

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, August 18, 2026

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call for public comments. 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 August 18, 2026, agenda
5. Action to approve August 11, 2026, minutes of the Board of Codington County Commissioners
6. Presentation on bridge inspections from Mark Junker, Banner Associates
7. Monthly Reports
 - a. Highway
 - b. Facility Manager
8. Review of 2027 budget requests
9. Action to approve abatement applications
10. Action to approve claims for payment
11. Action to approve automatic budget supplements
12. Action to approve personnel changes
13. Action to approve travel requests
14. Public Notices – a possible quorum of Commissioners could be in attendance at:
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Open
 - a. Public Comments
 - b. Commission Comments
18. 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(2))
 - (3) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives (SDCL 1-25-2(3))
 - (4) Discussion of pricing or marketing strategies when public disclosure may harm the competitive position of the county owned business (SDCL 1-25-2(4))
 - (5) Discussion of information pertaining to the protection of public or private property (SDCL 1-25-2(5))
19. 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**

August 18, 2026

The Codington County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 18, 2026, 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 Tyler McElhany.

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 McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve the agenda for August 18, 2026, as posted; all voted aye; motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion by Johnson, second by Schweer, to approve the minutes of August 11, 2026; all voted aye; motion carried.

2026 BRIDGE INSPECTION OVERVIEW

Mark Junker, P.E., and Josh Olson, Banner Associates, Inc., met with the Board to review the 2026 Bridge Inspection report. Mr. Junker and Mr. Olson, noted the bridges discussed in this overview, in Codington County, are 20' or longer and federal requirements mandate that these bridges be inspected every 2 years at minimum. The SDDOT pays 80% of inspection costs and the County pays 20%. Codington County currently has 42 bridges on the inspection list. 10 bridges currently have weight limitations. Mr. Junker also reviewed recommendations for several other bridges, and which information has been provided to Highway Supt., Randy Falvey.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Highway Superintendent, Randy Falvey, updated the Board: The contractors continue working on the remodel project of our building, the ceiling and walls in the truck storage area have been insulated along with the walls in the shop, the majority of the exterior siding is finished, new windows are in the shop area with new walk in doors, the electrician is currently working on switching things over; after this year's bridge inspections necessitated closing the bridge on Cottonwood Street due to further deterioration, we have ordered new signage and are working on making the closure more permanent until we can get it replaced; are getting estimates for the bridge on 155th Street just north of Cottonwood Street that has some deck issues, have talked to Hollaway Construction about closing up the gap; Hollaway Construction out of Mitchell finished working on the bridge cement and rip/rap project on 458th Ave. 43rd St. SE along with the bridge rip rap project on County Road 3/463rd Ave.; about to finish chip sealing for the season, we will be finishing up in Kranzburg today, as a reminder to the general public that there is still loose gravel on the roads that we have chip sealed, so use extra caution, we will be sweeping these roads in September and will then have them striped; did fill our Maintenance III position in the Henry area, our new operator started yesterday, so we are once again fully staffed, we will be training him over the next few weeks and bringing him up to speed; we will be starting the resurfacing project this week on County Roads 7/169th St. and 10/460th Ave so there will be partial closures throughout the project, we are hoping to have this project completed by late-September. **Facility Manager, Steve Molengraaf**, Ag Building – Blackburn Foundation lifted the sidewalk last week, staff continue to set up and clean from events; Courthouse/Detention Center – the drain line in the women's restroom was repaired and lined, we are discovering the drain lines in the courthouse are getting thin and rusting through, so will need to budget for repairing and lining; Park – 1487 reservations, with a revenue of \$152,250.46 as of 8-16-2026; Weed – spraying will begin for the fall season in the next week or so, I'm planning on working in the weed

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booth at the state fair; WNV – South Dakota West Nile Virus cases – 5 this year, 5 counties have reported WNV positive mosquito pools this year; SD WNV conference will be held this fall.

2027 BUDGET REVIEW

The Board reviewed 2027 budgets from the Jail Capitol Project Construction budget.

CLAIMS

Motion by McElhany, second by Gabel, to approve for payment the following jail claim; all voted aye; motion carried. Municipal Utilities \$33,624.81, Beckenhauer \$1,934,987.06, Geotek \$17,053.50, Tegra Group \$20,668.00. Motion by Gabel, second by McElhany, to approve for payment the following claim; all voted aye; motion carried. South Dakota Housing Development Authority \$67,881.70.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Motion by Gabel, second by Schweer, to approve the following Personnel change: all voted aye; motion carried. Jan Dailey, Highway Technician III, Highway Dept., Grade 40/Step A, \$29.88 per hour/\$5199.12/month, effective 8-15-2026.

TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion by Johnson, second by McElhany, to approve a travel request for State's Attorney office staff to attend training; and Extension staff to set up for State Fair; all voted aye; motion carried.

OPEN

Public comments - James Simmons mentioned to the Board that the State Attorney General has put out a news release that ALPR's are susceptible for abuse and his office will come out with policies to address this, FLOCK also did a public apology that the system is being misused, there is going to be a statewide ALPR program and asked if Codington County will be joining this, he is trying to host a town hall event to allow for public discussion on ALPR systems.

Commission comments – Commissioner Johnson announced that he will be attending the SD Retirement meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Johnson, second by Schweer, to enter executive session, per SDCL 1-25-2 (2) Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters (SDCL 1-25-2(2) at 9:50 a.m., all voted aye; motion carried. The Board returned to regular session at 10:24 a.m., and no action was taken. State's Attorney, Alison Trauba, was present for executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon conclusion of all business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Johnson, second by McElhany, to adjourn at 10:24 a.m., all voted aye; motion carried.

ATTEST:

Brenda Hanten

Codington County Auditor

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