

**BOTTINEAU COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS  
May 5, 2026  
7:30 a.m.**

The Commissioner Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Tonneson. A meeting of the Board of Bottineau County Commissioners was held in the Commissioner Room at the Courthouse with the following members present: Chairman, Ben Tonneson, Vice-Chairman Rod Hiatt, Commissioners, Andy Pederson, Lance Kjelskus, Nathaniel Buynak, and Auditor, Emily Deschamp.

**Old Business:**

Agenda – A motion was made to approve the agenda with the addition of speed limit at Lake Metigoshe and Long Lake by Buynak, second by Hiatt. Motion carried.

Minutes – A motion was made to approve the minutes from April 7, 2026 by Pederson, second by Kjelskus. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda – The monthly reports were reviewed, and a motion was made to approve the consent agendas by Buynak, second by Pederson. Motion carried.

**Bills:**

Check #	Name	Amount	Check #	Name	Amount
53372	Bottineau Plumbing & Heating (4/16)	235.75	53373	Cengage Group	396.08
53374	Kaley Mills	50.75	53375	Learning Opportunities	2,426.09
53376	Micro Marketing	230.37	53377	Midwest Tape	333.95
53378	AFLAC (4/30)	4,085.30	53379	Aflac Dental	2,691.51
53380	Ann Monson Treasurer	2,035.83	53381	Colonial Life & Accident	823.34
53382	Messerli & Kramer P.A.	1,170.71	53383	Minnesota Child Support	603.00
53384	ND Child Support Division	802.00	53385	ND Fraternal Order of Police	66.00
53386	New York Life Ins	54.64	53387	The Standard Life Ins Co	450.64
53388	UNUM Life Insurance Co	347.60	<del>53389</del>	<del>Aflac</del>	<del>50.83</del>
<del>53390</del>	<del>Aflac Dental &amp; Vision</del>	<del>71.18</del>	53391	Bank of North Dakota	25,239.54
53392	Bank of North Dakota	32,000.00	53393	First National Bank & Trust	8,713.29
53394	Ottertail Power Co	9,809.48	53395	Renville County Auditor	3,575.82
53396	Turtle Mountain Communications	1,709.06	EFT	IRS-FICA	66,156.82
EFT	IRS- Federal Income Tax Witholding	39,195.92	EFT	NDPERS	2,160.00
EFT	ND State Income tax	1,258.00	EFT	NDPHIT/BCBS-ND	134,238.36
EFT	NDPHIT-Metlife	2,022.43	53397	Acme Tools (5/8)	199.00
53398	Advanced Business Methods	73.02	53399	Amanda Lorenz	446.60
53400	Ann Monson Treasurer	11.50	53401	Applied Concepts, Inc.	165.00
53401	Applied Concepts, Inc.	165.00	53402	Ashley Pedie	62.47

53403	Ashley Pedie	356.50	53404	Atco International	2,386.20
53405	Auto Value Bottineau	539.48	53406	B & M Laundry Service	820.32
53407	Balco Uniform Co Inc.	726.38	53408	Border Ag & Energy	154.44
53409	Bottineau Ambulance Service District	112.50	53410	Bottineau Clinic Pharmacy	7.99
53411	Bottineau Co Road Dept.	2,500.00	53412	Bottineau Lumber	155.91
53413	Bottineau Plumbing & Heating	5,125.00	53414	Brandon Klebe	356.70
53415	Butler Machinery	8,371.03	53416	Cenex Fleet Fueling	743.50
53417	Circle Sanitation, Inc.	72.50	53418	Circle Sanitation, Inc.	265.00
53419	City of Bottineau	791.44	53420	City of Maxbass	88.00
53421	City of Newburg	38.00	53422	Clubhouse Hotel & Suites Fargo	297.00
53423	Cole Papers	387.27	53424	Comp Cam	1,237.00
53425	Courant	275.81	53426	Courant	855.00
53427	Courant	182.14	53428	Creekside Bar & Grill	1,187.55
53429	D & L Storage	340.00	53430	Dakota Business Solutions	1,366.99
53431	Darwin Peterson	65.25	53434	Electric Systems & Software	70.27
53435	Electric Systems & Software	3,231.25	53436	Electric Solutions	1,564.55
53437	Envision Cooperative	36.05	53438	Erin Berentson	268.58
53439	EverSpring Suites - Bismarck	110.00	53440	Farmers Union Oil WC	3,857.10
53441	Farmers Union Oil WC	511.70	53442	Farmers Union Oil WSB	23,266.59
53443	Fireside Office Solutions	777.73	53444	Genasys	1,080.00
53445	Haylee Senger	321.95	53446	Heather Thompson	506.05
53447	Information Technology Department	6,415.37	53448	J and K Property Services LLC	425.00
53449	JB Express	325.00	53450	Johnson Controls	786.11
53451	Jordan Law Office	5,861.00	53442	Lady Bramleton	7.79
53453	Lawson Products, Inc.	212.40	53454	Linde Gas & Equipment	51.05
53455	Loon Lake Services	3,215.00	53456	Lyle Gravseth	43.50
53457	Marla Lee	39.99	53458	McDonough K-9	9,000.00
53459	Medical Priority Consultants, Inc.	16,300.00	53460	Mikkelsen Aggregates	170.00
53461	Motorola Solutions, Inc.	19,966.97	53462	Myers Parts of Bottineau	72.48
53463	ND Association of Counties	51.23	53464	ND Association of Counties	5,323.88
53466	NDSAA	400.00	53467	NDSU Extension	15,549.01
53468	Nelson Repair	375.00	53469	North Central Electric Coop.	857.12
53470	Norway Steakhouse	240.00	53471	O'Keefe Oil	11,661.85
53472	Office of the Adjutant General	480.00	53472	Ottertail Power Company	98.20
53474	Parkland USA DBA Farstad Oil	1,794.69	53475	Paul Johnson	8.70
53476	Pomp's Tire Service, Inc.	1,846.86	53477	Presort Plus	4,987.02
53478	Pro IT LLC	6,075.00	53479	Puklich Chevrolet	2,185.00
53480	Pye Barker Fire & Safety	1,071.00	53481	Quadient Finance USA	2,500.00
53482	Reliance Telephone	290.00	53483	Running Supply Inc.	2,235.05
53484	Savey Customs	325.00	53485	Sawmill Lumber & Hardware	107.20
53486	Souris Basin Planning Council	7,207.00	53488	Spectrum	10.00
53489	State Treasurer	11,219.94	53490	State Treasurer	2,176.12
53491	Subway of Bottineau	804.00	53492	Tanya Wieler	1,250.00

53493	Taylor Print Impressions	3,543.91	53494	TNT Towing & Recovery	291.00
53495	True North Chiropractic	125.00	53496	Turtle Mtn Communications	229.06
53497	United States Treasury	0.24	53498	Vanguard Appraisals	1,925.00
53499	Western Agency	1,228.00	EFT	Ann Monson Treasurer (5/15)	1,747.45
EFT	Creative Planning Services	1,219.05	EFT	Verizon Wireless	1,934.42
EFT	JP Morgan	19,599.33	53508	Advantage Archives	630.00
53509	Courant	62.00	53510	Kaley Mills	52.20
53511	Kellers Briteway	90.00	53512	Micro Marketing LLC	26.39
53513	Midwest Tape	72.97		Payroll (5/29)	342,938.50
	Total	929,268.65			

The May bills were reviewed and a motion was made to pay the May bills by Buynak, second by Pederson. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

Commissioner Tonneson discussed a grievance letter that was submitted by Deputy Kossan.

Kent Indvik and Seth Demontigny, Wold Engineering, gave an update on the County projects:

- Project SC-0500 (022)-Gardena Road Paving-Kent updated the board on the project, possibly a mid-June start date.
- Project FXTA-0005(071)-Pickering Township Cement Stabilization-Kent let the board know that there is no schedule for construction at this time.
- Project BRJ-0005(062)-RBC South-East of Maxbass-Seth updated the board and let them know this project will be bid on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> through the Department of Transportation.
- BBRJ-0005(061)-Renville Box Culvert-Farden will begin repairs to the box culvert in the coming weeks.

Ritchie Gimbel, Road Superintendent, met with the board to discuss the road department activities. Ritch discussed the Towner Highway; discussion was held about utilizing emergency funds to fix the 1 mile of highway. A motion was made to use the emergency funds to fix the 1 mile of Highway 51 by Kjelskus, second by Hiatt. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried. Discussion was held about the speed limit at Lake Metigoshe, and what the next steps will be. A motion was made to lower the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph from the Christian Center to the State Park by Kjelskus, second by Pederson. Roll call vote Buynak yes, Kjelskus yes, Pederson yes, Hiatt no, Tonneson yes. Motion carried. Commissioner Hiatt discussed the speed limits at Long Lake from Highway 43 1 mile south and 1 mile east from 40 mph to 55 mph and then from Highway 43 1 mile south to Soland's corner will be changed from 40 mph to 55

mph by Hiatt, second by Pederson. Tonneson yes, Pederson yes, Kjelshus yes, Buynak yes, Hiatt yes. Motion carried. Ritch updated the board on the County Government lunch, \$949 was raised and will be donated to the Wagner Veteran Memorial Park. The county was awarded \$612,640 for 2028 maintenance construction to the bike path at Lake Metigoshe. Discussion was held on the memorial bridges signs that have been placed by Westhope and Kramer. Commissioner Buynak will look into this. Ritch updated the board on the flex funding that Blaine township received.

Emily presented the board with Gaming Site Authorizations for Bottineau Blue Line and Mohall Fire Department. A motion was made to approve the gaming site authorizations for Bottineau Blue Line and Mohall Fire Department by Kjelshus, second by Hiatt. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Emily presented the board with a Special Event Permit for Smokin Gun to transfer their alcohol license to the Brandjord Farm. A motion was made to approve the special event permit for Smokin Gun by Kjelshus, second by Buynak. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Emily presented the board with a Special Event Permit for A Frame Bar and Grill to transfer their alcohol license to Annie's House. A motion was made to approve the special event permit for A Frame Bar and Grill by Kjelshus, second by Buynak. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Buynak discussed the recommendation of a replacement of Terry Volk on the Bottineau County Weed Board. A motion was made to appoint Logan Cunningham to the Weed Board for a four-year term per the recommendation of the Weed Board by Buynak, second by Kjelshus. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Jeremy Tofteland, Bottineau County Sheriff, gave an update on the Sheriff's Department. Jeremy updated the board on the K-9 program in Bottineau County. Jeremy will be out of the office for training May 17-23, 2026. Jeremy asked if the Border Patrol could hang a License Plate Reader camera at the Lake Metigoshe Narrows. A motion was made to allow Border Patrol to place a camera at the Lake Metigoshe Narrows by Buynak, second by Hiatt. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Emily presented the agreement between Bottineau County and Renville County for dispatch services. It was the consensus of the board to table the agreement until the June meeting.

10:00 am Bid Opening-Project CP-005(026) County Wide Chip Seal Coat on various roads in Bottineau County-A motion was made to open bids for Project CP-005(025) by Kjelshus, second by Buynak. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried. A motion was made to accept the low bid in the amount of \$437,280.28, from Morris Seal Coat by Pederson, second by Hiatt. Roll call vote Hiatt yes, Tonneson yes, Pederson yes, Kjelshus yes, Buynak yes. Motion carried.

Emily presented the board with a letter from Luke Sampson for extra funding for the trailhead signage at Carbury Dam due to increase in cost for the project. A motion was made to have the Road Department purchase the excess trail markers for the project at Carbury Dam, by Pederson, second by Kjelshus. Motion carried. Roll call vote unanimous.

10:30 am Bid Opening-Project SRF-0005(073) Superpave FAA 42 Overlay on Dockside Spur and Birchwood Spur roads to Lake Metigoshe-A motion was made to open bids for Project SRF-0005(073) by Kjelshus, second by Pederson. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried. Mike Hall from Roland Township accepted the low bid in the amount of \$413,856.00 from Mayo Construction.

Emily presented a letter of support for the CRISI grant for Border Ag. A motion was made to sign the letter of support for the CRISI grant for Border Ag by Buynak, second by Hiatt. Descent from Pederson. Motion carried.

Department Head meeting – Chairman Tonneson gave an update on the Commissioner meeting and the department heads gave an update on their office activity.

11:15 am-Public Comment-No one in attendance.

Ashley Strong, Bottineau Ambulance District, met with the board to discuss the placement of an AED at the Narrows at Lake Metigoshe. The AEDs are being purchased through a grant that the ambulance district has applied for and will be no cost to the county in the future. It was the consensus of the board to allow Bottineau Ambulance Service to place an AED at Hoffas park with guidance from Bottineau County Road Supervisor.

Seymour Jordan, State's Attorney, met with the board to update them on his office activity.

Tyler Berube, Butler Machinery, met with the board to discuss a 2026 machinery purchase for the county. A motion was made to move forward with the purchase of an excavator with \$123,000 down by Buynak, second by Tonneson. Roll call vote Pederson yes, Hiatt yes, Buynak yes, Tonneson yes, Kjelshus yes. Motion carried.

Don Boardman, Bottineau County resident, met with the board and presented a letter of support for two (2) Ukrainian families in Bottineau County, that have been in the county for two (2) years, gainfully employed and children attend the Bottineau School District. The letter of support will be presented to the North Dakota legislator to help with reduction of costs that the families will incur to continue to remain in the United States. A motion was made to sign the letter of support by Tonneson, second Kjelshus. Roll call vote Buynak no, Kjelshus yes, Pederson no, Hiatt no, Tonneson yes. Motion failed.

As there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:26 pm by Kjelshus, second by Tonneson. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

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Benjamin Tonneson, Chairman

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Emily Deschamp, Auditor