

The following are "unofficial minutes" subject to change at the next meeting.

BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S PROCEEDINGS

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April 1, 2025

9:00 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse.

Chairperson Otto called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Roll call: Patrick Hardy, Blaine Papenfuss, Darin Otto, Andrew Cull, Scot Becker. A quorum was declared.

Also, in attendance were: Zelda Hartje, Missy Morden, Clerk/Recorder; Rachel Ramsay, Public Health Director; Terry Meidinger, Sheriff, Jeff Daley, KLJ; Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent; Clay Smaaladen, Butler Machinery.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Scot Becker to approve the agenda with the removal of item eleven, Sara Carter's tobacco policy update. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Blaine Papenfuss to approve the March 18, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Hardy and seconded by Blaine Papenfuss to approve the Cavalier Hook & Ladder Society Gaming Site Authorization at the Cavalier Country Club. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Scot Becker to approve the Domestic Violence & Abuse Center's raffle permit. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Patrick Hardy to approve and have Darin Otto sign the Prisoner Housing Agreement with Rolette County. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Scot Becker to cast Pembina County's vote for Lyle Bopp for the NDIRF Board of Directors. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Patrick Hardy to proclaim July 2, 2025 Lawrence Welk Day and a day to honor "The Lawrence Welk Show" in Pembina County, North Dakota. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Auditor Gapp informed the commission that Wendy Adams is asking to attend the annual coroner's convention and apply for the scholarship to attend. Motion by Scot Becker and seconded by Blaine Papenfuss to approve Wendy to attend the convention if approved for the scholarship. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Rachel Ramsay addressed the commission on some funding changes. Public Health offices were cut 11 billion dollars from the federal level. Some of these funds were for this year and some carried into 2026. PCPH lost approximately \$120,000.00 from this cut. Not all of that amount was for 2025, some was for 2026. It was used for programs and some salaries and fringe benefits. The immunization outreach grant which allowed them to go to Pembina, Walhalla and Drayton was cut as well as the COVID ELC grant which was used for free at home covid tests and preparing for possible measles outbreak in North Dakota. The behavioral health grant was also cut, but the state will be helping cover those costs. She stated these grants gave back approximately \$35,000.00 towards salaries and benefits. She asked the commissioners for guidance going forward on her budget as it gets tighter on what areas should be cut if necessary. She stated she thinks she can make it work for the rest of this year. She also stated the office will be closed on April 24th until 2:00 p.m. for the team maze event for all 7th through 9th graders of Pembina County at the Cavalier School. She stated they are prepared if there would be a measles outbreak. She also stated Narcan stations are being set up throughout the county.

Jeff Daley with KLJ Engineering gave an update on the county road projects with priorities. The cost per mile ranges \$290,000 to \$659,000 depending on what work is being done. Devin stated he would like to keep County 3 a priority. He also mentioned mill and overlay for 55. Andrew Cull stated he would like to get a bid for number 3 between 81 to 12. Blaine Papenfuss stated he thinks we should also get bids on 55 for three miles. Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Andrew Cull to make the base bid of highway 3 between highway 81 and Hensel and the 3-mile segment east of County 2 on 55 as an alternate 1 and alternate 2 as highway 2 north of Cavalier to highway 1. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Devin discussed a complaint that he received regarding two bridges and culvert sizes and asked to do hydraulic study. Motion by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Scot Becker to approve the hydraulic study to satisfy this complaint and have Darin Otto sign it. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Devin Johnson informed the commission that load limits will be in affect Friday April 7, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. Motion by Andrew Cull and seconded by Blaine Papenfuss to accept the load limits. All voting in favor, motion carried.

Devin Johnson opened bids for a new fifteen-foot mower. The first bid was received from Cavalier Equipment for a Woods with trade in a cost of \$12,000.00 to boot. The

second bid was from Park River Implement for a Land Pride giving a trade in value of \$17,000.00 and to boot \$13,575.00. The last bid was from Butler for a Rhino giving a trade in value of \$15,500 and \$15,500 to boot. Motion by Andrew Cull to grant the bid to Cavalier Equipment and seconded by Scot Becker. All voting in favor, motion carried.

The vacation benefit section of the policy manual was discussed. States Attorney Fontaine stated he had a draft he is finalizing and will present it at the next meeting.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Blaine Papenfuss to adjourn the open session and go into executive session for attorney consultation per NDCC 44-04-19.1. Roll call vote: Patrick Hardy, yes; Scot Becker, yes; Blaine Papenfuss, yes; Darin Otto, yes; Andrew Cull, yes. Motion carried. The executive session began at 10:07 AM and was attended by Garret Fontaine, States Attorney, Patrick Hardy, Scot Becker, Blaine Papenfuss, Darin Otto, Andrew Cull and Melissa Gapp. Motion made by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Patrick Hardy to adjourn the executive session at 10:54 AM and return to open session. All voting in favor; motion carried. The public has been invited to return to the meeting room and we are now back in open session.

Part of the Commissioners Proceedings as of April 1st, 2025

WEIGHT LIMITS FOR TRUCKS - SPRING BREAK-UP
2025

WHEREAS, it is necessary that the Board of County Commissioners prescribe weight limits for Pembina County roads during the 2025 spring break-up period to protect asphalt surfaced highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pembina County that the following weight limits is imposed on all vehicles operating on County Highways:

40 MILE AN HOUR SPEED LIMIT FOR TRUCKS ON ALL COUNTY HIGHWAYS

STATE LIMITS NO RESTRICTION

Load restrictions remain at state limits with no vehicle to exceed 105,500 lbs. on the following County roads:

- County Highway #3 from Hensel East to State Highway #18
- County Highway #9 from Warehouse West to Walhalla
- County Highway #44 from Drayton North 2 miles
- County Highway #12 from Hwy 66 south ½ mile
- County Highway #1 from Bathgate West to State Highway #18
- County Highway #3 from State #32 to ¼ mile East
- County Highway #3 from State #81 to 2 miles West

6 TONS PER AXLE LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Load restrictions set at 6 tons per axle, with no vehicle to exceed 60,000 lbs. on the following County roads:

- County Highway #1, State Hwy #32 East to Interstate #29
- County Highway #2, from Cavalier to County Highway #1
- County Highway #2, from County Hwy #55 South to County Hwy #1
- County Highway #3, from Cavalier County line to Interstate #29
- County Highway #4, Carlisle Road from US Hwy #81 to County Hwy #1
- County Highway #4 from Walsh County Line to State Hwy #66
- County Highway #9, Walhalla Spur to County Hwy #12 at Leroy
- County Highway #11, St Thomas to Interstate #29
- County Highway #12, from County Hwy #1 North to County Hwy #55
- County Highway #12, from County Hwy #3, South to Walsh County Line
- County Highway #44, Sugar Beet Road from Pittsburg overpass South 2 miles
- County Highway #55, Cavalier County Line to Interstate #29
- County Highway #7, (Gardar spur)
- County Highway #12 from State Hwy #5 South to County Hwy #3
- County Highway #12 from State Hwy #5 North to County Hwy #1

3 TONS PER AXLE LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Load restrictions set at 3 tons per axle with no vehicle to exceed 30,000 lbs. on the following County roads:

- County Highway #6 (Concrete Spur)

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED WEIGHT LIMITS SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE TO CHAPTER 39-12, NDCC

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all trucks shall be limited to a 40 mile an hour speed on County roads. If violated, trucks will be prohibited on County roads. Drivers are to use caution when starting and when bringing vehicles to a stop.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such weight and speed limits shall be in force as of Friday, April 7th, 2025, and during the time that there are erected and maintained at each of any highway or portion thereof attached by such restriction, signs designating the provisions of this resolution.

Said resolution proposed by Andrew Cull and second by Blaine Papenfuss and upon a vote carried unanimously.

BY ORDER OF THE PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2025, at Cavalier, North Dakota.

/s/ Darin Otto
Darin Otto, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Gapp
Melissa Gapp
County Auditor/Treasurer

Commission reviewed the March payroll and claims. Motion made by Blaine Papenfuss and seconded by Patrick Hardy to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Blaine Papenfuss to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM.