

**Mercer County Commission Special Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairman Travis Frey. Present were Commissioners Jamee Folk, Rick Bauman, and Auditor Carmen Reed. Liza Taylor and Gene Wolf were absent. Others present during portions of the meeting were, Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers, Treasurer Dawn Grannis, Clerk of Court Wanda Knutson, Gwyn Bosch, and Ashley Miller.

Folk made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Board members discussed departmental wage concerns that are hindering the ability to hire new employees and retain our present employees. Wanted to look at possibly giving a \$1.50 raise across the board and also give step increases based on years of service. Folk requested a list of years of service of all present employees from the auditor's office to help with this possible step wage increase proposal. The wage study was discussed. Due to having state road funds available the board talked about not using the unorganized road mills, since they only tax rural residents and don't include the cities. Comprehensive land use plan for planning and zoning and using building permits in the county was explained by Frey. Airport road project was discussed. Board discussed putting certain departments like the extension service and historical society on the ballot to ask for an increase in their respective mills, due to present mills not covering their needed expenses. County economic/job development was discussed regarding cities milling verses the county mill.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at www.mercercountynd.com

Approved: _____
Travis Frey, Chairman

Attest: _____
Carmen Reed, Auditor