:00 PM)

DINNER – 6:00 PM: MUST BE IN TRAVEL 1 HOUR BEFORE AND AT LEAST 1
HOUR AFTER (MUST BE IN TRAVEL BY 5:00 PM AND AFTER 7:00 PM)

LODGING RATE: \$110.00

PERSONAL VEHICLE MILEAGE RATE: \$0.725

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-5;
COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-6

EXPEDITION OF BUSINESS

WHEREAS, IT APPEARS THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNTY WILL BE EXPEDITED
BY AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TREASURER, UPON AUDIT OF THE COUNTY
AUDITOR, TO PAY CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, SUCH AS POSTAGE,
FREIGHT, UTILITIES, (GAS, ELECTRICITY, WATER, & TELEPHONE), BLUE CROSS
BLUE SHIELD OF NORTH DAKOTA EMPLOYEE PREMIUMS, REFUND ORDERS,
REGULAR EMPLOYEE PAYROLL, AND APPORTIONMENTS.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY TREASURER BE
ALLOWED TO PAY SUCH CLAIMS.

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-6;
COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-7

LISTING OF DEPOSITORY BANKS

WHEREAS, IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE COUNTY TREASURER TO DEPOSIT
MONIES FROM TIME TO TIME,

AND WHEREAS, IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE COUNTY TREASURER TO DRAW UPON THE DEPOSITS,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING BANKS BE NAMED FOR DEPOSITORY FUNDS;

FIRST STATE BANK OF GOLVA, GOLVA & BEACH, ND	CUSTODIAL FUNDS, CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT, CHECKING ACCT. OF REFUND ORDERS, CHECKING ACCOUNT FOR COUNTY BUSINESS DEPOSITORY FOR WITHHOLD- ING FUNDS, CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSITS, CHECKING ACCT. FOR COUNTY BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT
BMO, BEACH, ND	CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT
WESTERN COOP CREDIT UNION, BEACH, ND	
STOCKMAN'S BANK, WIBAUX, MT	
BELL BANK, FARGO, ND	

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-7;
COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-8

PLEDGE OF SECURITIES

WHEREAS, IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE PLEDGE OF SECURITIES,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE FOLLOWING PLEDGES BE ACCEPTED AT 110%

BMO, BEACH, ND	\$3,643,032.85
FIRST STATE BANK OF GOLVA, GOLVA & BEACH, ND	\$18,114,538.00
BELL BANK, FARGO, ND	\$350,000.00

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-8;
COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-9

COUNTY TREASURER TO INVEST AND REINVEST FUNDS

WHEREAS, COUNTY FUNDS MAY BE INVESTED IN CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT OR US TREASURY NOTES TO DRAW INTEREST,

AND WHEREAS, THESE FUNDS MATURE FROM TIME TO TIME,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY TREASURER BE AUTHORIZED TO INVEST FUNDS AND REINVEST UPON MATURITY OF CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT. ALL CD'S THAT ARE REDEEMED OR REINVESTED SHALL REQUIRE THE SIGNATURE OF BOTH THE COUNTY TREASURER AND COUNTY AUDITOR.

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-9;
COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-10

POSTING AND PUBLISHING LEGAL NOTICES

WHEREAS, IT IS NECESSARY TO PUBLISH LEGAL NOTICES IN THE OFFICIAL COUNTY NEWSPAPER,

AND WHEREAS, THE PUBLIC HAS EXPRESSED THE "GOLDEN VALLEY NEWS" BE THE OFFICIAL PAPER,

AND WHEREAS, FROM TIME TO TIME LEGAL NOTICES ARE TO BE POSTED IN THE COURTHOUSE,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE "GOLDEN VALLEY NEWS" BE DECLARED THE OFFICIAL COUNTY NEWSPAPER FOR THE YEAR 2026 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE LOBBY OF THE COURTHOUSE BE DECLARED THE LOCATION FOR POSTING LEGAL NOTICES.

COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-10;
COMMISSIONER SCHMELING SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2026-11

SALARIES OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL SET FORTH SALARIES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES,

AND WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAVE ADOPTED A BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2026,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING MAXIMUM SALARIES BE SET EITHER ON AN ANNUAL OR AN HOURLY BASIS:

AUDITOR/HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER	\$74,275.07
TREASURER	53,503.47
DEPUTY AUDITOR/DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT/RECORDER/RISK MANAGER/WEBSITE ADMIN.	26.45/HOUR
CLERK OF COURT/RECORDER/MAGISTRATE	57,085.03
TAX/ZONING DIRECTOR/GIS	50,385.70
COUNTY AGENT (COUNTY SHARE 50%)	32,228.00
COUNTY AGENT SECRETARY	23.29/HOUR
D.E.S. COORDINATOR	18,243.24
SHERIFF	79,345.02
DEPUTY SHERIFF	64,775.52
DEPUTY SHERIFF	71,253.48
CHIEF DEPUTY SHERIFF	78,378.84
OFFICE DEPUTY	27.34/HOUR
CUSTODIAN	21.22/HOUR
ROAD FOREMAN	80,489.68
ROAD CREW (2)	28.99/HOUR
ROAD CREW (1)	27.32/HOUR
ROAD CREW (2)	30.56/HOUR
ROAD CREW (1)	33.17/HOUR
WEED CONTROL OFFICER	73,096.05
COMMISSIONERS (3)	19,235.00
CAFETERIA PLAN ADMINISTRATOR	1,473.93
COUNTY CORONER	5,472.88
VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER-contracted with Stark County	10,000.00
911 COORDINATOR/OFFICE FLOATER	19.12/HOUR
LIBRARIAN	28.25/HOUR
ZONING BOARD MEMBERS & SECRETARY	45.00/MEETING

COMMISSIONER SCHMELING MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-11;
COMMISSIONER FARSTVEET SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

- The Board agreed to hold the Annual Township meeting in conjunction with the regular February 3, 2026 meeting at 1 pm.
- Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve payroll for January on January 16, 2026 and for February on February 13, 2026 due to the normal payroll dates falling on a Holiday and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote-Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Schmeling moved to reappoint Sue Marman to another 3 year term to the Library Board and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Farstveet moved to appoint Cody Ueckert to the Fair Board and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion was held on installing an ac/heater unit in the Public Health Nurse Office. Custodian Helsper with get a quote on what it would cost to install a unit in that office.
- County Auditor Sperry reminded the Board to get their campaign finance and statement of interest into her office by the January 31, 2026 deadline
- The Board reviewed the agreement with Mackoff Kellogg Kirby & Kloster, P.C. for 2026 legal services with Christina Wenko as the States Attorney. There is no change in the rate of \$6,000/month from 2025. Commissioner Schmeling moved to sign the agreement and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Roll call vote-Farstveet-aye, Schmeling-aye, Smith-aye. Motion carried.

Road Foreman Pete Wirtzfeld and Gayle Cox with Brosz Engineering met with the Board. Cox gave the Board an update on the Garner bridge fencing corrections. Flex funding approvals should be announced this month. Wirtzfeld updated that Board on some equipment getting repairs. Other various road topics were discussed.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to adjourn and Commissioner Farstveet seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 10:52 A.M.

The following vouchers were audited and approved for the month of January 2026:

Direct

Deposit	Golden Valley County Employees	January Payroll	\$73,761.52
-86587	NDPERS		\$1,000.00
-86588	NDPERS		\$20,482.34
-86594	MT Dept of Revenue		\$186.00
-86595	NDPHIT		\$32,205.03
-86596	IRS		\$28,021.11
-99640	ND State Treasurer		\$7,596.09
-99641	Pitney Bowes		\$500.00
-99642	ND Tax Commissioner		\$568.53
-99643	ND State Treasurer		\$38.34
87138	Mackoff Kellogg Kirby & Kloster	Legal Fees	\$6,000.00
87139	Vision West ND Inc	Membership	\$200.00
87140	ND County Commissioner Assoc.	Dues	\$1,151.00
87141	ND 911 Association	Membership	\$100.00
87142	National Association of Counties	Dues	\$450.00
87143	Tyler Technologies	Contract	\$6,118.03
87144	ND Association of Counties	Dues	\$19,556.69
87145	Armor Interactive	Contract	\$1,195.00
87146	ND County Auditors/Treasurers Assoc	Dues	\$400.00
87147	Stark County	Contract	\$10,000.00
87148	ND Department of Water Resources	Bowman Radar	\$2,000.00

87149	Nd Association of County Engineers	Dues	\$485.00
87150	City of Beach	Rent	\$1,500.00
87151	Dak Insurance	Insurance	\$51,429.00
87152	Noll Construction	Contract	\$2,755.00
87153	Prairie Lumber Beach	Supplies	\$240.34
87154	Dakota Dust-Tex	Floor Care	\$28.01
87155	Fireside Office Solutions	Copy Services	\$47.45
87156	Stryker Sale LLC	Supplies	\$348.00
87157	Cloud 5 Solutions, LLC	Subscriptions	\$97.20
87158	SW Multi-County Correction Center	Prisoner Care	\$2,975.00
87159	City of Beach	Water & Garbage	\$441.24
87160-87183	Collections Submitted		\$14,022.89
87184	O 5 Motors	Repairs	\$405.10
87185	MDU	Electricity & Gas	\$5,403.57
87186	NDCISA	Membership	\$100.00
87187	RTC Networks	Internet & Phone	\$1,447.21
87188	Office of Attorney General	24/7 Charges	\$990.00
87189	Mark Egan	Reimbursement	\$46.53
87190	AT&T	Cell Phone	\$116.65
87191-87199	January Payroll		\$22,685.90
87200-87202	January Liabilities		\$2,884.22
87203	Cenex Fleet Fueling	Fuel	\$1,257.98
87204-87232	Collections Submitted		\$667,277.85
87233	Verizon	Cell Phone	\$367.84
87234	AmericInn	NDSU Extension	\$450.00

ATTEST

Tamra Sperry, County Auditor

Adam Smith, Chairman, County Commissioners