

The Traill County Commissioners came to order on February 17th, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Eblen, Nesvig, and Young in person and Commissioner Amb and Elliott attending online.

Additions or deletions to the agenda: None

Public Comments: None

On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to approve the agenda.

On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to approve the minutes of February 3rd, 2026.

COUNTY PAYABLES: On motion of Young, seconded by Eblen and carried to approve the regular bills presented for payment and the Auditor's warrants as follows:

111364	ADVANCED BUS	\$	95.45	111385	MIDSTATES WIRELESS	\$	91.64
111365	ALLIANCE BUSINESS	\$	187.50	111386	MIDWEST PEST	\$	144.00
111366	BRAND, ALLISON	\$	89.90	111387	MOONEY, KATHI	\$	31.90
111367	BUTLER MACHINE	\$	280.68	111388	NAPA CENTRAL	\$	182.25
111368	COLBY BOSER	\$	180.00	111389	ND 24/7 ATT	\$	914.00
111369	DAKOTA NATURAL	\$	4,437.30	111390	ND WEED CONTROL	\$	285.00
111370	EIDE BAILLY LLP	\$	625.19	111391	NORTHERN ENGINE	\$	403.04
111371	ELECTION SYSTEMS	\$	335.89	111392	NORTHERN SAFETY	\$	474.36
111372	FAMILY HEALTHCARE	\$	355.50	111393	OK TIRE STORE	\$	4,010.62
111373	FARGO THEATRE	\$	375.00	111394	PORTLAND FARMER	\$	1,392.58
111361	GOOSE RIVER BANK	\$	143,573.33	111395	RDO TRUCK CENTER	\$	212.80
111374	GOOSE RIVER HEAT	\$	325.00	111396	SIWEK HARDWARE	\$	74.46
111375	HAKK, SHANDA	\$	16.68	111397	SKALICKY'S AUTO	\$	4,090.48
111363	HERITAGE INSUR	\$	(50.00)	111398	SORUM OIL	\$	19,379.77
111363	HERITAGE INSUR	\$	50.00	111399	TRAILL COUNTY REC	\$	45.00
111376	HILLSBORO BANNER	\$	890.70	111400	TWIN CITY GARAGE	\$	633.97
111377	INFORMATION TECH	\$	1,584.30	111401	VESTIS	\$	1,118.14
111378	JACOBSON, KIM	\$	236.00	111402	WALLWORK TRUCK	\$	3,471.02
111379	KIESLER POLICE	\$	2,522.32	111403	WEX	\$	70.00
111380	KLJ ENGINEERING	\$	44,195.06	111404	WM CORPORATE	\$	126.21
111381	KOTACO FUEL	\$	739.53	111405	XCEL ENERGY	\$	161.89
111382	Lake Region Law	\$	690.00	ACH	JP MORGAN	\$	38,255.92
111383	LINDE GAS EQUIP	\$	497.90	DD	TAX COLLECTIONS	\$	4,287,275.73
111384	LITTLE FALLS	\$	491.39				

On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to approve a resolution to award Project BRC-BRJ-4900(050) to Industrial Builders Inc. in the amount of \$1,584,693.60.

Commissioners received a letter from the Attorney of Joseph & Rebecca Dufner paying under protest for FY25. No action is needed.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Matt Lange, KLJ Engineer, discussed with the Commission coordination and improvement for border bridge improvements with Norman County, MN and Polk County, MN. This was regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between Traill County, ND and Norman County, MN and the Memorandum of Understanding between Traill County, ND and Polk County, MN. On a motion of Amb, seconded by Young and carried to sign Memorandum of Understanding between Norman County, MN & Traill County, ND. On a motion of Eblen and seconded by Young and carried to sign Memorandum of Understanding between Polk County, MN & Traill County, ND. Lange also discussed questionnaires sent to all

townships regarding zoning. Existing plans will be used to compare to current township plans to create new. Corwyn Martin, Road Supervisor, touched on a few items for his department. On motion of Elliott, seconded by Young and carried to amend Corwyn Martin, Road Superintendent's radio budget from \$55,000 to \$58,100.90. On motion of Young, seconded by Eblen and carried to approve \$5900 offer per acre for right of way for any acquisition needed for Bridges 361 and 374. Martin put out a request for proposal for construction engineering for bridge 114A and the removal of Bridge 94.

WATER DEPARTMENT - Jason Lovas - Water Board is looking to replace three county bridge crossings on the Murray Drain. Received two quotes for cost of culvert materials. Water Boards pays 60% and Traill County pays 40%. Estimated monetary cost share amount for the County is \$64,000, plus County Highway Department labor costs would bring the amount to \$109,000 which is 40% of the project total. On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to approve a lump sum payment for the monetary cost from the bridge budget. This will be a one-time cost share, as we do not intend to set a precedent.

TAX DIRECTOR: Kayla Knudson, Tax Director, presented an abatement request for approval for Christian Sports Commission as they are church affiliated. On motion of Young, seconded by Eblen and carried to deny the abatement. Kayla also presented ten abatement requests for approval for the Hillsboro Airport Authority. The abatements have been reviewed and denied by the Township Board. Devon Cote and Kyle Klapper requested a one-year abatement to allow renters to become aware of the tax and what it will cost them in their overhead have a better financial picture so they can plan for the tax in the future. On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to deny the tax abatement.

TREASURER: Carla Swanson, Treasurer talked about Human Services/URM account being overdrawn in 2024 between direct and indirect funds. There were some adjustments that needed to be made which would account for a portion of the reason they were overdrawn. Eblen requested to table discussion until the next meeting when Heather can offer more explanation.

SHERIFF: Steve Hunt, Sheriff, presented an update regarding the Task Force Officer position. Hunt then requested the Board's permission to seek public donations to initiate a K-9 program, noting that the estimated startup cost is approximately \$38,400.

OFFICE UPDATES: Michele Jacobs, Chief Deputy Auditor, informed the Commission that she and Hovey will attend election training in Bismarck on March 4 and 5, and in Grand Forks on March 10. Megan will remain in the office on those dates, so the office will not need to close. Jacobs also addressed the salary and benefit information requested at the previous meeting. The Commission indicated that they would prefer to have all Commissioners present before discussing the matter further.

CHARTER DISCUSSION: No official action has been taken at this time. Several required steps must be completed before the Charter can be placed on the ballot, including holding a public meeting and publishing notice in the newspaper. The current plan is for the Charter Commission to approve the Charter next week. It would then be submitted for publication in the newspaper during the first two weeks of March. A public meeting is scheduled for March 16, the Monday prior to the second Commission meeting in March. Final approval by the Commission is anticipated at the March 17 meeting to meet the deadline for placement on the ballot.

There being no further business to be brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m. to meet again on March 3rd, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.

Attest:

Michele Jacobs, Chief Deputy Auditor

Ken Nesvig, Commission Vice Chair