

Minnehaha County Commission Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Call to Order

The Minnehaha County Commission convened at 5:00 PM on April 28, 2026, pursuant to adjournment on April 28, 2026. Commissioners present were: Beninga, Bleyenberg, Heisey, and Karsky. Commissioner Kippley was absent. Also present were Kym Christiansen, Commission Recorder, and Maggie Gillespie, Senior Deputy State's Attorney.

City Council members present: Barranco, Basye, Brown, Merkouris, Sigette, Soehl, Spellerberg, and Thomason. Mayor TenHaken was absent

Chair Karsky called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Regular Business

Approve the Agenda

Motion by Bleyenberg, seconded by Beninga, to Approve the Agenda. 4 ayes. The City concurred.

Zoning Text Amendment 26-05

Kevin Hoekman, Senior Planner, was present for the public hearing and gave the second reading on Zoning Text Amendment 26-05 to amend the Revised Joint Zoning Ordinance for Minnehaha County and the City of Sioux Falls to update the Sign Regulations within Article 14.00, 15.00, 17.00, 17A.00, and 24.00. The Joint County and City Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed sign ordinance update.

Chair Karsky asked for the proponents and opponents to speak on the topic. There were no proponents or opponents in attendance to speak on the topic.

MOTION by Beninga, seconded by Bleyenberg, to Approve Ordinance MC30-56-26, An Ordinance of Minnehaha County, SD, Amending the Revised Joint Zoning Ordinance for Minnehaha County and the City of Sioux Falls by Amending Articles 14B.00 RRCO Red Rock Corridor Overlay District, 15.00 Additional Use Regulations, 17.00 On-Premise Signs, 17A.00 Off-Premise Signs, and 24.00 Definitions. By roll call vote: 4 ayes. The City concurred.

The entire ordinance is on file at the Auditor's Office.

Zoning Text Amendment 26-04

Kevin Hoekman, Senior Planner, was present for the public hearing and gave the second reading on zoning text amendment 26-04 to amend the Revised Joint Zoning Ordinance for Minnehaha County and the City of Sioux Falls to update Article 22.00 Fees. The Joint County and City Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed fee update

Chair Karsky asked for the proponents and opponents to speak on the topic. There were no proponents or opponents in attendance to speak on the topic.

MOTION by Beninga, seconded by Heisey, to Strike §22.06(C)(2) (adding an appeal fee) from Section 5 of proposed Ordinance MC30-55-26. By roll call vote: 4 ayes. The City concurred.

MOTION by Beninga, seconded by Bleyenbergh, to Approve Ordinance MC30-55-26 as Amended, An Ordinance of Minnehaha County and the City of Sioux Falls by Amending Article 22.00 Fees. By roll call vote: 4 ayes. The City concurred.

The entire ordinance is on file at the Auditor's Office.

Resolution

Upon the request of Aimee Chase, Metro Manager for Metro Communications, MOTION by Beninga, seconded by Bleyenbergh, to Approve Resolution MC26-16, Supporting the Classification of Sioux Falls 911 Telecommunicators as Class B Public Safety Members of the South Dakota Retirement System. By roll call vote: 4 ayes. The City concurred.

Resolution MC 26-16

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CLASSIFICATION OF SIOUX FALLS 911 TELECOMMUNICATORS AS CLASS B PUBLIC SAFETY MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, a 911 telecommunicator is defined in SDCL 34-45-22 as any employee of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, whose primary full-time or part-time duties are receiving, processing, and transmitting public safety information received through a 911 emergency reporting system as defined in SDCL 34-45-1; and,

WHEREAS, the daily duties of a telecommunicator can be demanding, stressful, and emotionally exhausting; and,

WHEREAS, low unemployment and labor challenges compel new strategies to retain these dedicated public servants; and,

WHEREAS, the Minnehaha County Commission supports the request to include the City of Sioux Falls 911 telecommunicators as Class B Public Safety members of the South Dakota Retirement System; and,

WHEREAS, it is understood that the contribution rate is 8% of compensation for both employers and employees as a Class B Public Safety Member of the South Dakota Retirement System;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Minnehaha County, South Dakota that the Minnehaha County Commission strongly encourages the South Dakota Retirement System Board of Trustees to reclassify the City of Sioux Falls 911 telecommunicators as Class B members of the South Dakota Retirement System.

Approved: April 28, 2026

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Dean Karsky, Chair

ATTEST: Leah Anderson, Auditor

Kym Christiansen, Deputy Auditor

Adjournment

MOTION by Bleyenbergh, seconded by Heisey, to Adjourn at 5:22 p.m. 4 ayes. The City concurred.

The Commission adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on May 5, 2026

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

Dean Karsky, Chair

ATTEST:

Kym Christiansen, Commission Recorder