

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 18th, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Foster County State’s Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, and Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the November 4th Commission meeting. Commissioner Hagel noted one correction. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the minutes with the change, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

39411	701 WASH	200.00
39412	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	911.47
39413	AUTO VALUE PARTS STORE	62.80
39414	AVID HAWK, LLC	35.00
39415	BLUE 360 MEDIA	172.38
39416	BOOTE SEPTIC SOLUTIONS	125.00
39417	BRANDED BLOOMS	26.00
39418	BRISS OIL COMPANY	47.00
39419	C & J OIL COMPANY	11,559.35
39420	CARRIE NICHOLS	294.20
39421	CENTRAL CITY LUMBER INC.	4.29
39422	DANIELLE KOEPLIN	56.28
39423	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	1,411.05
39424	JUSTIN JOHNSON	87.48
39425	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	1,815.00
39426	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	6,166.00
39427	ND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION	1,725.00
39428	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	926.80
39429	R. M. STOUTD	303.92
39430	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	600.00

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda as it stands, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

State’s Attorney Kara Brinster has contacted Tamarac on the lots at Juanita Lake. Brinster is also coordinating with Tax Director Karen Evans on the ordinances.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update for the BOCC. The department has equipment ready for the winter months. Wold Engineering has finished their road report requested by the BOCC from the 2024 train derailment and will provide information at the next meeting. Wold Engineering has completed the application for two grants. Both grants are an 80/20 split with the county being responsible for twenty percent of the project costs. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve and submit the Special Road Fund application which will regrind and overlay the first two miles on the Bordulac Highway going south from Highway 200 and the Agricultural grant application which will regrind and overlay the Bordulac Highway from Highway 9 going north to the Murphy Highway, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented an easement for Greater Ramsey Water to bring a water hookup to the Grace City shop. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the easement seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, provided the BOCC from the delinquent tax sale that was held earlier in the day. There were three properties for sale with two of the three selling at the auction. Two properties in McHenry sold with one property in Carrington remaining unclaimed. The office will post the property for sale until the next delinquent tax sale in November of 2026. Two resolutions were brought to the board for the 2026 Primary and General Election. One for the establishment of precincts and polling locations and one for the selection of election inspector. Roundy had spoken with Michele Seil at the Library and approved both the 2026 Primary and General Election location to be held at the Carrington Library. She also spoke with Marlene Boyer who has served as Foster County Election Inspector for many years, and Boyer stated she would serve the role in 2026 as well.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Foster County approve the establishment of precincts and polling locations for the 2026 election cycle per NDCC 16.1-04, 16.1-07, and 16.1-11.1.

WHEREAS, currently, under state law, the Board of County Commissioners, in cooperation with the county auditor, shall set precinct boundaries by December 31st of the year preceding an election. Polling locations must be established by the 64th day before the election though traditionally, Foster County has set polling locations at the same time as precinct boundaries.

WHEREAS, the Foster County Auditor/Treasurer is committed to providing a positive voting experience to all voters within Foster County while simultaneously upholding the security and integrity of elections. Precinct boundaries were determined using logical boundaries within the county. Proximity, accessibility,

and availability of locations were considered when selecting polling locations. The recommendation includes establishing one precinct and one polling location in Foster County.

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Foster County Board of Commissioners adopt the proposed resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Foster County Commission approves the establishment of precincts and polling locations for the 2026 election cycle as presented; and authorizes the Foster County Auditor/Treasurer to establish early vote as presented and absentee ballot precinct, as necessary.

and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners of Foster County approve the appointment of election inspector for the 2026 election cycle per NDCC 16.1-05-01.

WHEREAS, Currently, under state law, the Board of County Commissioners, in cooperation with the county auditor, shall appoint the inspector of the election for all polling locations within Foster County by 40 days preceding the election. Each election board must be comprised of at least one election inspector per polling location within the county. The election inspector supervises the conduct of the election and ensures that all election workers are performing their duties. Additionally, the inspector and judges verify the results of the election and return the election results and associated ballots to the county auditor at the close of polls.

WHEREAS, The Foster County Auditor is committed to providing a positive voting experience to all voters within Foster County while simultaneously upholding the security and integrity of elections. The enclosed list of election inspectors ensures Foster County's success for the upcoming elections.

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the Foster County Board of Commissioners adopt the proposed resolution.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Foster County Commission approves the enclosed list of election inspector and approves the county auditor to fill any vacancies that may exist for the 2026 Primary and General Elections.

The resolutions were made by Commissioner Scanson and seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented two policies for approval to the BOCC. The first is a nursing policy and the second is clarification of the holiday schedule. The Courthouse will observe Columbus Day as a holiday as well as the full day for Christmas Eve. There was clarification included in the policy for when Christmas and Fourth of July land on a Tuesday or Thursday. Commissioner Roller motioned to approve both policies, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented five building permits that had been approved at the Planning and Zoning meeting earlier in the day. Eric and Mary Paulson submitted a permit for a steel building, Richard Zink for hoppers and small building, Highway Off-Sale for an addition, Kent Matteson for an addition, and Lyle and Deb Lutman for an attached garage and addition. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve all building permits, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. There was a public hearing held for a conditional use permit for T-Mobile to update equipment on an existing tower. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the conditional use permit, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Additional discussion included the campground that is being installed on Kvamme property. Jeff Kvamme is proceeding with construction without meeting any requirements that the Planning and Zoning board had asked him to complete. Missing information is a survey of the area so the property can be assessed correctly in the taxing system, completing paperwork with the Department of Health and Human Services (food and lodging division), and paying the conditional use permit fee. The county currently has jurisdiction over the project versus the state. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the cease-and-desist letter be delivered from Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster to Kvamme by Sheriff Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. Additional discussion included the next steps that will need to be taken. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner discussion included updating Commissioner portfolios and selecting Chairman and Vice-Chair for December of 2025 through November of 2026. Commissioner Scanson will now serve on the South Central Human Service Board and Commissioner Copenhaver will now serve on the NDSU extension board. Commissioner Roller motioned to approve the portfolio changes along with appointing Pat Copenhaver as Commission Chairman and Alan Scanson as Commission vice-chair, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair
Board of County Commissioners