

**FALL RIVER COUNTY UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES April 16, 2026**

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in regular session April 16, 2026. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Deb Russell, Joe Falkenburg, 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 with none 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 page.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert to approve the agenda with changes as follows: Amend the agenda to include an additional resident on the list of appeals.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert, to approve the Fall River County Commission meeting minutes from April 2, 2026.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to set Hearing for 2026-2027 Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License Renewals for May 7, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert to approve travel request for Teresa Pullen, Treasurer; Melody Engebretson, Register of Deeds; and Arrow Bettelyoun, Election Admin Assistant to attend SDACO Spring Workshop Pierre May 6-7 with travel on May 5 at a cost of \$200.00/person plus lodging and per diem.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to table County assistance 2026-04 request until later in the meeting.

At this time, there was no one from the Sheriff's Office, so they moved on to the Highway Department.

Tony March, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board for updates. March presented information on the Spring 2026 surplus list for the Fall River County Highway Department.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to approve the purchase of Etnyre K Chip Spreader, Dacotah Diamond Actions (Hand County Surplus sale) in the amount of \$8,208.00. Allen, Falkenburg and Wahlert voted yes. Cope and Russell were opposed.

Discussion was held on purchasing equipment before Commission meetings where the full Board votes to approve or deny it. March stated that it was purchased at an auction and was impossible to get approval before the facts were known. Russell mentioned that obtaining equipment without approval at a meeting does not work for County government purchasing.

March reviewed asphalt for roads. Russell was against using funds designated elsewhere for asphalt. It was mentioned that asphalt roads should last a long time and discussion last year was to use the spreader to lay asphalt down on a small stretch of road as a test. It was also mentioned that there is a dilemma with dry roads and dust and more traffic on the secondary and country roads. It was discussed that increased traffic will cause asphalt to deteriorate quicker. March stated that asphalt could last 5-20 years. Also suggested to asphalt every other year. It was suggested again to do a small stretch of road to test its viability. March then said he received a quote for oil from a bid through Pennington County from Simon. He will bring it to a future meeting for approval. He informed the Board that 9 miles of asphalt was done for \$700,000.00, acknowledging that it was over budget, but stated that it saved a lot of roads. Falkenburg suggests focusing on the Smithwick Road and Shep's Canyon Road as both need attention.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to purchase enough oil for Old Highway 79.

March gave an update on the Igloo project. It is progressing but waiting for the Memorandum of Agreement. All documents for reimbursement are due to FEMA by April 21st. Expecting to get 80% of the \$220,000 in return. Purple Wave Auction is now online.

Rachel Hosterman, Sheriff Office Manager, met with the Board and gave updates.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Russell to approve the following quote from Axon of \$127,364.40 over 5 years or \$25,472.88 per year for In-Car camera systems.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to approve Deputy Schiferl to attend 2026 South Dakota Narcotics Officer Conference in Deadwood, SD, April 29 - May 1, 2026, with registration of \$100, 2 nights lodging at \$110/night, and per diem. Falkenburg requested Deputy Schiferl to report to the Board on DCI conference for next agenda.

Hosterman provided the jail census. There are thirteen inmates in house, eleven are males and 2 females. There are no inmates in Pennington or Meade Counties.

Dar Coy, Emergency Management met with the Board and gave updates. December FEMA Declaration was approved. They will be here April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Title III monies are close to being disbursed. Mueller Center to be used for Mass Casualty drill, June 13, 2026. The Fire Ordinance will be addressed by Lance Russell later in the meeting. Coy suggested the ordinance be added to future agendas to address high-danger conditions and for funding for water tank.

Darren Russell, Veterans Service Officer, met with the Board. The first quarter report was presented. There were 210 Disabled Veterans that were helped with their pensions, 39 new awards totaling over \$100,000.00, and 26 retroactive awards time totaling \$252,000.00. Russell has continued training with Field Service Officer Will Huffman. Russell submitted two Legislative policy proposals redirecting funds to a VA principal fund to be used toward home loans, to reduce homelessness for Veterans.

Lance Russell, State's Attorney, met with the Board to provide updates.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Fall River County Fire Ordinance #2026-01. Second reading will be on the next meeting agenda, then the Ordinance will be effective immediately.

**FALL RIVER COUNTY ORDINANCE #2026-01  
AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR TEMPORARY EMERGENCY  
REGULATION  
OF FIRE HAZARDS IN FALL RIVER COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA**

**WHEREAS**, the Fall River County Commission is charged with protecting the health and safety of the citizens of Fall River County including all property situated therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fall River County Commission has consulted with local fire officials, law enforcement and emergency management officials concerning the threat posed by wildfires; and

**WHEREAS**, the threat of wildfires in Fall River County is such so as to pose a significant danger to the health and safety of the citizens of Fall River County including property situated therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fall River County Emergency Manager has consulted with local fire officials and law enforcement officials concerning the need to regulate open burning under certain climatic conditions that pose a threat of fire; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fall River County Commission has deemed it necessary to enact certain temporary restrictions set forth in this Ordinance in order to reduce the threat posed to the citizens and property of Fall River County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FALL RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** That pursuant to SDCL 7-8-20 (18) the Fall River County Commission does hereby enact this ordinance to insure public safety on an emergency basis, effective immediately and impose a ban on all open burning and fireworks except for petroleum fueled or charcoal briquette fueled grills used for preparing food. This burn ban applies to any individual in Fall River County, South Dakota, outside any municipality or land within the Black Hills Fire Protection District, and is in effect when the National Weather Service has declared the South Dakota Grassland Fire Danger Index to be in the **HIGH, VERY HIGH or EXTREME** level. Individuals will be allowed to use gas fueled or charcoal fired BBQ grills and will be allowed open burning when the fire index is at the **LOW or MODERATE** level. Campfires will **NOT** be allowed on private land or licensed commercial campgrounds. Campgrounds operated by the State of South Dakota or US Government must follow the established laws and regulations.

**SECTION 2:** That this open burning ban will remain in effect until repealed by the Fall

River County Commission. Pursuant to SDCL 7-18A-2 the penalty for violating this ordinance shall include a fine not to exceed five hundred (\$500) dollars for each violation and/or imprisonment for a period not to exceed thirty days for each violation; or both such fine and imprisonment. Additionally person(s) in violation of this bum ban may be responsible for any and all suppression costs pursuant to South Dakota Law.

**SECTION 3:** That the Fall River County Commission declares an emergency and this ordinance shall be in effect immediately in order to protect the peace, health and safety of the citizens of Fall River County.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Joe Falkenburg  
 Chairman, Fall River Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Sue Ganje, Fall River County Auditor

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to approve travel request to attend the State’s Attorney Conference in Deadwood to include lodging for May 6-9, 2026, and per diem. To be reimbursed 80-90% by the Attorney General’s Office and the LET fund.

Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to pay the bills as follows:

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
ANGEL ARMOR, LLC	GEAR COMPONENTS/SUPPLES	\$938.00
BUTLER, LEVI & RACHELLE	2024 PROP TAX REFUND	\$126.24
BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT SYS	2026 BUDGET ALLOTMENT	\$7,500.00
CBH CO-OP	PROPANE	\$3,079.85
CENTURY BUSINESS LEASING	INV 847616 AUD USAGE	\$1,174.33
CHEYENNE SANITATION	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION	\$387.00
COLBATH & SPERLICH, PC	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$7,543.35
MCCOY PC	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$1,468.60
DEAN SCHAEFER	COURT REPORTER SERVICES	\$36.00
EN-TECH LLC	PEST CONTROL	\$125.00
FALL RIVER HEALTH SERVICE	INMATE MEDICAL	\$175.70
FALL RIVER COUNTY HERALD	PUBLICATIONS	\$1,156.38
FR COUNTY TREASURER	TITLE TRANS 2026 CHEV	\$28.70
GALLS	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE/HANSEN	\$128.95
Hansen - \$115.96 INV 034668824 MERRELL CHAM 8, \$12.99 " " SHIPPING		
GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES	TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	\$8,846.20
GOLDEN WEST	TELEPHONE/INTERNET/FAX	\$2,565.88
WOLF, GEORGINE	COURT REPORTER SERVICES	\$90.20
HEALTHCARE SERVICES INC	INMATE MEALS MARCH 2026	\$7,752.00

HOT SPRINGS ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES/CLEANING SUPPLIES	\$104.49
Jail \$17.99 INV 368409 PADLOCK, \$30.58 INV 368715 RAGS PAPER 12X10"X2, \$8.09 " " CLOROX GERMIC 81OZ, \$4.49 " " DAWN ULTRA DISH SP 18OZ, \$5.39 " " FORMULA 409 32OZ, \$5.93 FORMULA 409 SURFACE SPRAY, \$6.83 " " CLOROX CLEANUP 32OZ, \$25.19 INV 368864 ANCHR CN 75 PK, Bldg \$17.98 INV 368912 WAX+CLEAN MOP&GLOX2, \$6.83 " " GOO GONE GEL, \$8.26 " " FML AERATOR 1.5GPM CHRМ		
CITY OF HOT SPRINGS	WATER UTILITY & USAGE	\$672.45
HUSTEAD LAW OFFICE, P.C.	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$2,118.44
LYNN'S DAK. MART PHARMACY	INMATE PHARMACY	\$6.47
MASSA DENTAL OFFICES PC	INMATE DENTAL SERVICES	\$90.96
MASTEL, BRUCE	HOST DATABASE/UPDATE	\$60.00
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	SCANNING EQUIP MONTH	\$140.00
MONUMENT HEALTH	MORGUE FEE	\$500.00
QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC	MAR 2026 POSTAGE	\$868.38
NORTON, TINA	APRIL 2026 NURSE CONTRACT	\$1,500.00
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS	PRAIRIE DOG BAIT	\$3,360.00
O'NEILL, JUSTIN	COURT APPT ATTY FEES	\$851.76
PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL	INMATE HOUSING & MED	\$3,710.94
PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL	MARCH 2026 TRANSPORT	\$585.40
PRAIRIE VIEW UMC	HALL RENTAL/EDUCATION	\$120.00
	MAR 2026 BAC DETERMINATIONS	\$350.00
CITY OF RAPID CITY		
SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	LABORATORY FEES	\$300.00
SD DEPT OF REVENUE	MARCH 2026 REMITTANCE	\$660.00
SD STATE ATTORNEY ASSOC	2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$909.16
SERVALL	RUG SERVICES	\$594.02
SKINNER, MATTHEW L. PC	COURT APPT ATTY SERVICES	\$1,475.15
SOFTWARE SERVICES INC	ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE	\$975.00
SOUTHERN HILLS LAW PLLC	COURT APPT ATTY SERVICES	\$2,123.31
SOUTHERN HILLS LAW PLLC	COURT APPT ATTY SERVICES	\$795.40
SOUTHERN HILLS LAW PLLC	VOID CK/PD SKINNER ON SHL	-\$3,598.46
STEVENS AUTOMOTIVE	VEHICLE REPAIRS/MAINT	\$999.85
Sher \$500.71 FUEL PUMP MODULE/1M, \$242.00 LABOR REPAIRS/1M, \$6.98 1/2 HEATER HOSE/1J, \$28.43 DEXCOOL/LOGLIFE ANTI/1J, \$48.35 HOSE CONNECTOR PARTS/1J, \$110.00 LABOR/REPAIRS/1J, \$4.99 OIL FILTER/1J, \$40.39 SYNTH OIL X 7/1J, \$18.00 SUV/PICKUP SERVICE/1J		
STURDEVANT'S AUTO VALUE	PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$129.82
\$2.25 INV 831045860 WINDSHIELD FLX3, \$279.95 INV 831045900 M12 VARIABLE SP, \$21.41 " " MILWAUKEE ADAPTER KIT		
WOLFE, KEITH & REGINA	2024 & 2025 PROP TAX	\$685.45
WESTERN SD JUV SERV CTR	JUVENILE SERVICES	\$1,550.00
ZACHOW, NANCY	TRANSPORT TO AVERA SF	\$100.00

	<b>TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$65,860.37</b>
<b>COUNTY ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>		
A & B WELDING SUPPLY CO.	WELDING SUPPLIES	\$217.89
\$140.00 INV 0001526274 SUPPLIES, \$10.00 " " HAZMAT CHARGE, \$6.50 " " FUEL CHARGE, \$15.00 " " DELIVERY CHARGE, \$46.39 INV 0000348247 SUPPLIES		
BOMGAARS	CLOTH ALLOW/SUPPLIES	\$41.75
\$9.59 INV 88726215 COWHIDE GLVE/COSTA, \$7.99 " " GOAT GLOVES/COSTA, \$7.59 INV 88726214 SPRAYPAINT, \$7.59 " " SPRAYPAINT, \$8.99 " " SPRAYPAINT		
CITY OF EDGEMONT (UTL)	UTILITY/WATER USAGE	\$87.48
DACOTAH DIAMOND AUCTIONS	ETNYRE MODEL K CHIP	\$8,208.00
\$7,600.00 INV 22966 TOT EXT PRICE, \$608.00 " " 8% BUYER'S PREMIUM		
CITY OF EDGEMONT (H20)	BULK WATER/HWY DEPT	\$606.14
EXCEL TRUCK & TRAILER REP	PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$7,640.89
\$23.43 INV 78654 OIL SAMPLE KIT, \$31.58 " " AD-IP NEW ST CK VALVE KIT, \$67.15 " " 6664 ENGINE AIR FILTER, \$778.30 " " 239142 NORTHERN RADIATOR, \$111.54 " " UPPER RADIATOR HOSE, \$112.73 " " LOWER RADIATOR HOSE. \$18.02 " " FREIGHT, \$49.18 " " CHARGE AIR INTAKE HOSE 4X4, \$969.60 " " CHARGE AIR COOLER, \$102.93 " " ORANGE DOUBLE HUMP 3 X 3, \$88.16 " " AIR TO AIR CLAMP X 8, \$39.28 " " CONSTANT TORQUE HOSE CLX4, \$29.28 " " SEAL X 3, \$132.60 " " VALVE COVER ISOLATOR X 10, \$163.16 " " VALVE COVER GASKET, \$408.50 " " 16AWG FOR UNITET INJ WIRE, \$403.51 " " AFT REAR UNIT INJ WIRE HAR, \$22.56 " " PRE-COOLER MANIFOLD CLAMP, \$27.43 " " SEAL O RING, \$43.36 " " GATES SILICONE HEAT HOSEX8, \$9.62 " " CABLE TIE X 13, \$21.42 " " DUAL SWIVEL SADDLE MOUNTX2, \$11.58 " " BL NYLON DUAL CL CABLE X 2, \$14.04 " " M12-18 HOSE CLAMP X 4, \$15.95 " " EXT LIFE ANTIFREEZE, \$844.74 " " JAKE BRAKE SOLENOID X 3, \$8.56 " " CLEANER X 2, \$292.68 " " ONE PIECE WINDSHIELD, \$2,800.00 " " PARTS/LABOR/INSTALLATION		
FALL RIVER AUTO SUPPLY	PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$100.51
\$30.24 INV 7675-291034 TRLR WIRE X21, \$8.99 " " TOGGLE SWITCH, \$20.58 " " SPST HD ON-OFF LONG HANDLE, \$18.72 INV 7675-291060 TRLR WIRE X13, \$21.98 INV 7675-290697 PRM BEAM BLX2		
FORWARD DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES	\$35.00
\$11.50 INV 976498 TIRE LUBE, \$9.00 " " WINDSHIELD WASH GAL X 2, \$14.50 " " 14" WIRE TIE HD		
FR WATER USERS DISTRICT	BULK WATER/HWY DEPT	\$334.14
GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES	TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	\$27.50
GOLDEN WEST	TELEPHONE/INTERNET/FAX	\$245.94
HERSHBERGER, DANIEL	WELDING SERVICES/TANK	\$250.00
HERSHBERGER, NEIL	SHOP TOOLS	\$878.00
\$200.00 MILL GREASE GUN, \$300.00 MILL BAND SAW, \$189.00 6 AH BATT MILL, \$189.00 2PK 3AH BATT MILL		
HOT SPRINGS ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES	\$71.94

\$9.98 INV K68379 KEY BLNK MST PDLK, \$21.99 " " SOFT SWEEP PUSHBROOM 24", \$2.99 INV 368497 PUTTY KNIFE 2PK, \$3.99 " " PUTTY KNIFE 2PK, \$32.99 " " HEAT GUN FURNO300 1200W		
CITY OF HOT SPRINGS BULK	BULK WATER/HWY DEPT	\$1,422.77
CITY OF HOT SPRINGS	WATER UTILITY & USAGE	\$25.66
INLAND TRUCK PARTS CO.	SERVICE/2006 STLG LT	\$2,231.71
\$340.96 INV IN-1970601 MOTOR MOUNT KIT, \$75.58 " " FRONT ENGINE MOUNT, \$72.22 " " FRONT ENGINE MOUNT, \$1,600.00 " " LABOR, \$38.95 " " FREIGHT, \$104.00 " " SHOP SUPPLIES		
OJ WATSON EQUIPMENT	CHAIN	\$1,021.80
PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES	ROAD SIGNS	\$205.00
\$72.10 INV 100939 911 ADDR MARKER X 5, \$61.38 " " STREET SIGN 1-SIDED X 2, \$47.52 " " ST SIGN 1 SIDED W/BORDERX2, \$24.00 " " FREIGHT CHARGES		
RUSHMORE COMMUNICATIONS	RADIO/ANTENNA SERVICE	\$1,311.78
\$1,096.60 INV 0016952-IN MOB VHF 260CHX2, \$159.40 " " ANTENNA VHF X 2, \$43.30 " " NMO COAC CONNECT X 2, \$12.48 " " CRIMP UHF X 2		
STURDEVANT'S AUTO VALUE	PARTS/TOOLS/SUPPLIES	\$303.61
\$2.25 INV 831045860 WINDSHIELD FLX3, \$279.95 INV 831045900 M12 VARIABLE SP, \$21.41 " " MILWAUKEE ADAPTER KIT		
	<b>TOTAL FOR COUNTY ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$25,267.51</b>
<b>911 SURCHARGE REIMB FUND</b>		
GOLDEN WEST	TELEPHONE/INTERNET/FAX	\$833.70
	<b>TOTAL FOR 911 SURCHARGE REIMB FUND</b>	<b>\$833.70</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MGMT FUND</b>		
GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES	TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	\$18.50
GOLDEN WEST	TELEPHONE/INTERNET/FAX	\$175.20
MARTY'S TIRE & AUTO BODY	TIRES 2016 CHEV 1500	\$1,040.00
	<b>TOTAL FOR EMERGENCY MGMT FUND</b>	<b>\$1,233.70</b>
<b>COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND</b>		
BUTLER, LEVI & RACHELLE	2024 PROP TAX REFUND	\$6.20
HOT SPRINGS ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES/CLEANING SUPPLIES	\$33.07
WOLFE, KEITH & REGINA	2024 & 2025 PROP TAX	\$29.00
	<b>TOTAL FOR COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND</b>	<b>\$68.27</b>
	<b>TOTAL FOR BILLS PAID BETWEEN 04/03 &amp; 04/16/2026</b>	<b>\$93,263.55</b>

Break was taken at 9:37 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:45 a.m.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Allen to deny the County Assistance 2026-04 application due to individual owing the County for Court Appointed Attorney Fees.

Falkenburg discussed Senate Bill 96, County Sales Tax - Act to authorize the imposition of a county option gross receipts tax to reduce owner-occupied property taxes. To be put on the upcoming agenda and give the Board an opportunity to vote on it.

There was no public comment.

Aerial Allison, City Administrator, City of Hot Springs met with board regarding Part 77 Airspace and gave updates on Hot Springs City Ordinance 1284. Part 77 Airspace is an area above the airport that the city has been tasked by the FAA to protect. At the moment, there is no authority to go outside the borders of the airport. She is asking the Board to review and approve the Joint Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Hot Springs that gives them the authority to exercise zoning jurisdiction 200+ feet in the air. Bill Lukens, City Councilman and member of the Public Safety Committee stated that Part 77 Airspace begins over the airport property 150' above ground level. At the airport property it proceeds out at a 22/1 ratio so that for every 22 feet that it goes out it goes up 1 foot. So, what that approximately works out to is that when you get out about 1.75 miles you are looking at about 350'. He suggested that anyone that wishes to build cell towers or windmills near the airport are informed that they are within the Part 77 airspace. The two documents of importance are the ordinance that needs to be passed for airport zoning and to discuss the Part 77 airspace and this resolution with the County will give them the extra territorial jurisdiction to inspect and enforce the ordinance. Those are the two things that the state department of Space and Aeronautics division prompted by the FAA has asked them to do. These are the two administrative things we need to do to protect the Part 77 airspace, and then the city is responsible for periodically inspecting the area to make sure everyone is complying. Russell suggested that no action be taken until all evidence has been heard. Kaleb Peterson, Hot Springs City Attorney, stated that in the past the City has relinquished this extra territory jurisdiction to the County and has advised the City to not pass the ordinance until both Boards have come to an agreement once all legal issues have been resolved. He believes the people impacted by this ordinance need to have a vote in the municipal elections. Several avenues: Sign memorandum. Joint planning and zoning committee- representatives from both County and City to regulate Part 77 Airspace. State's Attorney Russell recommends reviewing the memorandum then returning with an agreement at a hearing at a future date.

Motion by Wahlert, seconded by Russell to not approve the Joint Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Hot Springs at this time.

Sue Ganje, Auditor, met with the Board to provide updates.

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to approve hiring Miriam Martin and Don DeVries for Early Voting at \$16.75, temporary part-time, effective April 27-June 1, 2026.

Ganje presented a Press Release for Early Voting that stated ballots will not be available on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2026, due to the record number of statewide candidates petition challenges, and the secretary of state can't certify ballots to us until they get through all their processes,

which delayed printing of the ballots. The Secretary of State sent an email that the law authorized using sample ballots to give to citizens to vote, however, the county will wait for the Official Ballots to avoid any confusion. Once the ballots are received, there is a 48-hour mandate to make the ballots available for voters.

There are still questions regarding the South Dakota Senate Bill 175. It is a new law requiring individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote for the first time or. Valid documents include a specific SD driver's license, passport, or birth certificate. It does not affect current registered voters updating their information.

Ganje presented information from Todd Bailey, State Department of Revenue, a report regarding a Solar Energy payment of \$270,937.96 to be distributed as follows:

- School – Oelrichs                      50%                      \$135,468.98
- County-                                      50%                      \$135,468.98 (General Fund)

Commissioners – Allen updated the committee on the Jail Justice Center. Need to add Cory Johnson to the agenda in late May, regarding the jail facility 36-40 bed which will exclude the court room and could come in under 8.5 million.

Motion made by Russell, seconded by Cope approve the letter to support Meals on Wheels and authorize the Board to sign.

Discussion on a letter to purchase county gravel pit. Suggested a courtesy letter to the people who are leasing it. They will have an opportunity to be made aware of the potential sale. Discussion on inquiring what the land would be used for. SB 245 (creation of a tax reduction fund) was discussed.

John Sides, County resident, wanted to provide public discussion about the jail. He supports the new jail, and he respects the Commissioner's decision. A new jail could be a money maker and possible employer and be a positive thing for our community.

Chairman Falkenburg declared the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

/S/ Joe Falkenburg

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Joe Falkenburg

Chairman, Fall River Commission

ATTEST:  
/S/ Sue Ganje

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Sue Ganje

Fall River County Auditor

**FALL RIVER COUNTY APPROVED CONSOLIDATED BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MINUTES**  
**OF APRIL 16, 2026**

The Fall River Consolidated Board of Equalization met on April 16, 2026. Present: Joe Allen, Les Cope, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell, Sandra Wahlert, Debra Johnston (City of Hot Springs Council Member), Vince Logue (Town of Oelrichs), Sharon Romey (Hot Springs School District 23-2) and Sue Ganje, Auditor. Present from the Director of Equalization Department: Everett Dossey, Director of Equalization, Morgan Erickson, Heather Shaffer and Jennifer Bengs, Certified Assessors.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given, and the meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.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 Board reviewed the responsibilities and took their Oaths of Office and reviewed the Assessment Books for the entire County. Only Commissioners vote on the tax-exempt properties, on new 2026 applications for Owner-occupied changes reported by the March 15, 2026 deadline, Elderly/Disabled tax freeze applications, Veteran tax-exempt applications. Commissioners and other entity representatives vote on stipulation changes and add-ons. Other entity representatives shall only vote on appeals within their jurisdictions; Levey abstained from those items.

Reference the information below for the forthcoming appeal determinations:

Parcel Number	Deedholder	ORIG LAND VL	ORIG BLDG VL	ADJ LAND VL	ADJ BLDG VL
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Motion made by Russell, seconded by Johnston to make no change to the following:

7500-03100-007-00	WILSON, DENNIS D & MARY H	\$ 43,290	\$ 159,221	\$ no change	\$ no change
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Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert to make no change to the following:

65232-00100-027-00	PARLET, COREY PATRICK ET-A	\$ 104,600	\$ 187,780	\$ no change	\$ no change
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Motion made by Russell, seconded by Johnston to approve the following:

75112-00000-017-00	TRENBEATH, ROSALIE	\$ 109,870	\$ 423,857	\$ 109,870	\$ 381,470
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Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Russell to approve the following::

75310-00200-018-00	SNYDER, JEREMY & BRANDY	\$ 28,440	\$ -	\$ 14,220	\$ -
75310-00300-015-00	SNYDER, JEREMY & BRANDY	\$ 51,930	\$ -	\$ 25,970	\$ -
75310-00400-009-00	SNYDER, JEREMY & BRANDY	\$ 27,080	\$ -	\$ 13,540	\$ -

Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Allen to approve the following:

75510-01600-000-02	ELLIOTT, RUTH	\$ 109,830	\$ -	\$ 76,880	\$ -
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Motion made by Russell, seconded by Johnston to approve the following:

75410-01500-011-00	GROETHE, JAMES T & LINDA L	\$ 31,500	\$ -	\$ 17,330	\$ -
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Motion made by Russell, seconded by Wahlert to make no change to the following:

75360-00705-244-90	NOWLAN, RICHARD R & ROBERTA A	\$ 50,871	\$ 389,764	\$ no change	\$ no change
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Motion made by Allen, seconded by Wahlert to make no changes to the following:

75510-00500-001-00	GOETSCH, JASON & IVY	\$ 161,360	\$ 512,580	\$ no change	\$ no change
75510-00500-002-00	GOETSCH, JASON & IVY	\$ 49,450	\$ -	\$ no change	\$ -

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to approve the following:

75530-04500-012-00	FREDERIKSEN, GENE A & SUSAN K	\$ 97,970	\$ 195,209	\$ 62,260	\$ 187,540
755-00600-014-00	FREDERIKSEN, GENE A & SUSAN K	\$ 38,778	\$ -	\$ 17,210	\$ -

Motion made by Wahlert, seconded by Allen to make no change to the following

75510-00600-015-00	FREDERIKSEN, GENE A & SUSAN K	\$ 5,253	\$ -	\$ no change	\$ -
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Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Russell to make no changes to the following:

65130-00000-010-0	STEVENS, JULIE (TRUST)	\$ 95,940	\$ 19,390	\$ no change	\$ no change
65130-00000-009-00	STEVENS, MARK & JULIE	\$ 89,700	\$ 139,850	\$ no change	\$ no change

Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Russell to approve the following:

75116-00000-015-00	MCML LLC OLSTAD, CHAD	\$ 121,280	\$ -	\$ 103,350	\$ -
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Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Russell to approve the following:

75116-00000-011-00	KCI LLC, STEARNS, MELISSA	\$ 83,060	\$ -	\$ 71,190	\$ -
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Motion made by Falkenburg, seconded by Wahlert to make no change to the following:

75116-00000-010-00	KCI LLC, STEARNS, MELISSA	\$ 83,790	\$ 102,420	\$ 71,820	\$ no change
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Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Wahlert to make no changes to the following:

26000-00903-251-00	HAT SIX RANCH LLC	\$ 50,440	\$ -	\$ No change	\$ -
26000-00903-213-00	HAT SIX RANCH LLC	\$ 66,930	\$ -	\$ No change	\$ -
26000-09003-214-00	HAT SIX RANCH LLC	\$ 4,710	\$ -	\$ No change	\$ -
26000-00903-244-00	HAT SIX RANCH LLC	\$ 63,140	\$ -	\$ No change	\$ -

Motion made by Johnston, seconded by Wahlert to make no change to the following:

75115-00000-086-00	HARRIS FAMILY REVOCABLE TRUST	\$ 94,090	\$ -	\$ No change	\$ -
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Chairman Falkenburg declared the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

/s/ Joe Falkenburg

Joe Falkenburg, Chairman

Fall River County Board of Equalization

ATTEST:

/s/ Sue Ganje, Auditor

Sue Ganje, Auditor

Fall River County