

BACK IN THE DAY

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district tournament and first in Missouri Basin Conference track in 1970.

The Christ Bergs celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

**60 years ago, April 1965**  
Riverdale’s Girls State delegates are Barbara Craft and Rita Donahue. Lynda Huber was selected as the alternate delegate.

Former Comet coach Bill Zwarych ends his coaching career in Mandan. Zwarych ended his 15-year coaching career, but will continue as a teacher. His Comet basketball teams posted a 63-36 overall record, with his final team posting a 27-5 record and a

third place finish. He also captured football and track titles in Underwood.

James Landgren was named to the dean’s list at Iowa State University.  
Robert Rupp and Pat Scott were selected as co-captains for the 1965-66 football season.

**70 years ago, April 1955**  
The first step in lighting the Underwood athletic field is now underway. The light towers are being moved in from Riverdale. They were purchased from the Kiewit Company.  
The Underwood Fire Department voted to donate their services in sweeping and cleaning the new pavement

in the city property. Property owners are asked to help out if they are able.

A chicken culling demonstration will be presented at the George Anderson farm. The Underwood Ranchers 4-H Club is sponsoring the demonstration and invites all who are interested to attend.  
Duane Schuh is now employed at the First Security Bank as a bookkeeper. He started work there on Monday. He was recently discharged from the Air Force after serving a four-year enlistment.  
Osbey Saylor represented McLean County in the spelling bee sponsored by the Minneapolis Tribune and got his picture on the front page

of that paper.

two farmers.

**92 years ago, April 1933**  
The girls physical education class, under the direction of Miss Helen Rue, have been working for some time on their annual exhibition of the work done during the year.  
Officials of the Missouri Valley District conducted a Boy Scout Court of Honor in Washburn. A number of scouts received merit badges, including George Stillings and Jerald Blake of Underwood, who each received seven merit badges.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Mercer Tax Equalization**  
  
Notice of Tax Equalization Meeting for the City of Mercer  
The City of Mercer will hold its Tax Equalization meeting on  
Thursday, May 15, 2025  
at 7:00pm  
at the Mercer City Hall.  
Lori Stute, Mayor  
(May 1 & 8, 2025)

**Underwood Tax Equalization**  
  
The Underwood Board of Tax Equalization will hold their annual hearing Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at the Underwood City Hall. Property owners do not have to attend in person but are encouraged to contact the City Assessor, Ryan Oberg 701-462-8541, with any concerns or mail their concerns to PO Box 168, Underwood, ND 58576.  
(Apr. 24 & May 1, 2025)

Riverdale Board of Equalization

The Riverdale Board of Equalization was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Taylor.  
Present: Alex Taylor, Ken Skuza, Dave Fryda, Mike Dirk, Jerry Orth and Auditor Del Kolke  
Orth moved to approve the property valuations set forth in the 2025 Assessment Value Report. Skuza seconded. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.  
(May 1, 2025)

Riverdale City Council Meeting

**April 14, 2025**  
The regular Riverdale City Council meeting of April 14, 2025 was called to order at 6:15 PM by Mayor Taylor.  
Present: Alex Taylor, Ken Skuza, Dave Fryda, Mike Dirk, Jerry Orth and Auditor Del Kolke  
Fryda moved to approve the consent agenda. Dirk seconded. Motion carried.  
Guest: Dave Beck, Corps of Engineers Lake Manager, apprised council of upcoming projects. Scheduled for this season are the spillway bridge repair, replacing lights across the dam, and the City of Riverdale’s recloser. The spillway modification project, estimated at \$1.8 billion, is in year two of the five-year design phase with construction to begin no sooner than 2029.  
Old Business: Dirk moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance No. 11-09 – Short-Term Rentals. Fryda seconded. Roll Call: Skuza aye, Fryda aye, Dirk aye, Orth aye. Motion carried.  
Three applicants for the vacant position will be interviewed by a committee of Dirk, Orth and Kolke.

New Business: Orth moved to grant a variance for Lots 5 & 6 Block 4 John Adams Addition to allow construction of storage buildings for rent. Skuza seconded. Motion carried. Dirk moved to grant a 4’ easement allowing a 21’ side yard setback rather than 25’ for Lot 1 Block 1 Kennedy Addition. Skuza seconded. Motion carried. Orth moved to allow a variance of 7’ to the front setback for Lot 1 Block 24 Original Townsite. Fryda seconded. Motion carried.  
Reports: A public informational meeting to discuss a street improvement project is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 PM pending availability of city engineer.  
Orth moved to approve installation of a stainless-steel cable on the water tower in the amount of \$2,650. Skuza seconded. Motion carried.  
Taylor removed five (5) trees at the campground.  
Skuza moved to allow campers to be left at the campground over the winter season as outlined in the proposed Storage Rental Agreement. Fryda seconded. Motion carried. Terry Morast, campground manager, will mow the commons areas.  
Dirk and Taylor will assist with various maintenance duties while Clay Kruger is on sick leave. Landfill will open for the season on Saturday, May 3.  
Orth reported AE2S will fill in and be on-call at the water treatment facility during Clay Kruger’s recovery.  
Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 12 at 6:00 PM. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.  
GENERAL FUND BILLS APRIL 2025  
MDU 924.08; Blue Cross Blue Shield 514.48; Visa 887.56; Cottingham Insurance 50.00; Water Treatment Facility 2,677.98; Advanced Business Methods 791.66; Circle Sanitation 4,627.13; Hettietved CPA 710.00; Riverdale Park Board 1,154.47; McLean Co. Sheriff’s Dept. 8,217.69; Otter Tail Power Co. 94.81; Alex Taylor 1,045.00; Interstate Battery 679.80; Menards 304.17; ND Dept. of Health 27.00; Bullinger Tree Service 22,400.00; Bobcat 998.68; NorDak North Publications 811.00; One Call Concepts 6.00; WRT 232.25; Capital Trophy 55.25; Runnings 43.95; MDU 508.87; Verizon 233.29; City of Riverdale 1,765.73; ND PERS 908.93; IRS 2,357.24; MRES 12,915.28  
WATER TREATMENT FACILITY BILLS APRIL 2025  
AE2S 5,862.72; Hawkins 7,076.97; City of Riverdale 2,482.40; Berg-Johnson Associates 3,066.74; Acme Tools 101.70; Border States 359.13; NAPA 165.61; WRT 205.55; Zenon 1,655.28; Verizon 15.08  
(May 1, 2025)

**Underwood Public School Meeting**  
**March 28, 2025**  
Present were: Superintendent Todd Benson, Business Manager Jessica Hoffert, Principal Hope Rush, Principal Kyle Hunt, Brent Charging, Sarah Ness, Donald Robinson, Amanda Haseleu, Michael Heger, Brenda Schantz, Skyla Folden, Tania Eichhorst, Brianna Robinson, Taylor Eichhorst

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Heger at 07:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.  
ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA  
Superintendent Evaluation  
CONSENT AGENDA  
Haseleu/Charging made a motion to approve the consent agenda follows:  
Approval of February 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
Approval of Financial Reports  
Approval of Bills as follows: General Fund (01): Abdo \$22.95, ACT \$81.00, Aflac \$1399.30, Amazon.com \$2,236.24, Amberway(Grimsleys) \$2,451.68, AVI Systems, Inc \$1,277.88, Bakken Area Skills Center \$300.00, Benson, Todd \$155.40, Booking.com -\$208.84, Central Dakota Library Network \$772.38, Central Regional Education Association \$50.00, Chatham, Heather \$364.62, Circle Sanitation \$384.00, City of Underwood \$60.91, Connect Therapy \$8,925.00, Connecting Point \$1,708.97, Culver’s \$91.94, D & E Supply Company \$1,598.74, Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch \$11,321.52, Dakota Dust-Tex Inc \$178.50, Delta Dental of Minnesota \$3,283.44, Diffely’s Repair \$141.90, Enerbase #85 \$16.99, EtSystems, Inc \$370.00, Event Bright \$88.02, Flinn Scientific Inc \$923.396, Hand2mind, Inc \$269.97, Highway 83 Lawn Leisure & Supply \$40.14, Hoffert, Jessica \$226.80, Holiday Station Store \$37.94, Johnson, Paula \$612.00, JW Pepper & Son, Inc \$45.99, Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$604.49, Lindtech Services, Inc \$1,444.50, Linton Public School \$125.00, Magic-Wrighter, Inc \$39.45, Maro \$1,598.28, McGraw-School Education Holdings, LLC \$1,033.37, Midwest Doors \$1,942.00, Montana Dakota Utilities \$3,865.06, National Association for Music Education \$146.00, ND Cetner for Distance Education \$229.00, NDSL-HA \$108.55, North Dakota Child Support Enforcement \$114.00, North Dakota Health Insurance Trust \$29,289.01, Northern Plains Equipment \$221.76, Otter Tail Power Company \$4,614.96, Pearce Durick PLLC \$2,493.75, Pitney Bowes \$500.00, Really Good Stuff, LLC \$81.90, Sam’s Club \$260.91, Sanders, Brent \$77.70, Schock’s Safe & Lock \$179.90, School Fix \$95.29, Share Corporation \$205.50, Stadium Sports Bar & The Lodge \$50.50, State Chemical Solutions \$302.36, Trafera Holdings, LLC \$3,990.00, Utley, Christina \$507.21, Ventris Learning \$160.00, Village Family Service Center \$1,364.00, Vlsion Service Plan \$534.77, Washburn Music Boosters \$240.00, West River Telecommunications \$1,018.63, WEX-Discovery Benefits \$1,824.10 Hot Lunch Fund (05): Amazon.com \$17.81, DPI \$579.11, Kemps \$643.37, Krause’s Market \$72.00, Olfason, Leilani \$123.69, Pan-O-Gold Baking Co \$101.04, Schaan, Brooklyn \$16.17, Stein’s Inc \$590.69, Sysco North Dakota, Inc \$864.48, US Food Service \$4,565.56 Activity Fund (06): Amazon.com \$102.18, Benson, Todd \$20.00, Complete Weddings + Events \$800.00, Cooper, Shambrill \$280.00, Cricut \$95.88, Dollar General Store #20785 \$12.50, Dollywood Foundation \$9.56, Driessen, Julie \$300.00, Fischer, Missy \$29.99, Frank, Rachel \$40.00, Gordon, Chris \$160.00, Hahn, Jason \$122.40, Hartman, Steve \$192.20, Heger, Katherine \$140.00, Heger, Nellie \$40.00, Heidelberger, Vancy \$680.00, Hunt, Kyle \$80.00, Jangula, John \$460.00, Jangula, Whit-

ney \$470.42, Johnson, Chris \$20.00, Kramer, Toby \$280.00, LeRoy, Mitchell \$180.00, Midwest Sports \$292.40, North Dakota Band Directors Association \$40.00, Richter, Ashley \$200.00, Sam’s Club \$575.22, Schaan, Brooklyn \$80.00, Schantz, Brenda \$260.00, Skachenko, Michael \$491.752, Slavik, Samantha \$280.00, Snyder, Ty \$199.20, Transfer Express \$50.66, Underwood Public School District #8- Cash \$200.00, US Food Service \$1,327.10, Vanderwal, Austin \$595.52, Varsity Spirit Fashion \$780.16, Wal-mart \$30.84, Washburn Music Boosters \$70.00 Trust & Agency Fund (CMC)(07): Central Dakota Frontier Cooperative \$1,190.25, Garrison Public School District \$130.00, Harlow’s School Bus Service, Inc \$576.54, Hewlett-Packard \$15.11, Singer, Grant \$338.67, South Prairie School \$45.00, Underwood Public School District #8 \$69.91, Universal Athletic Services, Inc \$6,493.90 Roll call vote: Haseleu-yes, Charging-yes, Robinson-yes, Ness-yes, and Heger-yes. MC.  
REPORT AGENDA:  
Business Manager Hoffert presented the Financial Report Summary.  
Superintendent Benson presented the Executive Report Summary.  
COMMITTEE REPORTS  
N/A  
DISCUSSION ITEMS  
Superintendent Benson reported on the negotiations process. The Personnel Committee will meet after this meeting concludes to finalize the economic proposal that will be presented to the UEA.  
Superintendent Benson reported he will be conducting administration evaluations next Friday.  
Superintendent Benson reported administration and the administrative assistants have been working on new protocols that will be pushed out. The group has come up with new protocols regarding requisitions and end of year processes to name a few.  
Superintendent Benson reported that we will not be moving forward with CREA’s Full Service Community School next year.  
Principal Rush reported on the 25-26 Best in Class Preschool program. Currently there are 21 students that have signed up. The school will be looking into the possibility of having two pre-school classes.  
Principal Rush reported a presenter was on site and met with 20 3-7 year olds to show ways to improve a child’s phonics and phonological awareness through play.  
Principal Rush reported she attended TSI training in Jamestown on March 27. The training focused on growth and planning for this year and next.  
Superintendent evaluation was completed by President Heger on 3/27/2025. Overall the evaluation was largely positive showing growth and advancement for Superintendent Benson. President Heger requested the Board approve Superintendent Benson’s evaluation. Charging/Haseleu made a motion to approve Superintendent’s evaluation that was completed on 3/27/25. Roll call vote: Charging-yes, Haseleu-yes, Ness-yes, Robinson-yes, and Heger-yes. MC.  
Business Manager evaluation should be completed by April 15, 2025. Vice President Charging will meet with Business Manager Hoffert.  
Meeting adjourned at 07:52 a.m.  
Next Meeting:

Regular School Board Meeting at 7 a.m. Apr 28, 2025  
(May 1, 2025)

Underwood Public School Special Meeting

**April 11, 2025**  
Present were Superintendent Todd Benson, Business Manager Jessica Hoffert, Brent Charging, Donald Robinson, Michael Heger, and Brenda Schantz. Sarah Ness joined via phone. Absent: Amanda Haseleu. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 am by Michael Heger with the option to say the Pledge of Allegiance.  
UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
N/A  
NEW BUSINESS  
The UEA and Underwood Public School District had a variety of items that needed to be cleaned up within the Negotiated Agreement. President Heger presented changes to the 25-27 Negotiated Agreement.  
President Heger requested the Board to approve the 2025-2027 Negotiated Agreement and the 2025-2027 Certified Staff Salary Schedule, which the UEA approved on April 10, 2025. Ness/Robinson made a motion to approve the 2025-2027 Negotiated Agreement and the 2025-2027 Certified Staff Salary Schedule. Roll call vote: Ness-yes, Robinson-yes, Charging-yes, and Heger-yes. MC.  
President Heger requested the Board to approve the 2025-2026 Certified contracts as follows: Grace Aban, DeAnn Brunelle, Tania Eichhorst, Taylor Eichhorst, Dakota Eslinger, Megan Faul, Skyla Folden, Timothy Frantz, Nadine Hagen, Katie Heger, Sarah Helmuth, John Howard, Gregory Janick, John Jangula, Whitney Jangula, Debra LeRoy, Crystal McLaughlin, Angie Nagle, Julia Peterson, Teresa Pleinis, Brenda Schantz, Dusty Vaagene, Charlene Janse Van Rensburg, and Amanda VonEschen. Ness/Robinson made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Certified contracts. Roll call vote: Ness-yes, Robinson-yes, Charging-yes, and Heger-yes. MC.  
The meeting adjourned at 7:22 AM.  
Next meeting(s):  
Underwood Public School Regular Board Meeting, April 28th, 2025 at 7:00 am  
(May 1, 2025)

