

## **FALL RIVER COUNTY UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2026**

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on January 22, 2026. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell, Sandra Wahlert and Sue Ganje, Auditor.

An invocation 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.sdcoumies.org> or on Facebook on the Fall River County page.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the agenda with changes as follows to add Executive Session as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) personnel (3) legal.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to approve the Fall River County Commission meeting minutes from January 8, 2026 with the change on page 2: to appoint Sandra Wahlert and alternate Joe Falkenburg (rather than Wahlert and Russell) to the 4-H/Extension Board.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the following action agenda items, with Russell abstaining on the salary increase for VSO Darren Russell:

- Approve anniversary wage increases for Jennifer Bengs, DOE Certified Assessor, from \$18.75/hr to \$19.50/hr, effective 1/21/2026; for Morgan Erickson, DOE Deputy Certified Assessor, from \$19.85/hr to \$21.10/hr with longevity of \$35.00 per month, effective 1/22/2026. (all per Union Contract)
- Approve 6-month anniversary salary increase for Darren Russell from \$41,559.96/yr to \$45,000.00/yr, effective 2/1/2026.
- Review of Community Health Nurse's Quarterly report.
- Approve inventory transfer of Tag #02175 Yoga ball chair, from Register of Deeds office to Auditor's office.
- Approve surplus to junk an ethernet switch 5-port (gigabit), No Tag #, a Computer PC Tag #02372 and Computer PC Tag #02321, all from the Register of Deeds Office.
- Accept Petition from Shep's Canyon Estates Subdivision landowners requesting formation of Sheps Canyon Estates Road District, set meeting and election for February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00pm located at first floor hallway of courthouse

No County Assistance applications were presented.

**Dar Coy, Emergency Manager**, met with the Board, gave updates.

- Motion to approve volunteer list (see Auditor's Office for complete listing) made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen.

- Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter LEMPG.

**Tony March, Highway Superintendent**, met with the Board, gave updates.

- Motion made by Cope, seconded by Russell, to approve the Road Approach Permit from Christian Frederick on the west side of WG Flats Loop, approximately at 14468 WG Flats Loop Oral, SD 57766.
- Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell, to approve travel for Tony March, Highway Superintendent, to attend the 2026 Short Course, March 17-19, 2026 at the Lodge at Deadwood at a cost of \$200.00 plus lodging and per diem for meals not included with Course.
- Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to approve purchase of a 10ft Snowplow from DeBoer Site Service LLC for \$1,000.00. With Russell and Wahlert voting no, and Allen, Cope and Falkenburg voting yes, the motion carried.
- Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to approve purchase of a Truck Broom from DeBoer Site Service LLC for \$1,000.00. With Russell voting no, and Allen, Cope, Falkenburg and Wahlert voting yes, the motion carried.
- Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Cope to approve the low bid from Volland in the amount of \$2.45/ gal for 8,000 gallons of unleaded gasoline (no ethanol.)
- Rediscussed the Highway crew numbers and previous crew numbers. The Department has been down 2 men since March started.

**Lyle Norton, Sheriff**, met with the Board, gave updates.

- Motion made by Falkenburg, seconded by Wahlert to approve Deputy Mike Close to attend Street-Level De-Escalation Training in Yankton, SD 2/4/26-2/6/26. Training is free, per-diem for meals and lodging (\$107/night) requested.
- Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to purchase two (2) Stalker Radar units for patrol vehicles, \$7,046.00.
- Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to surplus to sell Taser7 units to Hot Springs Police Department at a rate of **\$600** each.
- Jail census, 8 males and 2 females in house with 3 males in Pennington County for a total of 13 inmates.

**Darren Russell, VSO**, met with the Board.

- Presented 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Activities and the number of benefit payments he has been working on with Veterans in our community. It was noted that in 2025 there were 1,811 active payments totaling \$31,894,389.01.

**Ben Sharp, Rebecca Terk and Sarah Peterson**, met with the board.

Discussion was held regarding writing a letter to appeal the DANR's decision not to have the hearing in FRC . The Commissioners want to appeal the denial. Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to appeal DANR's decision.

**Levi Lauing, County Resident**, met with the Board to request an Agriculture abatement and to correct an error in valuation. Motion made by Allen, seconded by Cope to approve the following : parcel number 59000-00000-04600, abatement for '24 pay '25 in amount of \$5901.58 and abatement for '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$4,890.54.

**Clark Brown, County Resident,**

- Met with the Board to request a speed limit of 25mph and 15mph to be posted in Ridgeview Springs Subdivision. Lyle stated that they are reasonable speeds for these roads. Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert to approve the speed limit request, contingent on the need to have a hearing.

**Teresa Pullen, County Treasurer**

- Outlined the County's investments and explained that interest earnings are being reinvested.
- Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to approve 16 hrs vacation payout, as per union contract, for Kathy Timmins, Deputy Treasurer, due to the office being very short staffed.

**Dave Weishaupl, Maintenance Supervisor**

- Supplied County vehicle updates, the Uplander van needs a transmission, the Board feels that it can be put up on Auction.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert, to pay bills.

GENERAL FUND		
BLACKBIRD AUTOMOTIVE MAINT	AUTO MAINTENANCE	\$505.00
\$90.00 INV 121925A/HUGHES CO11863 OIL, \$30.00 " " CABIN AIR FILTER, \$125.00 " " IGNITION COIL/CYLINDER 1, -\$5.00 " " FLEET DISCOUNT, \$90.00 INV 011026A/DOBBS CO12790 OIL, \$40.00 " " CABIN AIR FILTER, \$30.00 " " ENGINE AIR FILTER, \$60.00 " " FRONT LEFT FENDER REPAIR, \$50.00 " " DIAG & REPAIR BRAKE NOISE, -\$5.00 " " FLEET DISCOUNT		
BANGS MCCULLEN	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$2,136.00
BH COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOV	2026 ASSESSMENT DUES	\$3,725.00
BOMGAARS	COMM WATER & SHER SU	\$137.97
Comm - \$7.98 INV 88705813 BOTTLED WATER X 2; Sheriff - \$129.99 INV 88706159 WIN 5.56 MAG SHEL		

CENTURY BUSINESS LEASING	COPIER LEASE/USAGE ST ATTY OFF	\$87.99
CORRECT RX PHARMACY SERV.	INMATE PHARMACY	\$18.47
SD DEPT OF LABOR & REG	REEMPLOYMENT ASSIST	\$154.65
DUFFY LAW FIRM, PROF. LLC	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$372.00
EMBLEMS, INC	EAGLE SHOULDER PATCH	\$416.00
EDGEMONT SENIOR MEALS	2026 BUDGET ALLOTMENT	\$3,500.00
EDGEMONT SENIOR MEALS	VOID/WRONG VENDOR	-\$3,500.00
EDGEMONT SENIOR CITIZENS	2026 BUDGET ALLOTMENT	\$3,500.00
EXECUTIVE MGMT FINANCE	BIT NETWORK FEES	\$64.25
FALL RIVER COUNTY HERALD	PUBLICATIONS	\$1,579.34
FALL RIVER CTY TREASURER	REG '25 FORD EXPL IN	\$32.70
FALL RIVER CTY TREASURER	VOID/ALREADY REGISTERED	-\$32.70
GALLS	SUPPLIES	\$128.78
Sheriff - \$10.99 INV 033632233 POCKET KEY, \$.80 " " SHIPPING		
GOLDEN WEST	TELECOMM/INTERNET/FAX	\$2,490.85
HOT SPRINGS ACE HARDWARE	CLEANING SUPPLIES/SUPPLIES	\$126.08
Sher - \$5.39 INV 365509 FORMULA 409 LN 32OZ, \$5.93 " " 409 MULTI-SRFC SPRY 32OZ, \$6.83 " " CLOROX CLEANUP FR 32 OZ, \$8.09 " " CLOROX GERMI 81 OZ, \$15.29 " " RAGS PAPER 12X10 200 CT; Building - \$15.29 " " C BATTERIES 12 PK, \$16.19 " " AAA BATTERIES 30 PK. -\$5.00 " " REWARDS, \$30.58 INV 365763 RAGS 12X10 200 CTX2, \$12.58 " " CLOROX CLNR BLCH 32 OZ X 2, \$8.98 " " DAWN ULTRA DISH SP 18OZ X2, \$5.93 " " 409 MULTI SRFC SPR 32 OZ		
HUSTEAD LAW OFFICE, P.C.	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$923.14
JOHNSON, CAROL	COURT REPORTER SERVICES	\$72.80
LYNNS DAKOTAMART	INMATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$129.18
\$3.78 TC HONEY LEMON X 2, \$7.56 TC CHERRY CGH DROP X 4, \$3.78 TP HNY CGH DROP X 2, \$7.78 TC MIGRAINE CAP X 2, \$48.87 TC IBUPROFEN CAPS X 3, \$25.16 TC COLD SFTG X 4, \$32.25 TYLENOL TAB X 3		
LYNN'S DAK. MART PHARMACY	INMATE PHARMACY	\$202.46
MASTEL, BRUCE	HOST DATABASE SERVIC	\$35.00
MAVERICK TIRE & AUTO	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$327.75
\$25.00 INV 045642 FL TIRE REP/CO12201, \$233.68 " " AC DELCO BATTERY/CO12201, \$8.19 " " OIL FILTER/CO12201, \$11.95 " " CHANGE MOTOR OIL/CO12201, \$48.93 " " CHEVRON FULL SYNTH X 7/"		
MEDICAL WASTE TRANSPORT	DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL WASTE	\$189.30
MOCIC	2026 MEMBERSHIP AMOUNT	\$100.00
NELSONS OIL & GAS INC.	TANK RENTAL & PROPANE	\$36.00
QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC	POST MACH SERV	\$1,833.67
NORTON, TINA	CONTRACT NURSE JAN 2026	\$1,500.00

OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY	ELEVATOR REP DUE TO POWER OUT	\$2,163.29
PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL	INMATE HOUSING DEC 2	\$2,625.00
CITY OF RAPID CITY	DEC 2025 BAC DETERMINATIONS	\$80.00
SOUTHERN HILLS ECONOMIC	2026 BUDGET ALLOTMENT	\$10,000.00
SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LABORATORY FEES	\$50.00
SD DEPT OF REVENUE	DECEMBER 2025 REMITTANCE	\$60.00
SERVALL	RUG SERVICE	\$594.02
STURDEVANT'S AUTO VALUE	VEHICLE MAINT SUPPLIES	\$86.22
Sheriff - \$14.98 INV 831043001 FUEL TRX2 TRANS, \$9.27 INV 831042811 OIL FILTER/1S, \$21.98 " " QT MOBILE 1 0W20 X2/1S, \$39.99 " " 5QT MOBILE 1 0W20/1S		
TMA	TIRES FOR '05 CHEV COLO	\$1,348.41
\$436.92 INV 93562 NEXEN 205/75R15 X 4, \$15.00 " " TIRE DISPOSAL FEE X 3, \$40.00 " " TIRE BALANCE X 4, \$8.00 " " VALVE STEM X 2, \$60.00 " " DUP MAG LUG NUT, \$508.28 " " BLACK ROCK WHEELS X 4, \$99.88 " " FRONT END ALIGNMENT, \$102.83 " " RIGHT OUTTER TIE ROD END, \$62.50 " " MECHNICAL LABOR, \$15.00 " " SHOP SUPPLIES		
VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC	CAMA WEB SERVICES	\$14,781.25
\$2,681.25 INV 722 SERVICE FEE TOTAL, \$750.00 INV 712 AG BUILD PRICING FEE, \$700.00 " " COMPARABLE SEARCH SERV FEE, \$1,750.00 " " NETWORK ADD SEAT SERV FEE, \$1,500.00 " " NETWORK UPGRADE SERV FEE, \$1,100.00 " " PRECOMPUT COMM/IND PRICING, \$850.00 " " PHOTOVISION SERVICE FEE, \$650.00 " " PRO VERSION UPGR SERV FEE, \$500.00 " " REMOTE EDIT ADD SEAT SERV, \$1,100.00 " " RESIDENT PRICING SERV FEE, \$1,000.00 " " REMOTE EDIT SERV FEE, \$700.00 " " SKETCH SERVICE FEE, \$1,500.00 " " DATABASE SERV FEE		
	<b>TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$52,579.87</b>
<b>COUNTY ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>		
ADVANCED DRUG TESTING	RANDOM DRUG TESTING	\$31.20
BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC	ELECTRIC UTILITY	\$70.23
BOMGAARS	SUPPLIES/MACIEJEWSKI	\$274.66
\$24.71 INV 88705413 TSHIRT/CM, \$27.74 " " SHIRT/CM, \$62.99 INV 88704494 LINE JACKET/CM, \$24.29 " " TSHIRT/CM, \$49.49 " " BIB OVERALLS/CM, \$49.49 " " BIB DENIM PREWASH/CM, \$19.99 INV 88705788 TIES,CABLE,INDUST, \$15.96 " " HOSE X 4		
BUTLER MACHINERY CO.	EQUIP MAINTENANCE	\$396.00
\$396.00 INV 06CT0001485 CON #FRC068925		
COLONIAL RESEARCH	SUPPLIES	\$644.51
\$260.00 INV 154635 RCC-230 BLAST, \$365.10 " " RCC-222 CITRA BURST, \$19.41 " " SHIPPING		
DEBOER, MICHAEL	HITCH/SNOW PLOW & BROOM	\$2,000.00

DEBOER, MICHAEL	VOID/NOT APPROVED @ COMM	-\$1,000.00
FALL RIVER AUTO SUPPLY	SUPPLIES/PARTS	\$610.66
\$401.58 INV 7675-287263 HHC HOSE X 194, \$209.08 " " HHC 16G-16FJX		
FORWARD DISTRIBUTING	BRAKE CLEANER X 7	\$31.50
G&H DISTRIBUTING OF RC	SUPPLIES/PARTS	\$344.40
GODFREY BRAKE SERVICE	TOOLS/SUPPLIES	\$116.64
GOLDEN WEST	TELECOMM/INTERNET/FAX	\$242.29
HOT SPRINGS ACE HARDWARE	TOOLS	\$36.99
\$36.99 INV 365762 IMPACT EXTRAC SET6PC		
KIEFFER SANITATION	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION	\$177.81
MACIEJEWSKI, CALVIN	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	\$29.00
NAPA PARTSONE	2.5 DEF X 80	\$1,039.20
NELSONS OIL & GAS INC.	TANK RENTAL & PROPANE	\$772.00
NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS	SUPPLIES	\$150.24
POMP'S TIRE SERVICE INC.	TIRES/SERVICE/REPAIR	\$1,566.77
\$1,326.14 INV 1760024972 385/65R22.5 X 2, \$60.00 " " COUNTERACT ECO-BALANCE X 2, \$ 61.29 " " FLAT REPAIR, \$107.52 " " TRK DSMNT/MNT X 2, \$11.82 " " SHOP/SERVICE SUPPLIES		
RDO EQUIPMENT CO	36 LATHE	\$47.69
SDACHS	2026 SDACHS & NACE	\$800.00
STURDEVANT'S AUTO VALUE	SUPPLIES/PARTS/TOOLS	\$534.92
\$31.99 INV 831043043 DRIVE BUDD WHEEL, \$23.99 INV 831043187 SNAP RING PLIERS, \$8.41 " ON-OFF-ON TGL 50 AMP, \$30.19 INV 831042850 FEMALE FL FAC OR, \$13.29 " " FEMALE FLAT FACED OR, \$42.40 " " HYDRAULIC HOSE X 80, \$54.95 INV 831042851 30/30 SPR BRAKE, \$329.70 INV 831042849 30/30 SP BRAKEX6		
DONALDSON, CLINT	2011 TRAIL KING BELL	\$30,700.00
	<b>TOTAL FOR COUNTY ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$39,616.71</b>
<b>911 SURCHARGE REIMB FUND</b>		
GOLDEN WEST	TELECOMM/INTERNET/FA	\$859.99
	<b>TOTAL FOR 911 SURCHARGE REIMB FUND</b>	<b>\$859.99</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MGT FUND</b>		
GOLDEN WEST	TELECOMM/INTERNET/FA	\$178.91
	<b>TOTAL FOR EMERGENCY MGT FUND</b>	<b>\$178.91</b>
<b>24/7 SOBRIETY FUND</b>		
SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LABORATORY SERVICES	\$100.00
	<b>TOTAL FOR 24/7 SOBRIETY FUND</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

	<b>TOTAL FOR BILLS PAID BETWEEN 01/09 AND 01/22/2026</b>	<b>\$93,335.48</b>
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Break at 10:17a.m. ~Back in session at 10:25a.m.

**Everett Dossey, Director of Equalization-**

- Proposed a public information campaign to educate residents on valuations and information on assist them with property tax forms.

**No Public Comment**

**Joe Allen, Commissioner**, had no update to report on the proposed Jail/Justice Center.

**Don Olstad, County Resident**, spoke to oppose the proposed Jail/Justice Center. He expressed concern with the property tax increases within the last five years, and his concern was expressed on further increasing property taxes to fund the jail. He estimated it would increase the mill levies by 37.5% based on 2025 valuations.

**Vince Logue, County Resident**, got up to support the proposed Jail/Justice Center.

Vince feels that looking at the two options we have is either transport and pay to house inmates in other counties or build a new facility. In the long run the cost to transport will be more than building the facility. Vince stated we could bring in income by housing prisoners for the US Marshalls.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Laborer's Local Union 620 and Fall River County 12/21/2025-12/20/2028.

**Sue Ganje, County Auditor**, presented abatements and refunds.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Cope to approve the following: refund for parcel # 21000-00806-15300, '24 pay '25 in the amount of \$1,302.80 for Flyte, Mary Jane; abatements for the following: parcel #81900-01979-00090, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$102.46 for Singleton, Connie; parcel# 65010-00500-00000, '24 pay '25 in the amount of \$128.12 for Angostura Estates Homeowners and Water Users Assn Inc; parcel# 09000-00703-11200, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$2,135.89 for Varas, Theodore Jr Revocable Trust; parcel# 75320-00300-00800, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$2,265.00 for McElroy, Timothy & Linda; parcel# 85000-02020-00020, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$556.68 for Selah Mission; parcel# 75500-01700-00600, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$1,716.31 for Hofer, Tommy & Judith; parcel# 75410-01100-01200, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$1,202.40 for Muheim, Danney; parcel# 72190-00100-00700, '25 pay '26 in

the amount of \$295.43 for Graham, Norman Jr; parcel# 72100-01100-01200, '25 pay '26 in the amount of \$584.00 for Peters, Joe & Cheryl; parcel# 78100-03500-00100 and 78100-03500-00200, '25 pay '26 for the total amount of \$261.26 for the Town of Oelrichs; parcel# 78100-05800-00100 and 78100-05800-00500, '25 pay '26 for the total amount of \$558.54 for the Oelrichs Volunteer Fire Dept.

Motion made by Cope, seconded by Allen, to enter Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) personnel, (3) legal.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:19 a.m.

Chairman Falkenburg declared the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

/s/ Joe Falkenburg

Joe Falkenburg, Chairman  
Board of Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

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