

FALL RIVER COUNTY UNAPPROVED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2025

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in special session on August 26, 2025. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell, Sandra Wahlert and Sue Ganje, Auditor. Sandra Wahlert was absent.

No Invocation was given.

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 Allen, to approve the agenda and to include discussion and action on a repayment from certain employees where certain pay types did not have the correct amount deducted of for SD Retirement, and to include Public Comment.

There were no conflicts of interest.

John McBride of Anderson Engineers, met with the Board to present a plat.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Cope, to approve the following plat:

FALL RIVER COUNTY RESOLUTION #2025-25

A Plat of Lots 3 and 4 of Angostura Flats Subdivision, located in Government Lot 2 of Section 18, T8S, R7E, BHM, Fall River County, South Dakota

WHEREAS, there has been presented to the County Commissioners of Fall River County, South Dakota, the within plat of the above described lands, and it appearing to this Board that the system of streets conforms to the system of streets of existing plats and section lines of the county; adequate provision is made for access to adjacent unplatted lands by public dedication or section line when physically accessible; all provisions of the county subdivision regulations have been complied with; all taxes and special assessments upon the property have been fully paid; and the plat and survey have been lawfully executed; now and therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that said plat is hereby approved in all respects.

Dated this 26th day of August, 2025.

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

ATTEST:

/S/ Sue Ganje
Sue Ganje, Auditor
Fall River County Auditor

Russell clarified to the public that the Commissioners will be looking at road widths, and thanks to John McBride for the information he provided. Russell apologized for the delay in looking at this issue, but the Board will look at road width consistently in the future.

John McBride stated that there will need an ordinance or resolution on road widths, posted publicly for everyone to see. Andersen Engineers can inform people when the County has the approved documents. McBride offered to assist with the process. Cope would like to see a committee formed, suggesting the Highway Superintendent Tony March, State's Attorney Lance Russell, and GIS Coordinator Stacey Martin, and possibly a Commissioner.

Dar Coy, Emergency Manager, met with the Board and presented the following quotes for a new 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado pickup: Denny Menholt, Rapid City, \$53,519.00; Beck Motor Company, Pierre, \$45,600 (with an odometer reading of 4713 miles); and Eagle Chevrolet, Chadron NE, \$52,570.

Cope questioned the use of the old pickup, Coy is working on that. Discussion was held on the current pickup which is a 2014 model with 78,000 miles on it. A new motor was installed about 2 years ago; lights are required. Russell asked if graphics were required, Coy noted that he doesn't really need them. Russell insisted that Coy should keep the current truck a little bit longer. Coy said it is hard to get County vehicles worked on because the County doesn't pay tax on things. It took him 6 weeks to get the catalytic converter put on the current pickup. Russell said A variety of vehicle service businesses should be considered when service and repairs are needed in a timely manner.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen to take no action at this time on a pickup purchase.

Sue Ganje, Auditor met with Board to discuss an SDRS audit, there were previous issues regarding the "seventh day" pay and/or "Admin Leave", and shift differentials. Retirement didn't calculate on some of the pay codes and wasn't taken out properly. The County wants to offer a 5-month repayment for some to pay back. The goal is to get everything corrected by the end of the year, so everyone can get proper figures reported to the IRS. Ganje stated that all supervisors were sent an email with a letter attached to tell the employees "If are receiving this then your SDRS is not correct", the state is completely paid back for retirement, but they are waiting on a report of the corrected amounts for May and June. Bobbie Janis, Administrative Assistant from the Auditor's Office went to the podium to confirm that the email was sent out on Friday, August 22, 2025. On Monday, August 25, 2025, Stacy Schmidt, Deputy Auditor, and Janis called every employee that the incorrect calculations for Retirement had affected. They checked off everyone that was contacted and favorable to the repayment on a spreadsheet. With most employees affected agreeing to the repayment. Individual employees spoke to the commission about their SD Retirement, noting issues regarding payroll, reimbursements from certain employees. There is an audit currently occurring between the County and SDRS that is nearly complete. Once completed, all employees' retirement monies will be visible in each employee's individual SDRS accounts.

Motion by Russell, seconded by Allen to approve repayment from certain employees, with payment amounts to be agreed upon by employees.

Falkenburg asked that time be set with individual employees to review their pay and get any needed answers.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen to approve list of Corrections to Retirement (on file at the Auditor's office).

The Commissioners wondered if Software Services, Inc was responsible for the mistakes. Ganje informed them that Patti has been the County's programmer, including payroll, since 1987, and there has never been issues.

The Commissioners want the Auditor's Office to set up special meetings for each employee and have them note their concerns and ask questions on the issues and document them. Russell then stated that the Auditor's Office should be individually proactive to help people understand.

There were no other public comments.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Cope, to enter Executive Session at 9:51 a.m.

Chairman Falkenburg declared the meeting adjourned at 11:02 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