

MINUTES OF EDDY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
EDDY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

June 2, 2026

8:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairperson Dave Gehrtz. Present were Commissioner James F. Allmaras, Commissioner Glenda Collier, State's Attorney Ashley Lies, Auditor Bobbie Indergaard, Kristy O'Connor with Tax Equalization, and Amy Wobbema with the New Rockford Transcript.

Chairperson Dave Gehrtz began the meeting by leading the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Glenda Collier made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an updated regarding Lake Region Health Unit. Commissioner James F. Allmaras seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Glenda Collier made a motion to approve the May 8, 2026, May 22, 2026, May 26, 2026 and May 28, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes and May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. James F. Allmaras seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Glenda Collier made a motion to approve the April Financials and Expenditures and Revenue Budgets. James F. Allmaras seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner James F. Allmaras made a motion to approve the April Monthly Statement from the Treasurer's Office and the May Financials and Expenditures and Revenue Budgets. Glenda Collier seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion carried.

Glenda Collier made a motion to approve the May 2026 bills. Commissioner James F. Allmaras seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: Glenda Collier Yes vote, James F. Allmaras Yes vote, and Dave Gehrtz Yes vote. Motion carries.

May Bills

HISTORICAL SOCIETY	453.70
EDDY COUNTY WATER RESOURCE	5,890.70
EDDY COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING	3,629.38
GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERVANCY DISTRICT	2,043.96
EDDY COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT	5,823.74
STATE TREASURER	1,817.74
CITY OF NEW ROCKFORD	124,958.08
NEW ROCKFORD CITY PARK DISTRICT	30,651.45
CITY OF SHEYENNE	14,263.93
NEW ROCKFORD-SHEYENNE SCHOOL DISTRICT #2	147,201.40
MIDKOTA SCHOOL DISTRICT #7	11,365.68
WARWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT #29	6,732.39
CARRINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #49	13.64
DAKOTA PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1	7,693.20
TOLNA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	594.55
WARWICK FIRE DISTRICT	293.98
NEW ROCKFORD RURAL FIRE DISTRICT	1,698.08
TWO RIVERS AMBULANCE	9,784.83
MCHENRY AMBULANCE	506.81
NEW ROCKFORD COMMUNITY AMBULANCE	95.20

PARADISE TOWNSHIP	13,083.50
CHERRY LAKE TOWNSHIP	1,037.49
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP	13,175.86
PLEASANT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP	16,580.72
SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP	23,026.60
ROSEFIELD TOWNSHIP	20,039.05
COLVIN TOWNSHIP	15,672.74
LAKE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP	11,319.59
TIFFANY TOWNSHIP	12,058.26
SHELDON TOWNSHIP	1,592.74
NEW ROCKFORD TOWNSHIP	4,740.59
MUNSTER TOWNSHIP	19,606.83
FREEBORN TOWNSHIP	13,585.54
EDDY TOWNSHIP	1,836.21
HILLSDALE TOWNSHIP	13,034.42
BUSH TOWNSHIP	16,986.72
GATES TOWNSHIP	17,478.44
GRANDFIELD TOWNSHIP	12,025.10
ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS	109.13
BENSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT	62.50
CASH & CARRY LUMBER ASSOC., LLC	1,746.62
CENDAK COOPERATIVE	4,545.96
CENEX FLEETCARD	813.72
CENTRAL PLAINS WATER DISTRICT	59.89
CITY OF SHEYENNE	110.10
DAKOTA DUST-TEX, INC.	344.30
DAUENHAUER DIESEL REPAIR	448.53
DO IT BEST	162.45
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	1,647.22
ELECTRO WATCHMAN, INC.	1,319.40
HALVORSON FLOORING	1,373.02
KRISTY O'CONNOR	93.53
LAKE REGION LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER	9,714.92
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT, INC	113.03
MEEHAN MACHINE	56.08
MILLER'S FRESH FOODS	27.99
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO	1,068.69
NEW ROCKFORD UTILITY SERVICES	338.04
NEWMAN SIGNS INC.	3,289.40
NOTHERN PLAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	268.00
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	2,131.00
PITNEY BOWES BANK INC PURCHASE POWER	1,500.00
QUILL LLC	114.87
RDO EQUIPMENT CO	4,249.48
ROUGH RIDER INDUSTRIES	2,520.94
STEINS, INC.	43.86
STONE'S MOBILE RADIO INC.	12,823.24
TAO INTERACTIVE INC	1,680.00
TAYLOR PRINT IMPRESSIONS	5,765.53
TRANSCRIPT PUBLISHING	2,350.57
ASHLEY LIES	81.69
CARRIE NICHOLS	109.50
JOSH ZIEBART	675.00
LINDERMAN CONSTRUCTION	2,100.00
NAPAAUTO PARTS - NR	680.26
ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	1,462.19
NODAK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	31.22
NORTH CENTRAL PLANNING COUNCIL	8,565.52
NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY	901.02
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL - 1250	150.00
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	109.72
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	1,539.49

PITNEY BOWES BANK INC PURCHASE POWER	1,000.00
ROCKIN FITNESS	600.00
ROSEFIELD TOWNSHIP	5,023.38
ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS	36.00
AFLAC	536.46
AFLAC	145.21
AMERITAS	248.85
AT&T MOBILITY	622.42
CARRINGTON MOTOR	233.00
CENTRAL CITY H2O+	241.50
CENTRAL PLAINS WATER DISTRICT	59.04
CHAD CLELLAND	900.00
COLE PAPERS INC	106.52
COLONIAL LIFE	461.25
DONNA YOUNG	16.98
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	833.04
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	5,173.94
ELECTRONIC FEDERAL TAX PAYMENT	25,644.10
ESRI	550.00
KELLY STAFFORD	900.00
LEAF	370.99
MILLER'S FRESH FOODS	7.56
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO	611.60
ND PUBLIC <u>EMPLOYEES</u> RETIREMENT SYSTEMS	32,076.46
ND PUBLIC <u>EMPLOYEES</u> RETIREMENT SYSTEMS	1,139.00
ND PUBLIC <u>EMPLOYEES</u> RETIREMENT SYSTEMS	18,256.77
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL - EMERGENCY SERVICE	120.00
QUILL LLC	120.00
THE SIDWELL COMPANY	2,075.78
PAYROLL	81,066.61

Public Comments: No Public Comments.

State's Attorney Lies provided an update on the sixty grievances received to the ordinance changes. Five testified and only approximately one addressed an issue with the ordinance process, the rest did not address any ordinance amendments.

State's Attorney Lies advised on issues with residents misusing Courthouse property. Election room has been entered during public meetings, so we have purchased a baby gate to advise no entry. State's Attorney's desk is being used with papers being moved and garbage being left behind. A hat was left behind from a prior public meeting, and the owner tried to gain access while the State's Attorney was in a confidential meeting. Door was locked and they proceeded to try to have employees gain access. Going forward all items left behind will be turned into the Sheriff's office. Also, there are not supposed to be any liquids in the Court Room. There was coffee spilled and no one was told to get it cleaned up resulting in a huge stain. When entering the Courtroom trash is being left behind so the problem is growing with disrespect to property.

Lisa Thompson, Eddy County Emergency Manager, updated on the discussion of the equipment to activate sirens. Recommendation was to go with Federal Signal's lower bid which the yearly fee covers the update, maintenance, and repairs of the equipment with complete install being late summer. Todd is working on a way to set the current sirens off manually or by a phone call because otherwise they have to climb the pole to set it off. Todd thinks it is just a programing in the box and will be working on that.

Lisa gave an update on Text My Gov and requested approval to move forward on the contract now to migrate to the system for 2027. Contract is \$3375 for the first year with all set up included and \$2250 after that. Glenda Collier made a motion go with Text My Gov. and James F. Allmaras seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lisa Thompson also updated on the Communication building regarding applying for the Burke Grant. Eddy County was denied due to the grant being better suited for hazard mitigation rather than brick. No grants out there at this time. In the meantime, the cooling system needs to be serviced as it has been a number of years. Jamie F. Allmaras made the motion to service the cooling system. Glenda Collier seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

There was conversation regarding Highway 15 that is not a county road but in Eddy County where two motorcycle accidents have happened in the last 48 hours. Concerns of marking the spot and wanted to confirm that the spot has been marked or flagged. It was stated DOT has been out there patching the road.

Todd Weber, Road Superintendent provided an update that the estimate for the Brantford mill and blend was about \$750,000. Todd thought it was best to be posted on Quest for loads and post in the paper for 2 weeks for the bid opening. Bid opening is set for June 26th, Friday at 9am.

Todd advised that Klumph Bridge is still hung up with State Historical Society and he is trying to make progress. The electrical on the West side, those poles will be moved in June as it is a high voltage transmission and in the clear zone.

Commissioner Gehrtz called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Meeting was turned over to Tax Director Kristy O'Connor. O'Connor presented the comparison of the assessments for the different classes of real property for 2026 and 2025 and the increases or decreases. The sales ratio for residential properties for 2025 is set at 91.3% and for commercial properties it is set at 93.1 %. The State Board of Equalization requires a level of tolerance between 90 and 100 percent of True and Full Value (market value). Upon the equity of appraisals between properties and the valuation including new construction, revaluation, exemptions, and credits the current market value ratio for residential property is at 93.2% and 93.7% for commercial. With a 2.5% decrease to ag land values overall based on the numbers collected from NDSU, the sales ratio is at 99.7%. Ag land is based on the production formula from NDSU. Production data, cost of production index, and CAP rate are the biggest influencer in that equation. The utilities have not been determined yet; they are determined by the state in July. O'Connor then spoke about the Homestead credit, Veteran's credit, and the Primary Residence credit. A motion to approve the county report as presented was made by James F. Allmaras, seconded by Glenda Collier. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Dave Gehrtz made a motion to accept the changes made to the zoning ordinance amendments made on March 10th 2026. James F. Allmaras affirmed the motion. Those voting in favor were James F. Allmaras and Dave Gerhtz. Glenda Collier rescinded. Motion carries.

Tabled item of Zoning request from Colvin and Cherry Lake: State's Attorney Ashley Lies advised County would need to give their zoning back to them. They would have to go through the requirements of having a comprehensive plan and ordinances. Glenda Collier moved to give it back. Jamie seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion to move Becki Schumacher's salary to Treasurer but stay at Step 7 with the additional 5% PRC. James F. Allmaras made a motion to accept. Glenda Collier seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Chairperson, Dave Gehrtz voted Yes, Vice Chairperson James F. Allmaras voted Yes, and Commissioner Glenda Collier voted Yes.

New Business:

James F. Allmaras made a motion to approve Eddy County Rod & Gun Club Gaming Site Authorization. Glenda seconded. All were in favor, Motion carried.

Glenda Collier made a motion to grant Buck It's a Special Permit for Hopfauf/Wetzel Wedding. James F. Allmaras seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

Glenda Collier made a motion to remove Kathy Anderson from Bank Forward & CCU accounts. James F. Allmaras seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

James F. Allmaras made a motion to approve County Employee Salary Budget –Next Step and COLA (2.8% 2026). Glenda Collier seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

Discussion of an Employee Barbecue that the Commissioners cover all expenses. The date was set for July 15th at 4:30 / 5:00 with the location to be determined at a later date.

Glenda Collier made a motion to approve Election Staff rates. James F. Allmaras seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

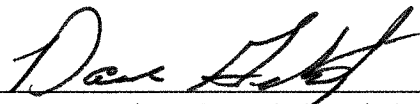
Discussed personnel issues at Lake Region Public Health. Commissioner James F. Allmaras will follow up with them on the progress and advise at the next meeting.

Glenda checked in with Julie with the Veteran's office and advised she will be attending attend the Commissioner meeting in July.

Announcements: none.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 A.M.

The next regular meeting will be July 7, 2026, at 8:00 A.M.

Approved: 
Dave Gehrtz, Commission Chair

Date: 7-7-26

Attest: 
Bobbie Indergaard, County Auditor

Date: 7-7-26