OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS KINGSBURY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

De Smet, South Dakota
September 22, 2026

The Kingsbury County Board of County Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Courtroom of the County Courthouse. Commissioners Kyle Lee, Roger Walls, Corey Lundquist, Steve Spilde, and Troy Nelson were present. Chairman Lee presided.

Also in attendance was Jessica Bingham, Human Resources Consultant.

Attending by Zoom were Amy Halverson of the Kingsbury Journal; Erin Rusher, Deputy Treasurer; Tammy Anderson, Director of Equalization; Kristen Longville, Emergency Manager; Jody Whitley, Deputy Auditor; Sierra Gadsby, Highway Administrative Assistant; and Steve Strande, Sheriff.

Chairman Lee called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA
Chairman Lee asked whether there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

Motion by Lundquist, second by Spilde, to approve the agenda. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES
Chairman Lee asked whether there were any changes to the September 1, 2026, minutes.

Chairman Lee stated Resolution 2026-16 and Resolution 2026-17 in the minutes showed himself as absent. He was there and voted aye on both.

Motion by Walls, second by Lundquist to approve the minutes of September 1, 2026, as corrected. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Chairman Lee called for public comment. There was none.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Chairman Lee asked whether any Board member had a conflict of interest. There was none.

APPROVE CLAIMS

Motion by Spilde, second by Lundquist, to approve the following claims and direct the County Auditor to issue warrant checks for payment. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPEARA 103.65 REPAIRS, ASPHALT PAVING & MATERIALS 339.00 SUPPLIES, AVERA OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE-MI 82.70 PROF SERVICES, BADGER OIL COMPANY 6620.40 SUPPLIES, SHERRY BELL 66.80 JUROR FEES, BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY 2629.68 REPAIRS, CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS 67.30 PROF SERVICES, CENTURYLINK 988.02 UTILITIES, CITY OF DESMET 203.42 UTILITIES, COOK'S WASTEPAPER & RECYCLING 79.91 UTILITIES, COWBOY COUNTRY STORE-DESMET 27.47 REPAIRS, DAKOTA FLUID POWER 135.40 SUPPLIES, DE SMET WELDING 2141.18 REPAIRS, ADAM DEAN 450.00 PROF SERVICES, KATHY DEDEYNE 198.40 TRAVEL, ELITE DRAIN & SEWER 637.50 REPAIRS, HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INC 149999.85 SUPPLIES, HILLYARD/SIOUX FALLS 587.38 SUPPLIES, INFOTECH SOLUTIONS 2659.99 PROF SERVICES, JOHN KINDER 69.60 JUROR FEES, KINGBROOK RURAL WATER 60.90 UTILITIES, KINGSBURY ELECTRIC COOP 1090.26 REPAIRS/UTILITIES, KINGSBURY JOURNAL 1140.91 PUBLISHING, KINGSBURY JOURNAL 65.00 PUBLISHING, CURT LUNDQUIST 92.20 TRAVEL, MCLEODS PRINTING & OFFICE SUPP 451.45 SUPPLIES, MULTI BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC 3250.00 PROF SERVICES, EASTLINE SUPPLY 126.08 SUPPLIES, NIMBLE WASH, LLC 165.77 REPAIRS, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 53.95 SUPPLIES/UTILITIES, O'KEEFE IMPLEMENT 290.68 SUPPLIES, OFFICE PEEPS INC 51.44 REPAIRS/SUPPLIES, OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY 2207.76 UTILITIES, OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY 229.61 UTILITIES, PRAIRIE AG PARTNERS 6579.33 REPAIRS/SUPPLIES, DAMIAN PAUL 64.00 JUROR FEES, JEAN PENNEY 51.40 JUROR FEES, TRICIA PETERS 80.80 JUROR FEES, QUILL 43.99 SUPPLIES, RECHNAGEL CONSTRUCTION CO 117500.00 SUPPLIES, ABIGAIL SCHULTZ 92.00 JUROR FEES, SD LTAP 125.00 TRAVEL, SDN COMMUNICATIONS 917.00 PROF SERVICES, SIR LINES-A-LOT 30692.00 PROF SERVICE, TRIPLE T GRAVEL & SAND 82617.00 SUPPLIES, TRUSTWORTHY HARDWARE 32.86 SUPPLIES, TRUSTWORTHY HARDWARE 63.08 SUPPLIES, VALLEY FIBERCOM 168.29 UTILITIES, VISA - PUR 2010.05 SUPPLIES/FURNITURE, LINDA WESTERGREN 80.80 JUROR FEES, SD DEPT OF REV 189307.52 STATE REMITTANCE, COOK’S WASTEPAPER & RECYCLING 784.96 UTILITIES, NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 13.85 UTILITIES, SD VETERANS SVC OFFICER ASSOC 200.00 TRAVEL, VERIZON 535.68 UTILITES, AMERICAN BANK & TRUST 9722.93 BOND INTEREST, SDACO 190.00 MP&R FEES

AUDITOR
Echo Steffensen, Auditor, presented the 2027 Law Enforcement Agreements with the City of Oldham and the City of Arlington for approval and signature.

Motion by Lundquist to accept and for the chairman to sign said contracts.

The Board discussed the rate and the need to have negotiations earlier in the year.

Motion was seconded by Nelson. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY
Dave Sorenson, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to discuss highway matters.

Sorenson presented an easement for the guardrail project on the Oldham Road and requested approval to sign the easement.

Motion by Nelson, second by Lundquist to authorize Sorenson to sign said easement. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Sorenson presented an Application for Occupancy on the Right of Way of County Highways from Otter Tail Power Company on CR 10.

Motion by Lundquist, second by Spilde, to approve the Application for Occupancy on the Right of Way of County Highways from Otter Tail Power Company on CR 10. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Sorenson presented a pre-construction notification agreement for the Corps of Engineers regarding the bridge on the Manchester oil and requested approval to sign the agreement.

Motion by Spilde, Second by Nelson to authorize Sorenson to sign said agreement. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Sorenson requested travel approval to Sioux Falls for the Annual Local Road Conference in October and suggested some of the commissioners also attend.

Motion by Lundquist, second by Nelson to approve travel to Sioux Falls for the Annual Local Road Conference for Sorenson and 2 Commissioners. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

FIVE-YEAR COUNTY HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
HIGHWAY 5-YEAR PLAN
The Public Hearing for the Kingsbury County 5-Year Highway Plan was held.

A discussion was held on the contents of the plan.

Motion by Nelson, second by Walls to close the public hearing. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

The 5-Year plan will be adopted and accepted on October 6, 2026.

AUDITOR
Steffensen presented a letter from the City of Arlington requesting the County release a county poor lien against properties at 301 and 305 North Main Street in Arlington.

Motion by Spilde, second by Nelson to approve the request to release the county poor lien against properties at 301 and 305 North Main Street in Arlington, while maintaining the lien against the individual personally, and read Resolution 2026-21.

Steffensen read Resolution 2026-1:

RESOLUTION # 2026-21

WHEREAS, The City of Arlington is seeking to clear title to the Southwesterly Eighty Feet (SWLY80′) of Block Thirty (30), according to County Auditor’s Plat of Outlots to the City of Arlington, and Sublot D of Lot Three (3), formerly described as the Southwesterly Eighty Feet (SWLY 80′) of Lot Three (3), Block Thirty (30) of the County Auditor’s Plat of Outlots to the City of Arlington, all in Kingsbury County, South Dakota

WHEREAS County Poor Liens have been attached as a lien against the above-described property as follows: Jerome Miles $48,167.12.

WHEREAS the City of Arlington has requested the Board of County Commissioners cancel the County Poor lien against the property located at to the Southwesterly Eighty Feet (SWLY80′) of Block Thirty (30), according to County Auditor’s Plat of Outlots to the City of Arlington, and Sublot D of Lot Three (3), formerly described as the Southwesterly Eighty Feet (SWLY 80′) of Lot Three (3), Block Thirty (30) of the County Auditor’s Plat of Outlots to the City of Arlington, all in Kingsbury County, South

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED a release and discharge of the county poor lien be made as to the above-described property only,

Motion by Nelson, second by Walls, to accept and adopt Resolution 2026-21 and authorize Chairman Lee to sign the same.

All present voted by roll call: Lee – aye, Nelson – aye, Spilde – aye, Walls – aye, Lundquist – aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Lee called for a vote on the prior motion to approve the request and read Resolution 2026-21. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Steffensen presented a request to auto supplement the sheriff’s budget for vehicle repairs.
Motion by Lundquist, second by Nelson to approve the auto supplement to the sheriff’s budget for vehicle repairs and for Steffensen to read the following resolution. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026- 18

WHEREAS, REIMBURSEMENT FOR AN UNANTICIPATED EXPENDITURE WERE RECEIVED FROM SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLICE ASSURANCE ALLIANCE FROM CLAIMS ASSOCIATES, INC. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR MONIES EXPENDED IN THE 2026 BUDGET.

101-211-425	SHERIFF REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	$13,639.55

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF KINGSBURY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DO HEREBY PROPOSE, MAKE AND MOVE FOR ADOPTION OF THIS SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET IN THE ITEM SET FORTH ABOVE.

Motion by Nelson, second by Spilde, to accept and adopt Resolution 2026-18 and authorize Chairman Lee to sign the same.

All present voted by roll call: Lee – aye, Nelson – aye, Spilde – aye, Walls – aye, Lundquist – aye. Motion carried.

Steffensen presented a request to auto supplement the election budget for the purchase of the Poll Pads with HAVA funds received from the state.

Motion by Nelson, second by Lundquist to approve the auto supplement to the election budget for the purchase of the Poll Pads with HAVA funds received from the state and for Steffensen to read the following resolution. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026- 20

WHEREAS, REIMBURSEMENT FOR AN UNANTICIPATED EXPENDITURE WERE RECEIVED FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA FROM HAVA FUNDS (HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT) THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR MONIES EXPENDED IN THE 2026 BUDGET.

101-120-429	ELECTIONS	$24,173.76

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF KINGSBURY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DO HEREBY PROPOSE, MAKE AND MOVE FOR ADOPTION OF THIS SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET IN THE ITEM SET FORTH ABOVE.

Motion by Lundquist, second by Spilde, to accept and adopt Resolution 2026-20 and authorize Chairman Lee to sign the same.

All present voted by roll call: Lee – aye, Nelson – aye, Spilde – aye, Walls – aye, Lundquist – aye. Motion carried.

Steffensen requested approval of a cash transfer of $30,000.00 from the General Fund to the Emergency Management Fund due to the County not yet receiving grant funds for the Emergency Manager's salary.

Motion by Spilde, second by Nelson to approve the cash transfer of $30,000.00 from the General Fund to the Emergency Management Fund due to the County not yet receiving grant funds for the Emergency Manager's salary. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Steffensen reported the contractor who had bid the 3rd floor ceiling project had inquired about moving forward with the project. After reviewing the general building budget, it was the consensus of the Board to postpone the project until after the first of the year.

ZONING AND DATA CENTER ORDINANCE REVIEW.
Todd Kays, 1st District, met with the Board to review the changes to the Zoning Ordinance that had been discussed at previous meetings and to discuss a proposed ordinance concerning data centers.

Kays informed the Board the next steps would be for the State's Attorney to review and then begin the adoption process.

MILLS PROPERTY
Chad Ebsen, Mills Property, discussed proposed projects for the courthouse.

Ebsen presented an estimate to clean the ground floor carpets from Mike's Professional Carpet Cleaning, Volga, SD in the amount of $465.00.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the carpet cleaning and to request estimates for second and third floor also.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Steffensen requested to move into executive session for personnel and Jessica Bingham, HR Consultant for personnel and contract negotiations.

Motion by Lundquist, second by Nelson to adjourn from regular session and move into executive session for personnel and contract negotiations at 11:24 A.M. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Lee declared the Board out of executive session at 12:09 P.M.

AUDITOR
Steffensen presented the following necessary changes to the means of finance for the provisional budget:

Lowered General Fund Current Property Tax income due to using original growth of 3% for provisional, lowered to .96% after removing TIF values.

Lowered Road and Bridge Fund Current Property Tax income due to using original growth of 3% for provisional, lowered to .96% after removing TIF values

Lowered amount of County Road & Bridge Taxes to be distributed to the cities due to using original growth of 3% for provisional, lowered to .96% after removing TIF values

Lowered receipt of Bank Franchise Tax to from $45,000 to $37,000 – current year is $33,790.00 (General)

Removed grant income for EM Salary – have not received any for 2026 yet.

Increased MERP income to $80,000 – Fund should be self-funded

Increased General Fund Charges for Good & Services income by using actual income from law enforcement contracts (General)

Lowered interest income using avg for 2026. (Highway)

Added interest income for 911 fund

Lowered interest income using avg for 2026 (EM)

Moved the cash applied to donation income (Riverview)for the TIF fund to show in the correct category.

Other financing Sources for Emergency Management Increased due to not receiving grant income and not accounting for grant income in 2027

Increased GF budget transfers out from $281,335 to $327,355 to account for transfer to Emergency Management.

Cash applied for GF increased mostly due to decrease in taxes and increased cash transfers out.

Cash applied for Highway increased due to decrease in taxes.

Motion by Nelson, second by Lundquist to approve the stated changes and adopt the 2027 Budget as presented. All present voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-19 TO ADOPT 2027 BUDGET

ANNAL BUDGET FOR KINGSBURY COUNTY, SD

For the Year January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027

Tax Levy in		
COUNTY TAX LEVIES	Dollars	$'s/1,000
WITHIN GENERAL PURPOSE LEVIES:		
* General County Purposes (10-12-9)	2,826,995.00	1.548
Library (10-12-9.2)		
Opt Out		
WITHIN GENERAL PURPOSE LEVIES (10-12-21) - SUB-TOTAL	2,826,995.00	1.548
OUTSIDE GENERAL PURPOSE LEVIES:		
County Snow Removal and Special Emergency Fund (34-5-2)		
County Road and Bridge* (10-12-13)	1,237,651.00	0.678
Courthouse, Jail, etc., Bldg. (7-25-1)		
Bond Redemption (7-24-18)		
Ag Building (7-27-1)		
OUTSIDE GENERAL PURPOSE LEVIES - SUB-TOTAL	1,237,651.00	0.678
WITHIN GENERAL PURPOSE AND OUTSIDE GENERAL PURPOSE LEVIES -	4,064,646.00	2.226
OTHER SPECIAL LEVIES:		
Secondary Road (Unorg. PT-76) (31-12-27)		
Fire Protection (34-31-3)		
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED BY COUNTY	4,064,646.00	2.226

As of SEPTEMBER 22, 2026 these levies are not approved by the Department of Revenue

RESOLUTION
2026-19

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET FOR KINGSBURY County, South Dakota

Whereas, (7-21-5 thru 13), SDCL provides that the Board of County Commissioners shall each year prepare a Provisional Budget of all contemplated expenditures and revenues of the County and all its institutions and agencies for such fiscal year and,
Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners did prepare a Provisional Budget and cause same to be published by law , and

Whereas, due and legal notice has been given to the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for the consideration of such Provisional Budget and all changes, elimination's and additions have been made thereto.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That such provisional budget as amended and all its purposes, schedules, appropriations, amounts, estimates and all matters therein set forth, SHALL BE APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURES FOR KINGSBURY County, South Dakota and all its institutions and agencies for calendar year beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2027 and the same is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of KINGSBURY County, South Dakota, this 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.
The Annual Budget so adopted is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the county auditor KINGSBURY, County, South Dakota. The accompanying taxes are levied by KINGSBURY County for the year January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
KINGSBURY County, South Dakota

_____Chairman
Kyle Lee

_____Commissioner
Roger Walls

_____Commissioner
Troy Nelson

_____Commissioner
Corey Lundquist

_____Commissioner
Steven Spilde

ATTEST_____County Auditor
Echo Steffense

Motion by Walls, second by Lundquist, to accept and adopt Resolution 2026-19.

All present voted by roll call: Lee – aye, Nelson – aye, Spilde – aye, Walls – aye, Lundquist – aye. Motion carried.

JAMES PERKINS PROCLAMATION
Chairman Lee read the following proclaiming October 6, 2026 as James Perkins Day:

Proclamation honoring James Perkins

WHEREAS, James Perkins answered the call to serve during the American Civil War, demonstrating courage, dedication, and devotion to duty during one of the most defining periods in our nation's history; the last living survivor of the civil war in Kingsbury County;
WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of Civil War veterans helped shape the course of the United States and left a lasting legacy for generations that followed; and
WHEREAS, although James Perkins has long since passed from this life, the memory of his service remains an important part of our community's history and deserves to be remembered and honored; James enlisted in 1861 at the age of 17. He was then captured, wounded and sent to prison. He escaped twice.
WHEREAS, recognizing the service of deceased veterans allows present and future generations to better understand the sacrifices made by those who served and the enduring values of courage, duty, and patriotism;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that The County of Kingsbury hereby honors and remembers James Perkins Civil War Veteran, for his honorable military service and sacrifice to the nation.
BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that we extend our gratitude to James Perkins's descendants, family, and all those who preserve and share the history of Civil War veterans, ensuring that their service and legacy shall not be forgotten.
PROCLAIMED this 6th day of October, 2026.
The ceremony honoring James Perkins will be located at the Lake Preston cemetery on October 6th, 2026 at 10 a.m.

The Board adjourned until Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 8:30 A.M.

SIGNED _____
Kyle Lee, Chairman

ATTEST _____
Echo Steffensen, County Auditor

Published 1 week at the total approximate cost of _____.