

SOUTH DAKOTA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. CT

Becker-Hansen Building/Commission Room - 700 East Broadway Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota

COMMISSIONER PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Austin Simons, Chairman
Chris Frick, Vice-chairman
Larry Nelson
Don Roby
Ron Rosenboom
Mike Vehle

COMMISSIONER PRESENT: Rick Vallery

DOT STAFF PRESENT: Mike Behm, Karla Engle, Mark Leiferman, Steve Johnson, Sam Weisgram, Ryan Johnson, Becky Hoffman, and Kari Kroll

DOT STAFF PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Joel Jundt, Caig Smith, and Christina Bennett

OTHERS PRESENT

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Toby Crow - Association of General Contractors (AGC); Jason Reaves – South Dakota Chapter/American Concrete Pavement Association; and Bob Mercer – KELOland News

Chairman Austin Simons called the meeting of the South Dakota Transportation Commission (the “Commission”) to order at 9:00 a.m. CT. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Simons opened the floor to the Commission members to disclose potential conflicts of interest and to present requests for waiver pursuant to South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) chapter 3 – 23.

No members of the Commission disclosed a conflict or requested a waiver.

Simons asked for a motion to approve the July 23, 2026 Commission meeting minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Roby and seconded by Rosenboom to approve the July 23, 2026 Commission meeting minutes. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

Simons opened the floor to public input.

No members of the public addressed the Commission or offered input.

Karla Engle, Office of Legal Counsel, requested the Commission set a hearing date of September 22, 2026 to consider amendments to Administrative Rule of South Dakota (ARSD) 70:01:02:01 – Minnehaha County speed zone rule; 70:01:02:39 – Jackson County speed zone rule; 70:01:02:59 – Sully County speed zone rule; 70:07:01:01 – Definitions; 70:07:04:09 – Reasons for debarment; 70:07:04:10.02 – Hearing request; and 70:07:04:15 – Term of debarment.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vehle and seconded by Frick to set the administrative hearing date for September 22, 2026. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2026 – 8.1 was adopted.

Secretary Jundt gave a brief update of the current funding situation for both the Platte Winner Bridge and ongoing federal funding legislation with the current surface transportation program expiring on September 30, 2026. Included in this report was the recently passed appropriations continuing resolution.

Sam Weisgram, Office of Project Development, presented to the Commission the following bid letting results:

August 5, 2026

Structure (5770'-6" Steel Girder) & Approach Grading

1	05X0 EM-P 0044(207)290	Charles Mix, Gregory County
	AMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$289,990,701.22
	SD44 - Over Missouri River (Platte/Winner)	

Structure (4-12x8 CIP RCBC) & Approach Grading

2	OALO EM-P 0044(207)290	Douglas County
	AMES CONSTRUCTION, INC	\$652,125.59
	Structure 0.5 N & 3.7 W of Armour on 280 St over Andes Ck, SN 22-143-120	

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vehle and seconded by Roby to approve bids #1 and #2. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Simons declared the meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m. CT.