

December 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2025, Steele County Commission Meeting

The Steele County Commission meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Brandon Oxton, Perry Brown, Richard Strand, Brandon Krueger and Chris Grandalen, Auditor Jana Flaten, and State Attorney Charlie Stock, were present.

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

Commissioner Krueger made a motion to make one agenda addition, Hr- Road Dept. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to nominate Commissioner Strand as the 2026 Commissioner Chairman. Commissioner Grandalen seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Park Board meeting started at 8.33 am  
Park board adjourned at 9:03am

Commissioners discussed portfolios. Commissioner Grandalen made a motion to accept all changes in portfolio holders seconded by Commissioner Kreuger. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried. New portfolios as listed below-

**Richard Strand**

**Chairman**

County Shop  
Personnel  
Roads/Gravel  
Bridges  
Park Board

**Brandon Oxton**

Tax Director  
Lake Agassiz Board  
JDA Board  
Park Board

**Perry Brown**

Water Resource  
Lake Agassiz Board  
SC Public Health Board  
AVHSZ Board

**Brandon Krueger**

Roads/Gravel  
DES  
JDA Board  
Bridges  
Public Buildings

**Chris Grandalen**

Personnel  
Courthouse Sec. Com  
Park Board  
Weed Board  
Soil Conservation

Tim Nerby, deputy Road Superintendent, and Mike with Interstate Engineering - no updates from either of them.

Charlie Stock discussed HR internal conflict in the Road Dept. Currently, Reed Oien is on paid leave until further notice. Stock would like to hire an attorney to go through the matters and interview the employees of the road department. He would like this done the right way, and the attorney is willing to come next week. After the attorney is done, there will be a commissioner's special closed meeting to discuss the next step in the matter.

Gates gave an update on the Food Security Emergency meeting for Traill and Steele County. Steele County's food pantry is doing very well, and the board is doing great at keeping the shelves well-stocked. The commissioners took no action on this.

Gates is still working on the lighting upgrade project and finishing the paperwork. Need to approve the work and sign off on paperwork. Commissioner Krueger made a motion to approve the work/project, seconded by Commissioner Brown. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Gates updated the Golden Lake siren on the east side of the lake, which is being delivered soon, and hope to have it up if the weather is good. Siren will go off the Portland reporter.

Commissioner Krueger made a motion to approve all tax deeds from the delinquent sales tax. Commissioner Brown seconded that motion. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

Flaten discussed the 2026 polling location and sought a motion to approve the county courtroom as the sole polling location in Steele County. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the polling location, seconded by Oxtan. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

C Olson discussed a new pickup for his department. He will receive the old sheriff vehicle, as they have a new one that will be switched over and all sheriff items removed by the end of January.

Olson/Flaten gave an update on the tax statements currently awaiting Nelson County valuations. Once we receive this information, the statements will be sent by mail.

Stock called Scott Larson about the fly issue, and he will spray next September.

Beckman would like to form a committee to begin planning the courthouse's 100th anniversary. We will start meeting in the new year.

2026 Commissioner Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, starting at 8:15am.

There will be a special meeting on Dec 22nd to review the end-of-year items and bills. The meeting will start at 9 am.

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

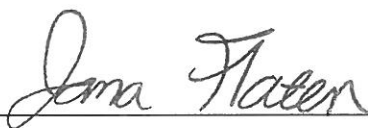
Commissioner Grandalen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. There was no further discussion, and all members voted aye. The motion carried.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.**



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Richard Strand- County Chairman



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Jana Flaten -County Auditor