

FALL RIVER COUNTY APPROVED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2025

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on February 20, 2025. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell, Sandra Wahlert and Sue Ganje, Auditor.

A prayer was given 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.sdcounties.org>, or on Facebook, on the Fall River County's website.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the agenda as written.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to approve the meeting minutes from February 6, 2025.

There was no action taken on the January, 2025 Auditor's Account with the Treasurer as it was not yet available.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to approve the wage increase for Morgan Erickson, Certified Assessor, from \$18.35/hr to \$19.10/hr for 1 year anniversary, effective 01/22/2025 as per Union Contract.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the wage increase for Bruce Harris, Heavy Equipment Operator, from \$23.00/hr to \$23.75/hr for 1 year anniversary, effective 02/26/2025 as per Union Contract.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the wage increase for Veronica Quintana, Dispatcher, from \$24.25/hr to \$25.50/hr for 4 year anniversary, effective 03/01/2025 as per Union Contract.

There were no County Assistance/Death Expenses submitted.

Dar Coy, Emergency Manager, met with the Board. He provided the year-to-date LEMPG Matrix progress reports in the Commission packets for them to review. He then reported that the siren in Oelrichs had been repaired. Lastly, he reported that he had attended a Wildfire Evacuation training, which he thought was very good.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to approve and authorize paying the Onsolve (Code Red) invoice, in the amount of \$3,624.64. Coy had indicated that he would like to see the County add the I PAWS alert to our contract. He will come back to the next meeting with the additional amount that would be included in the Onsolve invoice.

Coy then provided updates and reported on incidents, noting that there will be a Defensive Driving Course on March 13, 2025 that all employees will need to attend. There will be 2 times offered so that everyone can attend without having to close offices.

Lyle Norton, Sheriff, met with the Board.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to approve hiring Janita Holt-Yellow as an Uncertified Dispatcher at \$19.50/hr, effective 03/02/2025.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to approve hiring Jessica Frevert as an Uncertified Dispatcher at \$19.50/hr, effective 02/17/2025.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve hiring Jennifer Campbell as an Uncertified Dispatcher at \$19.50/hr, effective 02/24/2025.

Norton noted the letter of appreciation received from the Hot Springs Amateur Radio Club thanking Melissa Fleming, Dispatcher, for her community education excellence regarding her presentation on 911 dispatch and emergency communication to the Beginners Ham Radio Club class. Falkenburg also expressed gratitude toward Fleming for going above and beyond for the County, on behalf of the Commission.

Norton reported that he had looked into a body scanner to mitigate local Opioid issues. He spoke with Jennifer Sietsma of the Black Hills Council of Local Governments, who assisted with questions of proper usage of the County's Opioid Settlement monies. She believes that the body scanner would fall under the criteria of mitigation. Norton had checked into different devices to find out costs, warranty and maintenance costs. He will bring back his recommendations regarding the one that he feels is the best purchase for the County.

Norton provided updates and the jail census of 13 males and 6 females in house. With 1 male in Meade County and 1 male in Pennington County, for a total of 21 inmates. Lastly, Norton wanted to provide clarification regarding Commissioner Cope's questions for Norton at the last meeting. He had indicated that he saved the County money and made it sound like he over budgeted his departments. He stated that, being short in dispatch, the County didn't have to pay out its' portion of wage-related benefits. This ultimately caused those un-spent amounts to remain in the General Fund. Not meaning to sound like he "saved" the County money.

Tony March, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board. He informed them that Brosz Engineering will be sending plans for chip sealing projects.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to set a public hearing to accept sealed bids for Chip sealing of County Roads on March 20, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Motion made by Cope, seconded by Russell, to accept the listing of various equipment costs for providing private services as follows:

FALL RIVER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

DATE DESCRIPTION OF WORK REQUESTED

MINIMUM ONE HOUR

Emergency Motor Grader snow removal \$150.00 PER HOUR

No less than the county's cost to perform the work using the Fall River County Highway Department's cost accounting system.

Tony March, highway superintendent, or Brett Blessing, highway supervisor, will estimate the cost of each project based on the number of hours (minimum of one hour). The County Commissioner Chairman or Vice Chairman can approve by phone. Once approved, payment of the estimated cost will be sent to the Fall River County Auditor at 906 N. River St., Hot Springs, SD 57747.

Description	State/County Rate/Hour	Non-Governmental/Private Rates
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Truck and Trailer	100.00	120.00
Rear Dump Truck	90.00	120.00
Motor Grader	120.00	150.00
Backhoe/Skid-Steer	100.00	125.00
Tractor, Mower	100.00	120.00
Payload/Excavator	100.00	125.00
Truck, Pickup	50.00	60.00

This work will be performed by the Fall River Highway Superintendent or Highway Supervisor and employees, with cost records maintained. This work will be only performed when weather permits, and when normal road maintenance duties are caught up. State law authorizes a maximum of six hours per year, per applicant.

The applicant agrees to indemnify and hold Fall River County harmless for all actions, suits, liability, damages, or other proceedings arising from operations to complete the requested road maintenance.

Property Owner	Address	Phone #	Date
Property Owner Signature: _____			
Total Hours Estimated _____			

Tony March, Highway Superintendent

Brett Blessing, Highway Foreman

March then provided updates. His department’s inventory is nearly complete. The first bridge over the irrigation canal, coming from US Hwy 18 heading east on Oral Road has been flagged by Brosz Engineering as a bridge that needs to have changes to maximum tonnage due to weakening structure. He then notified the Board of a Heavy Equipment Operator vacancy, effective 02/14/2025.

Joe Allen, Commissioner, spoke about the proposed Jail/Justice Center. He reported that he had spoken with Sheriff Norton regarding the 2 locations owned by the County that had been recommended to use, one being the Courthouse north parking lot and the other being across the street from the Courthouse in the East parking lot area. They decided to focus on the property across the street from the Courthouse. It is 6 feet above the flood plain for the 100-year flood, FEMA has no data on a 500-year flood. He pointed out that the Brookside Apartments and the Mueller Center are both lower in elevation than the County’s property and both were approved for funding. He also spoke to Jennifer Sietsma with the Black Hills Council of Local Governments, and she pointed out that the river has flood control infrastructure through town so, she didn’t think it would be a problem. He also mentioned that, with Dispatch being moved to the South Annex, there is no need to include an area for that in the plans. Allen recommended contacting the company for the cost of a 35-bed jail, and a cost for an additional 15 beds. The offices that would need to be included in the plans would be the Clerk of Courts, Sheriff’s Office and Judges’ chambers. The Director of Equalization’s Office could relocate to the second floor of the Courthouse, and they could utilize their current building as part of the new facility. He recommends talking to the company that has built other Justice Center/Jail facilities. Sheriff Norton will talk with them at the Annual Sheriff’s Conference.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to contact Johnson Construction out of Harrisburg, SD to request a cost for an initial assessment to regarding a building for the County.

Joe Falkenburg, Commissioner, asked for the Board’s support of the letters that he had written. One being a letter of support for Country-of-Origin meat labeling, with the other being the opposition to lab grown meat.

Motion made by Cope, seconded by Wahlert, to approve and sign the letter supporting Country-of-Origin meat labeling and send it to Senator John Thune.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Cope, to approve and sign the letter opposing lab grown meat and send it to the District 30 Senator and Representatives.

Andersen Engineers did not present any plats as they were not ready yet. They will bring them to the Board in the future.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to approve payment of the bills as follows:

GENERAL FUND		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLY	\$2,330.88
ASSN OF SD COUNTY W&P BDS	SUPPLY	\$31.00
BALL, JAMES	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$142.50
BENDER, SUSAN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$56.50
BERKLEY, DAVID	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$79.11
BOMGAARS	SUPPLY	\$13.16
CAMERON, GEORGE	COURT REPORTER	\$194.25
CHADRON MOTOR CO. INC,	EQUIP/REPAIR	\$5,347.31
CLAIMS ASSOCIATES	GC22.112124	\$25,000.00
COLBATH & SPERLICH, PC	CAAF	\$1,937.08
COPQUEST INC	EQUIPMENT	\$167.88
CARLSON, ELAINE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$503.01
DETECTA CHEM	SUPPLY	\$238.30
DAVIS, AMY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$245.92
DOSTAL, RICHARD	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$57.00
EDGEMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY	2025 BUDGET ALLOTMENT	\$4,000.00
EXECUTIVE MGMT FINANCE	BIT NETWORK FEES	\$57.25
ENGLEBERT, EVERETT	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$550.00
FENENGA, STEVE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$144.45
GALLS	SUPPLY	\$2,301.34
GANJE, SUE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$33.50
GRILL, BRUCE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$37.50
GILMOR, JASON	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$92.74
HAMMEL, TERRAL	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$80.00
HUSTEAD LAW OFFICE, P.C.	CAAF	\$6,021.27
HOLLENBECK, PAT	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$400.00
HUNTER CATTLE CO	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$416.88
HAGER, KATHY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$56.50
JENSEN, ED	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$42.50
JOHNSON, CAROL	COURT REPORTER	\$1,038.65
LYNNS DAKOTAMART	SUPPLY	\$162.79
LAWRENCE LAND AND CATTLE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$464.00
LOOF, DEAN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$178.72
MARCH, KIM	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$550.00

MARTY'S TIRE & AUTO BODY	REPAIR/SERVICE	\$1,055.00
MCNEMAR, KIM	MH EXAM	\$300.00
MCLEODS OFFICE SUPPLY CO.	WINDOW ENVELOPES	\$400.43
MOCIC	2025 MEMBERSHIP	\$100.00
MANGOLD, DOUGLAS	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$39.00
MERGEN, MIKE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$80.00
MELIUS, MICHEAL	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$38.00
ONSITE FIRST AID, LLC	FIRST AID	\$75.23
OROLOG RANCH	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$6,427.87
PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL	INMATE HOUSING PENNINGTON	\$2,310.00
PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL	TRANSPORT	\$365.77
POPESCU, CARL	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$33.75
QUALIFIED PRESORT SERVICE	TAX STATEMENTS	\$4,282.91
CITY OF RAPID CITY	BLOOD ANALYSIS	\$120.00
ROMEY, GARY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$392.50
RUSSELL, LANCE	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	\$40.20
ROE, JULIE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$20.00
SANDERS, CARL	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$19.00
SD DEPT OF REVENUE	AUTO REMITTANCE FEES	\$60.00
SD HUMAN SERVICES CENTER	COURT ORDER	\$600.00
SIMUNEK, JAN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$42.00
SKINNER, MATTHEW L. PC	CAAF	\$2,120.15
SOUTHERN HILLS LAW PLLC	CAAF	\$817.18
ST JAMES PARISH CENTER	FACILITY RENTAL FOR ELECTIONS	\$500.00
STEARNS, JERRY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$219.00
STEPHENS LAW OFFICE	CAAF	\$250.00
STEVENS SERVICES, INC.	FAUCET SEAT & LABOR	\$140.77
SWARTS, DENNIS	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$48.50
TTECH TRANSCENDENT TECH.	SOFTWARE & MAINT	\$29,816.00
VANWAY TROPHY	SUPPLY	\$20.50
VOEGELE, DARWIN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$84.00
WESTERN SD JUV SERV CTR	JUVENILE SERVICES	\$10,850.00
WALKER, MIKE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$170.61
TRENT, RON	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$159.00
DUNBAR, DAVE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$1,609.88
KINDRED, MIKE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$2,648.81
HENRY, GALE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$550.00
BOWKER RANCH	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$136.00
LANDERS, JAY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$2,603.91
FLEMING, MANDY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$56.50
WYATT, JERRY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$171.00
REUTTER, BEN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$370.00
PETERS, FRANK	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$2,965.80
BROWN, RORY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$956.03
LEWIS, DAVID	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$442.50

TUBBS, MARK	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$160.00
FUGIER, SHANE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$134.25
LAMONT, TIM	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$550.00
NELSON, STEVE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$52.50
SMITH, DEAN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$8,924.15
MILLER, JIM	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$128.50
MOLITOR, DALE	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$440.00
OSMOTHERLY, LARRY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$20.00
FISH, DON	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$845.00
GERARD, DONALD	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$705.00
RICHARDSON, BRAD	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$99.25
LUCEY, STOYAN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$113.50
GOEMAN, JIMMY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$1,222.15
GOODMAN RANCH	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$1,209.39
LOCKHART, KEITH	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$490.00
SCHAACK, TIM	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$743.00
WOOD ARGYLE, LLC	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$437.50
CAIN, LEON GERARD	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$76.75
RIPPENTROP, GAYLEN	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$485.50
SCHUBBEL, LISA	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$71.25
SPENCER RANCH	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$335.00
SVENKENSON, PENNY	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$42.00
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$51.34
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$83.50
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$51.34
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$55.36
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$52.68
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$51.34
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$51.34
JUROR	JUROR FEES	\$51.34
RUSSELL, PATRICK	WEED & PEST GRANT REIMB	\$90.50
	TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND	\$35,131.79
COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLY	\$178.94
BILL'S HEATING	UTILITY/PROPANE	\$1,572.50
BOMGAARS	SUPPLY	\$1,178.96
CROELL REDI MIX INC	GRAVEL	\$2,861.05
DMC WEAR PARTS LLC	PARTS/SUPPLY	\$7,500.00
EDGEMONT, CITY OF	UTILITY	\$208.00
FALL RIVER HEALTH	EMPLOYEE DRUG SCREEN	\$100.00
FORWARD DISTRIBUTING	PARTS	\$561.45
GODFREY BRAKE SERVICE	PARTS/SUPPLY	\$587.38
HARVEY'S LOCK & SECURITY	REPAIR/MAINTENANCE	\$92.07
SIMON MATERIALS	GRAVEL	\$30,573.05

INLAND TRUCK PARTS CO.	PARTS	\$135.54
MARTY'S TIRE & AUTO BODY	REPAIR/SERVICE	\$3,900.00
NELSONS OIL & GAS INC.	FURNACE REPAIR	\$300.90
POMP'S TIRE SERVICE INC.	TIRES	\$2,173.60
ROSANE CONSTRUCTION LLC	LOST CHECK REIMBURSE	\$3,401.28
SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS, INC	LG SEL-RECYCLING PAR	\$289.20
STURDEVANT'S AUTO VALUE	PARTS	\$174.14
WEST RIVER TRAILER SALES	PARTS	\$534.93
	TOTAL FOR COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$56,322.99
911 SURCHARGE REIMB FUND		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLY	\$45.54
	TOTAL FOR 911 SURCHARGE REIMBURSEMENT FUND	\$45.54
EMERGENCY MGT FUND		
GLASS PRO +	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$50.00
RUSHMORE COMMUNICATIONS	REPROGRAMMING RADIO	\$175.50
	TOTAL FOR EMERGENCY MGT FUND	\$225.50
DOMESTIC ABUSE FUND		
W.E.A.V.E.	2025 ALLOTMENT	\$7,000.00
	TOTAL FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE FUND	\$7,000.00
L.E.P.C. GRANT FUND		
LYNNS DAKOTAMART	SUPPLY	\$30.34
	TOTAL FOR L.E.P.C. GRANT FUND	\$30.34
24/7 SOBRIETY FUND		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLY	\$249.34
INTOXIMETERS	SUPPLY	\$210.00
	TOTAL FOR 24/7 SOBRIETY FUND	\$459.34
COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND		
DRM INC.	REPAIR/MAINTENANCE	\$5,276.00
	TOTAL FOR COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND	\$5,276.00
	TOTAL FOR BILLS PAID BETWEEN 02/07 AND 02/20/2025	\$104,491.50

Break was taken at 9:49 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:57 a.m.

Public comment was heard from Teresa Pullen, Treasurer. She wanted to clarify regarding Susan Henderson's comment at the last meeting. There are currently 3 software companies that are working with the Auditor's Office.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen, to go into Executive Session for personnel and legal as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) and (3), at 10:00 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:19 a.m., with no action taken. The Chairman of the meeting adjourned at 10:20 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