

October 7th, 2025, Steele County Commission Meeting

The Steele County Commission meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m. Commissioners Brandon Oxton, Perry Brown, Brandon Krueger and Chris Grandalen, Auditor Jana Flaten, State Attorney Charlie Stock, and DES Manager Ben Gates were present.

Commissioner Grandalen motioned to approve the August minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brown. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

One addition to the agenda- Clerk of Court office.

Ben Gates discussed the 911 siren out at Golden Lake, which will cost roughly \$30,000.00 and come out of the emergency fund. It will be on the east side, and the Portland reporter will be used. Commissioner Brown motioned to approve the 911 Siren, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Two building permits, Johnson and Powell, both submitted paperwork and fees. Commissioner Krueger motioned to approve the building permits, seconded by Commissioner Brown. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Reed Oien gave an update on the damage to the Hope shop during this summer's storm. We received two bids for the work to replace the damaged area. Fixing the walk-in door and window was also discussed, and having the quotes redone to provide a quote with all the materials included. Reed will reach out when he receives them back. A zoom meeting will be held on 10-13-25 to award the bid. Ditch mowing is currently getting done in cattail areas. The dock and buoys are out of the water at Golden Lake. All road painting and fog seals are done.

Charlie Stock gave an update on the Clerk of Court office. Macey Ards's last day was 10-2-25. Charlie will work on a list of items taken from that office and request that they be returned. The auditor's office will work on the end-of-employment items. An ad was placed on social media that Friday, and we currently have nine applications and one with prior experience. Interviews will be next week. Sady (Steele County Treasurer) will fill that office until we can hire someone and to help the new hire. Sady is asking for \$3,000.00 a month to do this, as she is currently working in two offices and is very busy in the treasurer's office, so more than likely needs to work after hours in the Clerk of Court/Recorders office, as there was a lot of stuff undone/not recorded. Commissioner Krueger approved Sady to help with the office and for the requested amount and allow Traill County to come help with training after the new hire. Second, by Brown, there was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Stock will have the Golden Lake leases ready for next month, as well as the decision regarding the lease that extends past the game and fishing lease with the County.

Mike Bassingthweight gave a brief update on the road projects. The seal coat is done, and he will be looking for a payment. He brought that payment to be approved today. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the first payment for that job, which Grandalen seconded. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

The Flex Fund application was discussed. Steele County was not selected for any improvement projects, just development ones. We need to make the final selection soon. The 2026 bridge/road realignment project was also discussed.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the SOS-ND memorandum from the 2026 elections. Krueger seconded the motion, and there was no further discussion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The 2026 budget was discussed and there were no further items to change on it. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the 2026 budget. Second by Krueger, there was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Tasha Krueger nominated herself as the Steele County State Fair Delegate for the year 2026. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve Tasha, seconded by Grandalen. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried. Commissioner Krueger abstained from the vote.

At 9:25 am Commissioner Krueger made a motion to take a 5-minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Brown. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Meeting reconvened at 9:34 am.

Dennis Kubischta updated the commissioners on the VSO office. There are currently 115 veterans in Steele County. Dennis will be starting his 30th year in the VSO office this fall. He stated that things are going great in the office and that he will continue to help veterans in Steele County and Griggs County.

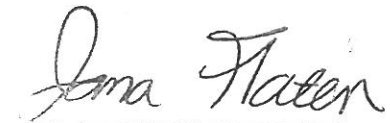
Commissioner Grandalen moved to approve the bills, which was seconded by Commissioner Krueger. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Commissioner Krueger moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Grandalen. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.**



Brandon Oxton- County Chairman,



Jana Flaten -County Auditor