McLean County Commission Proceedings September minutes

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

The first regular September meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Curt Olson. Present were Commissioners Olson, Steve Cottingham, and Steve Lee. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Lynda Snyder; and Road Superintendent Jim Grey.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 18, 2026. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting mowing continues and should be finished early this year.

Grey stated that truck route signs will be placed on County Road 27 where needed as requested by the City of Turtle Lake.

Discussion followed.

Grey stated in order to better preserve the pavement throughout the county he would like to purchase another oil distributor.

Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve purchasing a renovated oil distributor from Swanston Equipment in the amount of $39,500.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented a boring request from Ottertail Power Company to bore in a new three phase 4.16 Kv line under 18th Street SW near Wilton, to supply power for the elevator.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the boring permit as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented a boring permit from West River Telecommunications Cooperative to bore fiber optic cable facilities to serve

Birka Lutheran Church at 3297 4th Street SW crossing 2nd Street SW and County Road 19 (32nd Avenue SW) in two places. These requests and maps with locations for the boring are on file with McLean County Highway Department. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve both boring permits as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey stated he continues to pursue funding to replace the bridge that burned down in Max. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented a draft of the final 2027 budget. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the DCHSZ Transfer of Funds Resolution and Sweep Account Transfer of

Fund Resolutions. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

DCHSZ Transfer of Funds Resolutions and Sweep Account Transfer of Fund Resolutions are on file in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank for the period ending August 31, 2026. The total public deposits were $20,449,885.95 and the total pledged securities were $25,405,105.83 with an overage of $4,955,219.88.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to accept the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded Cottingham, to approve the local raffle permit application submitted by NDSU Extension North Dakota 4-H Camp for a raffle and silent auction to be held at North Dakota 4-H Camp on September 10, 2026, with cash prizes and local merchant donations totaling $1,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a listing of checks outstanding for over a year. She stated that letters were sent notifying each payee that a new check could be issued and those not claimed will be turned over to the State of North Dakota as unclaimed property.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the list as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of August in the amount of $15,537.84.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of August in the amount of $3,121.32.

Knutson presented a listing of delinquent taxpayers owing real estate taxes over $4,000.00. Discussion followed. This listing is available in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

A detailed list of checks is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Olson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson stated that budget hearing notices have been sent and applications for absentee voting will be sent on September 14, 2026. Discussion followed.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at https://www.mcleancountynd.gov.

Curt Olson, Chairperson Lynda Snyder, Deputy Auditor

(Oct. 29, 2026)