

## **FALL RIVER COUNTY APPROVED MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2025**

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on January 2, 2025. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell, Sandra Wahlert and Sue Ganje, Auditor.

An invocation was provided by Wahlert, the Pledge of Allegiance was given, and the meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

The agenda was reviewed for conflicts; none were noted. ALL MOTIONS RECORDED IN THESE MINUTES WERE PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. The full context of the meeting can be found on the county website under Commissioners at <http://fallriver.sdcountries.org>, or on Facebook, on the Fall River County's website.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the agenda with the addition of reviewing a letter of support for the Addiction Recovery Center of the Black Hills and authorize the Chairman to sign

The meeting was turned over to the Auditor, who asked for nominations for the Chairman of the Board.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to nominate Falkenburg as Chairman.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell for nominations to cease. Falkenburg will remain as Chairman for 2025.

The meeting was turned over to Chairman Joe Falkenburg.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to nominate Russell as the Vice-Chair.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Falkenburg for nominations to cease. Russell will remain as the Vice-Chair for 2025.

The Board reviewed the remainder of the items on the list to approve.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Russell, to approve the consent agenda First Grouping but to move the Contract Nurse portion to the Sheriff's time slot and to include the following: to approve setting the meeting dates on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month; to appoint the Fall River County Herald-Star as the Official newspaper for 2025; to designate three feet of the bulletin board in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Courthouse for legal matters and to also post Commission agendas on the ground, side and first floor doors of the courthouse; to set the depositories for the county as First Interstate Bank and Schwab Treasury; to set the prisoner care per day at \$105.00 and \$125.00, as per Sheriff's Office recommendation; to approve Monument Health as the health care facility for the jail, under the direct supervision of Dr. Avery Sides, as primary caregiver for inmates and Fall River Health Services under the supervision of Tina Norton, LPN as the secondary; to set the ride-a-long fee for prisoner and mental health transports at \$40.00 per day to Rapid City and \$100.00 per day to Yankton and Sioux Falls and to set the Indigent burial rate at \$2,150.00.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the consent agenda Second Grouping to include the following: to appoint Joe Allen and alternate Joe Falkenburg to the L.E.P.C. board; to appoint Joe Falkenburg and alternate Sandra Wahlert to the Weed board; to appoint Les Cope and alternate Deb Russell to the Custer/Fall River Regional Waste Management Board; to appoint Les Cope and alternate Deb Russell to the Black Hills Council of Local Governments Board (6<sup>th</sup> District of Local Governments); to appoint Sandra Wahlert and alternate Joe Falkenburg to the Resource, Conservation, and Development

(R C & D) board; to appoint Joe Allen and alternate Les Cope to the Western SD Juvenile Services Center Board, to appoint Deb Russell and alternate Joe Falkenburg to the Prairie Hills Transit Board; to appoint Sandra Wahlert and alternate Joe Falkenburg to the 4-H/Extension Board; and to appoint Deb Russell and alternate Les Cope to the Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to approve the consent agenda Third Grouping to include the following: to approve travel for the County Officials to attend meetings of the Black Hills Associations and to request office supervisors to obtain travel approval for all other meetings requiring more than same-day travel; to approve the following resolutions on State Bids, Election fees and mileage and the 2025 Elected Official salaries resolution for the Auditor, Register of Deeds, Sheriff, State's Attorney and Treasurer, to approve the following listing: Longevity schedule; 2025 Commission salaries, and the 2025 listing of employee wages, including per diem for the weed board at \$25.00 per meeting plus mileage:

**FALL RIVER COUNTY RESOLUTION #2025-01**

WHEREAS, the Division of Purchasing and Printing of the State of South Dakota has competitively bid state contracts for the purchase of necessary supplies, equipment and materials for state and local governments, and

WHEREAS, the Fall River County Board of Commissioners is authorized to purchase necessary supplies, equipment and materials for its use, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fall River County Commissioners enter into an agreement with the Division of Purchasing and Printing of the State of South Dakota to purchase equipment, supplies and materials.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2025.

/S/ Joe Falkenburg  
Joe Falkenburg, Chairman  
Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/S/ Sue Ganje  
Sue Ganje  
Fall River County Auditor

**FALL RIVER COUNTY RESOLUTION #2025-02**

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 12-15-11, the Board of County Commissioners at their first meeting shall set a fee for Election Board and the mileage rate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fall River County Board of Commissioners have set the FLAT FEE FOR ATTENDANCE OF ELECTION SCHOOL AT \$25.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fall River Board of County Commissioners has set the fee for Election Boards for the Primary and General and all Special Elections as follows:

ALL ELECTION BOARDS WILL RECEIVE A FLAT FEE OF \$175.00; SUPERINTENDENTS OF EACH PRECINCT, A FEE OF \$200.00; RESOLUTION, ABSENTEE, PROVISIONAL AND POST-ELECTION AUDITING BOARDS WILL BE SET AT \$13.50 PER HOUR, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fall River County Commissioners set the mileage rate at \$.67 per mile for the transporting of ballots and ballot boxes by the precinct superintendent.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2025.

/S/ Joe Falkenburg  
Joe Falkenburg, Chairman  
Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/S/ Sue Ganje  
Sue Ganje  
Fall River County Auditor

**FALL RIVER COUNTY RESOLUTION #2025-03**

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 7-7-9.1, 7-7-12 and 7-12-15 the Board of Commissioners by Resolution may establish the salary payable to the County Treasurer, County Auditor, County Register of Deeds, County State's Attorney and County Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the salary may not be less than the following schedule and is based upon the most recent decennial federal census. The Fall River Census is 6,973.

Treasurer, Auditor, Register of Deeds - Population under 10,000: \$33,825.00;  
State's Attorney - Population under 10,000: \$37,673.00  
County Sheriff – Population under 10,000: \$41,256 plus 10% for jail admin

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fall River Board of County Commissioners set the salaries as follows, effective January 1, 2025:

Treasurer, Teresa Pullen:	\$54,560.04 (plus \$23,298.12 from Oglala Lakota County)
Auditor, Sue Ganje:	\$66,471.00 (plus \$23,298.12 from Oglala Lakota County)
Reg. of Deeds, Mel Engebretson:	\$61,132.68 (plus \$23,298.12 from Oglala Lakota County)
State's Attorney, Lance Russell:	\$79,117.44 (plus \$31,236.36 from Oglala Lakota County)
Sheriff, Lyle Norton	\$77,420.04

Passed and approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2025.

/S/ Joe Falkenburg  
Joe Falkenburg, Chairman  
Fall River Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/S/ Sue Ganje  
Sue Ganje  
Fall River County Auditor's Office

**Longevity Pay**

Longevity pays after 2 years of continuous service \$25.00 per month equating to \$300.00 per year.

After 5 years of continuous service \$50.00 per month equating to \$600.00 per year.

After 10 years of continuous service \$75.00 per month equating to \$900.00 per year.

After 20 years of continuous service \$100.00 per month equating to \$1,200.00 per year.

<b>Wages for 2025</b>			<b>Eligible for Longevity</b>	<b>Oglala Lakota County</b>
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**COMMISSIONERS**

		<b>Salary</b>
Allen, Joe	Commissioner	\$10,200.00
Cope, Les	Commissioner	\$10,200.00
Falkenburg, Joe	Commissioner	\$10,800.00
Wahlert, Sandra	Commissioner	\$10,200.00
Russell, Deborah	Commissioner	\$10,800.00

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

		<b>Salary</b>	<b>Longevity</b>	<b>OL Salary</b>
Engebretson, Melody (Mel)	Register of Deeds	\$61,132.68	900.00/yr	\$23,298.12
Ganje, Sue	Auditor	\$66,471.00	1200.00/yr	\$23,298.12
Norton, Lyle	Sheriff	\$77,420.04	600.00/yr	
Pullen, Teresa	Treasurer	\$54,560.04	600.00/yr	\$23,298.12
Russell, Lance	State's Attorney	\$79,117.44		\$31,236.36

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

		<b>Salary</b>		
Cullen, Dan	Veteran's Service Officer	\$57,000.36	900.00/yr	
Heidebrink, Lillian	Director of Equalization	\$48,840.00	300.00/yr	\$15,489.72
Martin, Stacey	GIS	\$56,661.84	900.00/yr	
	Emergency Management	\$52,080.00		
Coy, Darwin	Hwy Superintendent	\$74,580.00		
March, Tony	Weed Supervisor	\$58,057.32	900.00/yr	
Steinmetz, Nina	Maintenance Supervisor	\$49,600.20	600.00/yr	
Weishaupl, David				

		<b>Hourly, or per call/mtg</b>	
<b>HOURLY</b>			
Amthor, Cory	Hwy Department	\$24.00	300.00/yr
Atherley, Petra	Treasurer's Office	\$16.50	
	Emergency Management	\$16.75	
Baker, Gary	Deputy Sheriff	\$28.50	600.00/yr
Belt, Isnalawica	Auditor's Office	\$17.25	
Bettleyoun, Arrow	Register of Deeds Office	\$20.50	900.00/yr
Birkland, LaVella	Hwy Department	\$28.00	900.00/yr
Blessing, Brett	State's Attorney Office	\$22.50	600.00/yr
Boche, Carol	Hwy Department	\$26.50	900.00/yr
Buchholz, Martin	Auditor's Office	\$17.25	300.00/yr
Burns, Cynthia	Deputy Sheriff	\$25.25	300.00/yr
Christie, Riley	24/7	\$16.00	
Christie, Kayla	Deputy Sheriff	\$25.50	
Close, Michael	Hwy Department	\$24.75	300.00/yr
Costa, Samuel	Maintenance Office	\$17.00	
Crutti, Tommy	Deputy Sheriff	\$27.00	300.00/yr
Dobbs, Charles	Assessor's Office	\$18.00	
Erickson, Morgan	Security	\$19.75	
Evans, Robert	Dispatcher	\$27.50	900.00/yr
Fleming, Melissa			

Hageman, Wayne	Weed Board	\$25.00/mtg	
Hansen, Bradley	Jailer	\$26.16	1200.00/yr
Harris, Bruce	Hwy Department	\$23.00	
Hill, Terry	Treasurer's Office	\$16.50	
Hosterman, Rachel	Sheriff's Office	\$21.00	600.00/yr
Hogan, Edward	Hwy Department	\$23.00	
Howard, Katy	Deputy Sheriff	\$25.00	
Janis, Bobbie	Auditor's Office	\$24.62	900.00/yr
Kipp, Samuel	Treasurer's Office	\$17.60	300.00/yr
Kramer, Linda	Weed & Pest	\$13.00	
Logue, Vincent	Deputy Sheriff	\$29.00	900.00/yr
Lovett, Jonathan	Seasonal	\$14.05	
Maciejewski, Calvin	Hwy Department	\$26.91	1200.00/yr
Madsen, Toni	24/7	\$16.00	
Miles, Jay	Hwy Department	\$24.75	300.00/yr
Mraz, Jennifer	Coroner	\$150.00/call	
Mraz, Jennifer	Dispatcher	\$26.00	900.00/yr
Novotny, Bob	Weed Board	\$25.00/mtg	
Oechsle, Kenneth	Weed & Pest	\$12.75	
Petersen Dee, Tamra	Assessor's Office	\$20.00	600.00/yr
Pokorski, David	Jailer	\$24.50	600.00/yr
Porter, Chrissy	Extension Office	\$17.25	300.00/yr
Quintana, Veronica	Dispatcher	\$24.25	300.00/yr
Raskiewicz, Casey	Hwy Department	\$26.00	600.00/yr
Ries, Abbey	Weed & Pest	\$14.00	
Rough Surface, Hayley	Dispatcher	\$22.75	300.00/yr
Schiferl, Tanner	Deputy Sheriff	\$26.25	
Schmidt, Stacy	Auditor's Office	\$23.47	900.00/yr
Schubbel, Frederick	Hwy Department	\$26.50	600.00/yr
Shafer, Heather	Assessor's Office	\$18.00	
Sides, John	Weed Board	\$25.00/mtg	
Silvernail, Julie	Hwy Department	\$17.50	
Simunek, Trina	Dispatcher	\$26.00	600.00/yr
Sletto, Derrick	Weed & Pest	\$18.00	
Timmins, Kathy	Treasurer's Office	\$20.50	600.00/yr
Trees, Martha	Assessor's Office	\$16.00	
Tschacher, Amber	Register of Deeds	\$17.60	
Two Bear, Lynn	State's Attorney Office	\$20.75	300.00/yr
Wells, Darla	24/7	\$16.00	
Wood, Wesley	Maintenance Office	\$20.25	600.00/yr
Wyatt, Jerry	Weed & Pest	\$25.00/mtg	
Zimiga, Austin	Jailer	\$24.50	600.00/yr

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Cope, to approve the consent agenda Fourth grouping to include the following: to set the chairman of the mental health board's fee of \$150.00 per hour; to not rehire any employee who is eligible for and has retirement funds withheld, for a period of 6 months, if that employee has resigned and withdrawn their SD Retirement Funds, unless specifically authorized by the Board; and to appoint Stacey Martin as PIO (Public Information Officer), with Melissa Fleming and Bobbie Janis as assistants.

There were no County assistance/death expense applications.

Lyle Norton, Sheriff, met with the Board to provide updates and the jail census of 22 inmates. With 15 male and 6 female in house and 1 male in Meade County. Falkenburg expressed his appreciation of our

local law enforcement.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve Tina Norton as the Jail Contract Nurse with a raise of the contracted monthly amount from \$1,250.00 to \$1,500.00.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to approve hiring Anthony Otteson as a jailer at \$24.50/hr, effective 01/12/2024.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to approve renewing the Maintenance & Support Agreement for the Idemia LiveScan finger printing machine at a cost of \$2,536.00 for February 2025-February 2026.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to approve the purchase of a wall split heating/cooling unit from Nelson's Oil & Gas for the 911 Dispatch Center server/radio room climate control at a cost of \$5,500.00 for the unit and installation.

Tony March, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to present 2 Right-of-Way occupancy requests, to request a private road work hearing and provide updates. He wanted the Board to know that he had spoken with the Irrigation District and made an agreement with them. The County can plug the blade in that is stationed near them at their shop in exchange for minimal blading on their road. He reported that he had also talked with Scott Harkless of Golden West Telecommunications and Scott had agreed to take a look at the area by the County Storage Building that is being proposed as a new entrance location for a driveway and will report back. March also wanted to report that he has witnessed quite a few large trucks seemingly going quite fast on the Smithwick Road and that contributes to the deterioration of the road.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Russell, to approve both of Golden West Telecommunication's applications for permit to occupy County Right-of-Way as follows: located at an existing vault in the south ROW line of Indian Canyon Rd to the west side of the driveway road to 11774 Indian Canyon Rd; and located at an existing vault in the north ROW line of Hot Brook Canyon Rd approx. 2 miles west of Hot Springs to a residence at 12570 Hot Brook Canyon Rd.

Motion made by Cope, seconded by Russell, to set a private road work hearing for February 6, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. as per SDCL 31-11-41 through 31-11-45.

Public Comment was heard at this time. Genevieve Osborn and Jana Doering of Addiction Recovery Center of the Black Hills asked the Board for a letter of support for their organization to apply for a grant through the State of South Dakota for Opioid funding. They provided a brief explanation of what they do for the local community.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to provide a letter of support for the Addiction Recovery Center of the Black Hills and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Dar Coy, Emergency Manager, met with the Board. He provided updates and reported on incidents. He asked the Board to keep Gary Baker, Assistant Emergency Manager, for a while longer. They are currently working on a hazard mitigation training.

Joe Allen, Commissioner, had nothing new to report on the proposed Jail/Justice Center.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Cope, to note that January 9, 2025 is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The County would like to express its appreciation for local Law

Enforcement.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to approve the bills paid in between meetings, these bills were included in the December 19, 2024 minutes.

Break was taken at 9:50 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:55 a.m.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Cope, to enter into Executive Session for personnel as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 9:57 a.m.

Falkenburg declared the Board out of Executive Session at 10:21 a.m. No action was taken.

Falkenburg then declared the meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

/s/ Joe Falkenburg

Joe Falkenburg, Chairman

Board of Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/s/ Sue Ganje, Auditor

Sue Ganje, Auditor

Fall River County