

AGENDA
Codington County Board of Commissioners
Codington County Court House, 14 1st Ave SE, Watertown SD
Commission Chambers, Room #114
9:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 02, 2025

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call for public comment. Public comment may be submitted in person or via telephone at 605-882-6248 or 605-882-6297
3. Conflict of interest items
4. Action to approve the September 02, 2025, agenda
5. Action to approve the August 26, 2025, minutes of the Board of Codington County Commissioners
6. Public Hearing on 2026 Codington County Provisional budget
7. Action on a request to sell alcohol at the Gaikowski/Barron wedding at the Extension Center
8. Discussion/possible action to authorize Chair to execute the MOU with the City of Watertown, Watertown Municipal Utilities, and the Watertown Development Company for the construction of the Calvin Industrial Park Sewage Lift station
9. Monthly Reports
 - a. Veteran Service
10. Action to declare law enforcement vehicles surplus to be traded
11. Action to approve hiring two full-time correctional officers to fill vacancies
12. Discussion/possible action to approve hiring for an Administrative Support position in the Treasurer's Office
13. Action to authorize the Auditor's office to process necessary claims for payment on September 9th, 2025
14. Note the Board will not meet on September 9th, 2025 due to SDACO/SDACC annual convention
15. Action to approve claims for payment
16. Action to approve automatic budget supplements
17. Action to approve personnel changes
18. Action to approve travel requests
19. Public Notices – a possible quorum of Commissioners could be in attendance at:
 - a. SDACO/SDACC annual convention, September 7-10, 2025
20. Old Business
21. New Business
22. Open
 - a. Public Comments
 - b. Commission Comments
23. Action to enter into Executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2
 - (1) Discussion of personnel issues (SDCL 1-25-2(1))

- (2) Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters (SDCL 1-25-2(3))
- (3) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives (SDCL 1-25-2(4))
- (4) Discussion of pricing or marketing strategies when public disclosure may harm the competitive position of the county owned business (SDCL 1-25-2(5))
- (5) Discussion of information pertaining to the protection of public or private property (SDCL 1-25-2(6))

24. Action to adjourn upon completion of agenda items

Codington County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of service.

**Official Proceedings
County of Codington
Codington County Court House
14 1st Ave SE
Watertown, SD 57201**

September 02, 2025

The Codington County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 02, 2025, at the Codington County Court House. Commission members present were Lee Gabel, Tyler McElhany, Myron Johnson, Randall Schweer and Troy VanDusen; Chair VanDusen, presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Gabel.

CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST ITEMS

Chair VanDusen called for public comments to be taken up during the open portion of the meeting; none were offered. There were no conflict-of-interest items to note.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Gabel, second by Schweer, to approve the agenda for September 02, 2025, as posted; all voted aye; motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Johnson, second by McElhany, to approve the minutes of August 26, 2025; all voted aye; motion carried.

MOU WITH CITY OF WATERTOWN, WATERTOWN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AND WATERTOWN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

States's Attorney, Alison Bakken, informed the Board, that the MOU between the City of Watertown, Watertown Municipal Utilities and Watertown Development Company is an agreement to provide for the development of the sanitary lift station in the Calvin Industrial Park Second Addition to the City of Watertown, the original probable cost of the project is \$3,666,600.00, the City has been awarded an Economic Development Administration Grant and plans to apply for a Local Infrastructure Improvement Program Grant (LLIIP), to assist with the cost of the project, the estimated cost of the project will be approx. \$235,000 - \$285,000 depending upon the award of the LLIIP Grant, each party will share in 25% of the cost, Watertown Municipal Utilities will administer payment for all project-related expenses, which then WMU will invoice each entity for its share of the remaining costs; WMU and Codington County will enter into another MOU to execute a payment plan; motion by Gabel, second by Schweer, all voted aye; motion carried.

2026 PROVISIONAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

The Board held a public hearing, as previously advertised, to allow any and all interested parties to comment on the 2026 Codington County Provisional Budget. Chair VanDusen opened the public hearing at this time. No comments were offered by persons present for this hearing. Chair VanDusen closed the public hearing at this time. The Board will conduct public hearings again, during their regular meetings, on September 16th and 23rd, 2025. The provisional budget will be adopted during the Board's regular meeting on September 23rd, 2025, at which time the budget may be amended upon action by the Board.

APPROVAL TO SELL ALCOHOL AT EXTENSION FOR A WEDDING EVENT

Hayle Gaikowski; met with the Board to request authorization for alcohol sales at the Gaikowski/Barron wedding scheduled for October 4, 2025, at the Codington County Extension Center Complex. The liquor license held by Sandy's will be transferred for this event. Sandy's will be regulating all alcohol sales,

security, and minor control. Motion by McElhany, second by Johnson, to approve the request for alcohol sales October 4, 2025, at the Extension Center Complex, as requested; all voted aye; motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Veterans Service Officer, Jay Roberts, updated the Board: metrics for the month, 156 open claims (working claims) 70 pending action from VA, 234 completed (YTD), Hamlin 20 open (working claims) 10 pending from VA, 11 completed (YTD), currently working for 11 veterans and have completed 18 claims for veterans from outside our county; \$14,967 for the month August 2025, increase in monthly compensation for veterans or their dependents YTD monthly increase \$110,713; \$149,774 for the month of August 2025, retro-payment to bring a claim current to monthly compensation YTD retro-payments \$1,107,502; 2 veteran DAV transports in August, 3 - currently scheduled for September, currently 5 drivers; CURRENT – Eric Lewis, Deputy Veterans Service Officer, has completed the TRIP training required by the VA; three of our volunteer drivers decided to retire from driving, now at five drivers and plan to advertise on the radio for anyone interested in volunteering to drive to please stop into the office to start the process; met with the Hamlin County Commissioners on August 19th, 2025 to introduce myself and Eric as the two VSO's that will assist the veterans of their county; FUTURE – meeting with the commanders on Sept. 25, 2025 at the VFW; radio shows KWAT – 8:30 and KXLG – 9:05; next step for Eric will be to get him to Sioux Falls to complete his security clearance, fingerprints and get issued his PIV I.D. card from the VA to allow him access to the VA's web portal program called VBMS; State training Conference coming up, travel has been approved; annual volunteer training for our drivers will be held at the Watertown CBOC on Sept. 17th, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.; nominations for Veteran of the Year are due from local veteran's organizations by Sept. 30, 2025 and will be presented at the Veterans Day Program in November 2025; Veterans/Military Appreciation Event will be held on November 8th, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Joy Ranch with a free burger bar lunch; Redleg Retiree Summit will be held on Nov. 8th, 2025 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. at the Watertown Readiness Center; Todd Rose's last day in the office will be Sept. 30th, 2025 as he starts his retirement on Oct. 1, 2025.

SURPLUS LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES

Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany, to declare GEN01659 – 2018 Ford Explorer, VIN58618, and GEN01725 - 2021 Dodge Ram 1500 VIN49702 surplus, to be traded for new law enforcement vehicles; per the request of Sheriff Howell; all voted aye; motion carried.

VACANT CORRECTIONAL OFFICER POSITIONS

Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany, to approve advertising and hiring of two full-time Correctional Officer to fill vacancies. Sheriff, Brad Howell and Chief Correctional Officer, Matt Blackwelder, advised the Board these vacancies have occurred due to an individual moving and retirement. The Chief Correctional Officer will advertise these positions to fill these positions; all voted aye; motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT POSITION IN TREASURER'S OFFICE

Motion by Gabel, second by Schweer, to hire a full-time position for Administrative Support position in the Treasurer's Office; Human Resource Representative, Natalie Remund, appeared before the Board, Natalie informed the Board that this is due to a resignation, due to the recent prior resignation they will use the same pool of applicants to fill this position, it will be a pay grade 20/\$20.31 hour; all voted aye; motion carried.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE TO PROCESS NECESSARY CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany, to approve the Auditor's Office to process necessary claims for payment, Auditor, Brenda Hanten, explained to the Board that the normal claim payment date is September 9th, 2025 the Board won't be meeting due to the SDACO/SDACC convention and to avoid interest charges and late fees to allow the Auditor's Office to process necessary claims on Sept. 9th, 2025; all voted aye; motion carried.

NOTE BOARD WILL NOT MEET SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2025 DUE TO SDACO/SDACC ANNUAL CONVENTION

TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion by Johnson, second by Gabel, to approve the following travel requests; Community Services staff to attend meeting; all voted aye; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Gabel updated the Board; the bonds were issued last week.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon conclusion of all business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Johnson, second by Schweer, to adjourn at 9:20 a.m., all voted aye; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten

Codington County Auditor

Codington County does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of service.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$ _____