

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

The first regular March meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Chairperson Curt Olson. Present were Commissioners Olson, Steve Cottingham, and Steve Lee. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Lynda Snyder; and Road Superintendent Jim Grey.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the minutes of the meetings held on February 3, 2026 and February 18, 2026, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that crack sealing has started on County Road 41. He also stated that he and Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke received training on John Deere Operations Center. This is a new web-based platform that will allow the department to track its equipment and maintenance of the equipment. Discussion followed.

Grey stated he plans to have another used equipment sale in the fall and will bring an updated list to the Commission later in the year. Discussion followed.

Grey presented a permit from West River Telecommunications to install fiber cable telecommunications facilities to serve Eric Johnson at 404 9<sup>th</sup> Ave SW by plowing in the county right-of-way on the south side of McLean County Road 20. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the permit for West River Telecommunications to install fiber cable telecommunications facilities as presented. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lee requested an update on road conditions in the county. Grey recommended keeping road restrictions in place. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented a formal request from Emily Retterath to utilize forty hours of leave under McLean County's Policy 1301-Volunteer Ambulance Service Participant.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the request from Emily Retterath as presented. Discussion followed and the commissioners thanked Retterath for her work as an active member of the Washburn Volunteer Ambulance Service as her volunteer hours are vital to McLean County. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson informed the commissioners of some complaints received regarding missed discount dates when taxpayers stated they mailed their payments on or before the due date. She explained that Century Code states property taxes are due on or before February 15<sup>th</sup> each year. McLean County tax statements were sent with a due date of February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 for 2025 real estate taxes. Per our county's policy, the postmark on the envelope was used when the payment was received after February 17<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the McLean County Auditor's Year-End General Fund Transfer of Funds Resolution. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

### Transfer of Funds and Budget Amendment Resolution

Be it resolved, that the McLean County Board of Commissioners move to make the following transfers of funds to update revenue funds to the correct accounts as follows:

#### Beginning of Year Transfers

- Transfer \$34,106.15 from General Fund (1000.4999.000) to School Resource Officer (2909.3999.000);
- Transfer \$35,347.29 from General Fund (1000.4999.000) to Veterans Services (2920.3999.000);
- Transfer \$24,302.76 from General Fund (1000.4999.000) to Disaster Emergency Fund (2925.3999.000);
- Transfer \$117,731.84 from General Fund (1000.4999.000) to County Agent (2960.3999.000);
- Transfer \$496.00 from County Road (2100.4999.000) to SSFNT Officer (2908.3999.000)

Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2026.

Curt Olson, Chairperson

Beth A. Knutson, Auditor

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the Dakota Central Human Service Zone Transfer of Funds resolutions and the McLean County Auditor's Sweep Account Transfer of Funds resolution. Roll Call: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Both Transfer of Funds resolutions are on file in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank for the period ending February 28, 2026. The total public deposits were \$29,326,171.68 and the total pledged securities were \$32,919,480.00 with an average of \$3,593,308.32.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to accept the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve certified county organized township general fund balances being submitted as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a letter she drafted regarding the proposed plan of use for opioid settlement funds. She stated First District Health Unit Executive Director Holly Brekhus has approved. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the letter as presented for submission to the state. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Olson, to reappoint Steve Cottingham to the Mercer-McLean Library Board for a three-year term, retroactive to July 1, 2025. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Olson, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the Local Raffle Permit Application submitted by McLean County Racer's Inc. for 50/50 drawings and a raffle to be held on ten dates at the McLean County Speedway, contingent upon \$10 permit fee being paid. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of February in the amount of \$14,213.35.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of February in the amount of \$2,130.76.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the following vouchers below for payment. Discussion followed.

A detailed list of checks is available for public inspection anytime during normal business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

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Curt Olson, Chairperson

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Lynda Snyder, Deputy Auditor