

PROCEEDINGS OF PIERCE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 7, 2026

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on July 7, 2026. Chairman Bednarz called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with members Berg, Bohl, Hoffert, and Migler present. Also, present were Daniel M. Brossart & Jay Reinke.

Chairman Bednarz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Hoffert to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Berg and seconded by Bohl to accept the June minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Hoffert to approve the Board of Equalization minutes. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid. Motion carried.

Board reviewed Officer fee reports and hourly workers time sheets. Also, reviewed 2nd quarter report from Kelsey Siegler, Emergency Manager.

After reviewing the financial report, moved by Bohl and seconded by Hoffert to accept the financial report for the month of June. Motion carried.

Moved by Hoffert and seconded by Bohl to transfer \$100,000 from General Fund to HACTC Fund. Motion carried.

Daniel M. Brossart, spoke to the Commissioners about road issues. Brossart was concerned about the Orrin Road. Migler said B & J is working on blading it out now. Migler said the gravel used was from McHenry County and didn't stand up. Migler said there were about 4 miles that needed to be fixed. Brossart said it hasn't been good, but can be fixed if you get a crown on it. Migler said there is a 3 in. crown on it. Migler said they are working on it. Bohl commented that the farm to market roads do get priority.

Karin Fritel, joined the meeting briefly. She asked the Commissioners if she could order a new printer since she needed an upgraded one to work with the new computers in her office. Fritel said it would be about \$3000. for a new printer. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Berg to approve the purchase of a new printer. Motion carried.

Josh Siegler, Pierce County Sheriff, and Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, joined the meeting.

Josh Siegler, Sheriff, met and gave the Board a report for the month of June for his department.

Total calls-48; Medical Calls-2; Fire Calls-1; Traffic Accidents-2; Assist Other Agencies-10; Prisoner Transports-6; Arrests- 4 (3 Warrants, 1-Driving Under Suspension); Citations-16; Papers Served-15; Warrants Served-3. Siegler reported that there were no personnel changes.

Rick Srur joined the meeting.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of June. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of June, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for June, which was 66 (ADP). Current inmate count is 76. High of 74 for June. Bookings 52, Releases 37. Pierce County inmate population for June was 8. Deficit of \$47,209.73 for the month of May. Personnel 21/24 officers. Graner reported that there were 5 Correction officers hired the past month, 1 remains on leave & there was one resignation. Graner reported that they are now housing female offenders as of June 22nd, since they now have more female staff. Graner said they are working with the DOCR bringing more inmates to Rugby. Graner reported that they have programming efforts going on – Shining Light Academy and Hustle 2.0- where the inmate can even earn 3 college credits. It is a tablet based program – 1st on tablet, then goes to workbooks. Some inmates are even crocheting, they are trying to keep them busy. Graner said the in-cell monitors have been installed, which monitor the inmates' breathing. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Hoffert to approve the financial report for the month of May, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 8:55 A.M., with all members present.

Auditor-Treasurer Migler presented the Pledge of Assets from Merchants Bank, Bremer Bank, First United Bank, and First Intl. Bank & Trust. Board reviewed the bank balances as of June 30, 2026. Moved by Berg and seconded by Bohl to approve the Pledge of Assets as presented. Motion carried.

Galen J Mack, States Atty., joined the meeting.

Guy Larson, Berinda Larson, Jeff Kenner, Renae Ahlberg, and Janelle Engstrom, joined the meeting. Mitch Baum, of Dakota SAO II, joined the meeting by phone.

Mack reminded the Board that they were just reaffirming the April 13th decision reinstating the permit granted on Nov. 13th, 2025 to Dakota SAO II. The people opposing the permit filed a lawsuit saying that proper notice was not given for the special meeting on April 13th, 2026. Guy Larson said the Board issued a conditional use permit, which provided conditions must be followed. He said the permit should follow State laws. Larson said Dakota SAO II has not followed the rules and hasn't listed their investors. Larson said the County has every right to deny the permit at any time if the conditions aren't followed. He urged the Board to do the right thing. Berinda Larson spoke next on behalf of Lincoln Larson. Berinda Larson said it's the Board's job to make sure Dakota SAO II follows the State laws. She said they

have not listed all of their investors. She said this is required by ND Century Code. She said the State only looks at EPA regulations and not compliance. She said they also have not issued any bond to protect the county residents. She said the Board needed to serve the people of the community and should require the bond and proper registration to list all of their investors. Renae Ahlberg asked if anyone has seen the hydraulic study? Ahlberg said she has asked several times and hasn't received it. She said the water is short this year, how are we going to get the water. She said there needs to be more digging into this before we let them in. Jeff Kenner said water was one of your conditions, you haven't seen the study, you've asked for a list of investors, they haven't listed them. If they haven't met the conditions, you have every right to rescind their permit. The State won't take care of it, he felt the State has taken away the rights from us and will not stop this project. He said it is up to the Board to protect your citizens. He said if Dakota SAO II reapplies for the permit, that's fine, just make sure they go by the Century Code. He urged the Board to vote no. Mitch Baum, Dakota SAO II, said they are in full compliance with the Sec. of State and all conditions are being met. He said there are two different entities, they are getting the two confused. David Migler asked Baum about the hydraulic study. Migler said that is a concern for him too. Baum said All Seasons Water is still working on it. Baum said water is the utmost important issue. Bednarz asked if the City of Rugby can't provide the water, are you willing to drill your own well? Baum said they have drilled one and it exceeded their expectations. Baum said they are working with the Dept. of Water Resources, All Seasons Water and Dept. of Environmental Quality. David Migler said they have asked for a list of investors. Galen J Mack asked Baum to please send a list of the investors. A motion was made by Joel Berg to reaffirm the April 13, 2026 decision, which ratified the original permit granted on Nov. 13, 2025, to Dakota SAO II, seconded by Hoffert. A roll call vote was taken: Berg "Yes", Bohl "Yes", Hoffert "Yes", Migler "No", and Bednarz "Yes" Motion carried.

Mack, Dan Brossart, & Rick Srur left the meeting.

Board recessed at 10:00 A.M. to sit on the County Park Board.

Board reconvened at 10:10 A.M. with all members present.

Ted Mertz joined the meeting. Mertz presented a copy of his new platted area in Section 25, Township 152N, R74W. Mertz was seeking approval for this new plat, called Bay View Heights. Mertz explained where it would be. After reviewing the plat, the Board told Mertz to take it first to the Planning & Zoning Board and do it right. Mertz also asked the Board if they would be willing to discuss maintaining the roads inside the other areas he has platted. Migler said they would need to talk to the States Atty. because of the liability issues.

Jesse Brandvold, Wold Engineering, joined the meeting. Brandvold informed the Board that the Rush Lake Project FXTA-0035 (008) would be bid in August. There will be a 50 day working contract which would go up to Nov. 15th, 2026. The work would begin in September. When the weather gets bad- any days remaining, would go into next year. Brandvold reported that the Chip Seal Project is scheduled to begin the end of July.

Migler informed the rest of the Board that a new blademan was hired for the Selz area, Josh Zeien. Migler said he will be a good fit.

Board briefly discussed the budget for 2027 and the 3% caps that are now required. They will discuss more at their July 21st meeting.

There being no further business to transact, moved by Bohl and seconded by Berg to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 A.M. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

David Bednarz, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

July 21, 2026

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on July 21, 2026. Chairman Bednarz called the meeting to order at 7:30 A.M., with members Berg, Bohl, Migler, and Hoffert present.

Rick Srur joined the meeting.

Board reviewed departmental budgets and any correspondence received from department heads. After discussion it was decided that the departments would receive a one step + one percent increase. Health insurance and salaries were discussed as there is a 3% cap on what can be budgeted.

Rick Srur left the meeting.

Denton Heisler, Lake Region Dist. Health Unit Administrator, joined the meeting. Heisler went over the 2027 budget. The Lake Region Dist. Health budget hearing will be held at the Oct. 6th meeting.

Moved by Berg and seconded by Hoffert to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 AM. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

David Bednarz, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

JUNE EXPENDITURES

ND CHILD SUPP \$83.50, PIERCE CO PAYROLL \$82685.75, PIERCE CO TREAS \$14.09, NDPERS \$655.60, HACTC RES FUND \$824.50, CITY OF RUGBY \$2195.88, NDTA \$1563.22, NORTHERN PLAINS ELEC \$124, OTTER TAIL \$11161.15, JP MORGAN \$5244.23, PIERCE CO PAYROLL \$45011.73, PIERCE CO TREAS \$59.24, PIERCE CO PAYROLL \$120032.33, PIERCE CO TREAS \$264.08, AFLAC \$1339.58, SECURITY BENEFIT \$2202.93, NATIONWIDE \$2631.22, NDPHIT \$84043.25, NDPERS \$32915.40, PIERCE CO PAYROLL \$87731.06, PIERCE CO TREAS \$40.60, ND CHILD SUPP \$240, HACTC BILLS \$59791.34, HACTC RES FUND \$881.50, BOHL, JOE \$294.35, MIGLER, DAVID \$365.40, MACK LAW \$396.11, NDSAA \$400, PIERCE CO TREAS \$39.35, ATKINSON, STACEY \$88.79, HARMEL, KARLA \$236.35, MAYER, TAMI \$547.50, LEEVERS \$109.28, STEIN'S \$170.30, HARDWARE HANK \$598.94, JD FINANCIAL \$10.60, RUGBY AUTO PARTS \$46.05, RUGBY LAWN \$475, CIRCLE SANITATION \$207.25, RUNNINGS \$64.46, B & J EXCAVATING \$404.50, OTIS ELEV \$2173.56, CITY OF RUGBY \$766.65, NORTHERN PLAINS ELEC \$134, ELECTION SYSTEMS \$1814.35, OSTREM, SHELIA \$17, SLAUBAUGH, ROLLIN \$41.65, FIRESIDE \$6.70, US RECORDS \$363.80, COLUMN \$230.10, RUGBY INS \$29567.00, RUGBY SERV CTR \$2254, BRAD'S TOWING \$1003, RUGBY AUTO CONNECTION \$105, ITD \$10899.57, OFFICE OF ATTY GEN \$105, HAGER, DUSTIN \$200, BOTTINEAU CO SHERIFF \$890, HACTC \$9807.98, SIEGLER, KELSEY \$2000, WELK, BARB \$75.21, AXTMAN, MICHAEL \$310, PIERCE CO FAIR \$25000, PIERCE CO 4-H \$700, DAKOTA DYNAMICS \$1000, COMPUTER EXPRESS \$3685.99, ISOLVED \$293.45, LIEN'S JEWELRY \$160, NDPHIT \$415, BEDARZ, DAVID \$75.40, PIERCE CO FAIR \$1000, PIERCE CO TREAS \$131.11, WIBE, NATALIE \$170.19, HOLIDAY INN \$330, TRIBUNE \$990.79, HERALD PRESS \$136.80, RUGBY BROADCASTERS \$197.50, KHND RADIO \$125, RUGBY LUMBER \$41.99, NUTRIEN AG \$41126.20, OTTER TAIL \$252.23, NDACO \$280.25, DAKOTA FIRE \$210.96, HARPER OIL \$1125.85, ELITE SPRAYING \$60, NEWMAN SIGNS \$124.82, ENVISION \$15652.81, SUSAG \$63926.02, RDO \$707.16, LINDE GAS \$191.85, HONSEY \$3212.50, RITTERMAN \$59769.12 GRAND TOTAL \$830047.97