

The Roberts County Commissioners met at 9:00 am in regular session with Tom Vergeldt, Don Carlson, Faye Johnston, Brian Heinecke, Tim Zempel, Kristi Fritz and Dylan Kirchmeier present. Jason Deutsch-Sisseton Courier livestream. Chairman Vergeldt presiding. Vergeldt called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES/AGENDA

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Heinecke to approve the December 31, 2024, agenda and minutes for December 24, 2024, as corrected to add Ken Nelson-appointed Commissioner Dist. 3 also in attendance. All voted aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Horton, Robert Vassallo, Gary Sheldon and John Dabek Jr. appeared for public comment. Robert Horton is disappointed in the appointment of Ken Nelson and questioned if he even pays property taxes in Roberts County. Robert Vassallo also questioned if the Board would list all who applied in the minutes. The Board did not think paying property taxes was a requirement for Commissioner and all who applied for District 3 was private information. States Attorney Kirchmeier stated that residency in the jurisdiction is the only requirement for being a county commissioner.

STATES ATTORNEY

Dylan Kirchmeier-States Attorney presented his year end statistics as follows: Approximately 800 new CRI filings in 2024 compared to 740 in 2023, 839 in 2022 and 1017 in 2021; Closed adult files: 1040 in 2024, 1077 in 2023, 1019 in 2022, 841 in 2021; Approximately 140 ne Juvenile filings in 2024, 124 in 2023, 128 in 2022, 174 in 2021; Closed Juvenile files: 125 in 2024, 140 in 2023, 112 in 2022, 137 in 2021; Carrying over 430 adult cases that have been scheduled for court appearances, probably closer to 500 w/cases that are scheduled for first appearances after January 1. 277 of the 430 have active warrants and 300-400 cases with active warrants have not had court appearance since Kirchmeier has been here. Carrying over 40 juvenile files which is probably closer to 50 with cases that are scheduled for first appearance after January 1 and 16 of the 40 have active warrants.

Four A & N cases this year with 3 done and 1 on-going. The jury has reported three times with 2 convictions and one no show defendant, 7 court trials all ending in convictions. Of the 1040 closed adult files, 313 were dismissed due to plea agreements involving other cases here or other counties, lack of evidence, discovery of exculpatory evidence or deferred prosecution agreements. The States Attorney's office has a 70% conviction rate.

County comparison for CRI filings as of 12/26/24: Roberts 775, Marshall 43, Grant 131, Day 140, Brown 1342, Codington 1554, Hughes 547, Clay 383, Brookings 975, Butte 380, Beadle 459, Charles Mix 353 and Lake 243.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Paige Schaunaman-Em Mgr. met with the board and discussed her training. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Zempel to pay necessary expenses for training on April 23 & 24 in Pierre, SD. All voted aye, motion carried.

SCOTT GERMAN

Scott German presented Don Carlson with a star quilt for all his years of public service to District 3 as a County Commissioner. German has also spoken to the tribal chairman regarding cost sharing the purchase of a new van for the county coroner.

LANDFILL

Jamie Dahl met with the Commissioners and discussed rate increases for 2024. Dahl will send out a letter to all concerned that rates would increase by 10% as of January 1, 2025.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Johnston, seconded by Heinecke to convene into executive session at 10:20 am to discuss personnel pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1). Chairman Vergeldt declared meeting back into regular session at 10:29 am.

2025 WAGE/SALARY

Motion by Heinecke, seconded by Carlson to approve the following salaries for 2025. All voted aye, motion carried. (attached)

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Heinecke to approve a one-time \$500.00 bonus for all Roberts County employees. All voted aye, motion carried.

AUTOMATIC SUPPLEMENTS

Motion by Zempel, seconded by Johnston to approve the automatic supplements to the following budgets: Highway 201-311-426 61,638.55; Sheriff 101-211-435 2,500.00, Sheriff Dare 101-211-426.01 139.16 due to grants reimbursements and unanticipated revenue. All voted aye, motion carried.

CONTINGENCY BUDGET TRANSFERS

Motion by Heinecke, seconded by Carlson to approve the following transfers from contingency budget totaling \$250,000.00: Commissioners 25,659.82; Election 21,544.81; Judicial 15,294.25; CAA 31,571.15; Predatory Animal 2,241.15; Sheriff 80,759.01; Juvenile Detention 5,314.70; Nurse 1,428.22; Mentally Ill 32,413.87; Road & Bridge 33,701.14; Emergency Mgmt 12.92; Domestic Abuse 58.96. All voted aye, motion carried.

YEAR END CASH TRANSFERS

Motion by Zempel, seconded by Heinecke to approve the following year end cash transfers from the general fund cash to the following funds totaling 1,022,779.35: (201) Highway & Bridge 937,957.42; (226) Emergency Mgmt 8,369.21; (248) 24/7 Program 53,989.24 and (207) 911 Dispatch 22,463.48. All voted aye, motion carried.

CLAIMS

Motion by Zempel, seconded by Carlson to pay the following claims: GOV BLDG-Other/First Savings Bank 98.20, Repairs/R & M Heating 170.00, Total 268.20; DIR OF EQUAL-Travel/Arrowwood Resort 571.60, Total 571.60; JAIL-Care of Prisoner/Marlon Bautista 14.00, Melvin Waupoose 14.00, Total 28.00; POOR-Cat. Poor/Cahill Funeral Chapel 1500.00, Dylan Russman 500.00, Total 2000.00; EXTENSION-Utilities/Cole Papers 623.20, Total 623.20; LANDFILL-Supplies/ACE 14.99, Sioux Valley Coop 1655.36, Tri State Bldg 6.78, Repairs/Auto Value 85.06, Utilities/BDM Rural Water 46.00, Total 1808.19; DEL TAX PMT-Payments 599.19, Total 599.19. PAYROLL-Comm 6045.94, Auditor 5714.36, Treasurer 8359.26, States Atty 14458.71, Gov Bldg 2193.94, Dir of Equal 5324.80, Reg of Deeds 5048.16, Sheriff 20232.56, Jail 44693.56, Dispatch 20727.40, Juv Det 5504.06, Nurse 976.93, Extension 2174.76, Planning & Zoning 2299.70, Road & Bridge 30436.04, 911 Tele 1739.51, Emergency Mgmt 936.89, 24/7 2495.07, Landfill 12391.59, Total 191753.24. TOTAL 197651.62 New Hire-Austin Searles-Deputy Sheriff \$24.46, Nathan Dennis-Jailer \$20.00, Krista Hubbard-Jailer \$20.00, Fred Davis Jr-Hwy \$18.90, Troy Goodsell-Hwy \$18.90, Noah Richardson-Hwy \$18.90

ADJOURN

Motion by Zempel, seconded by Carlson to adjourn at 11:06 am until January 7, 2025. All voted aye, motion carried.