

SOUTH DAKOTA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 23 - 24, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. CDT

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

COMMISSIONER PRESENT: Don Roby, Chairman
Austin Simons, Vice-chairman
Jaf Karim
Chris Frick
Mike Vehle
Lynn Jensen
Rick Vallery
Larry Nelson (joined at 1:54 p.m.)
Ron Rosenboom

DOT STAFF PRESENT: Joel Jundt, Craig Smith, Jason Humphrey, Mike Behm, Karla Engle, Mark Leiferman, John Keyes, Joanne Hight, Christina Bennett, Sam Weisgram, Jon Suomala, Thad Bauer, Derek Ferwerda, Shea Lemmel, Jim Hyde, Bob Carrico, Darin Hodges, Tom Granes, Tom Kallemeyn, Dan Strand, Josh Dohmen, and Kari Kroll

**DOT STAFF PRESENT
VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Mark Peterson

VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Toby Crow – Association of General Contractors (AGC); Jason Reaves – South Dakota Chapter/American Concrete Pavement Association; Brian Johnson; Alissa – NOC; and Lindsey Willits – AGC

Chairman Don Roby called the meeting of the South Dakota Transportation Commission (the “Commission”) to order at 1:00 p.m. CDT. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Roby 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) chapters 3 – 23.

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

Roby asked for a motion to approve the September 11, 2025 Commission meeting minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Simons and seconded by Karim to approve the September 11, 2025 Commission meeting minutes. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

Roby opened the floor to public input.

No members of the public offered input nor addressed the Commission.

Secretary Joel Jundt presented his Secretary Report concerning the following items:

- He explained the status of federal funding and anticipated funding changes.
- The department's requested budget has been submitted to the Governor and the Bureau of Finance and Management. The department has also submitted its proposed legislative for consideration by the Governor's Office. The Governor's budget address will be in December and the department expects to know what legislation will move forward by the end of November.
- The department's customer satisfaction survey for 2024-2025 has been completed. Jundt provided highlights of the survey findings, which showed continued improvements in customer satisfaction and also reflected positively on the department and its officials and employees.

Jundt presented information on the State Highway Fund funding history and projection. He discussed the two major sources of funding, consisting of motor fuel tax and motor vehicle excise tax and trends in that funding. He reported the department expects these funding sources will flat line.

Jundt presented for Commission consideration changes to the Transportation Loan Information Sheet. The changes discussed by Jundt consisted of the administrative fee associated with loans and the interest rate that should be identified as general guidance to applicants, recognizing the Commission is always free to deviate from the guidance in the Transportation Loan Information Sheet. Jundt recommended waiving the administrative fee.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Jensen and seconded by Frick to remove from the information sheet the administrative fee of 0.25% on loans under the Commission's authority. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vehle and seconded by Simons to determine the anticipated loan rate to be 3.58% per year and update the guidelines accordingly. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

Craig Smith, Division Director of Operations, presented to the Commission for their information the following Construction Change Orders (CCOs).

CCOs completed in August contain an increase of \$1,414,528.59. Over the past 12 months, the total change to the original contract amounts is an increase of 1.77%.

The following projects have a CCO with a change of more than \$100,000 to the contract.

ABERDEEN REGION

1. Project: NH-CR 0081(127)119, Hamlin & Kingsbury County, PCN 08XW
Location: US81 from Arlington to SD28
Contractor: Bituminous Paving, Inc.
Type of Work: cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, shoulder surfacing

Original Contract Amount:	\$	9,528,149.55
\$ Change on CCO No. 5F:	\$	126,357.89
% Change on CCO No. 5F:		1.3%
Net Change to Date:	\$	(433,731.74)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 5F: This increase is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities during final review and a fuel cost adjustment made in accordance with the contract.

MITCHELL REGION

2. Project: BRO-B 8050(82), Minnehaha County, PCN 085K
Location: Structure 1 miles north and .3 miles west of Renner on 257th Street over Silver Creek
Contractor: Katzer Concrete, Inc
Type of Work: structure & approach grading

Original Contract Amount:	\$	774,385.00
\$ Change on CCO No. 3:	\$	112,841.31
% Change on CCO No. 3:		14.6%
Net Change to Date:	\$	140,569.01

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 3: This increase is the result of SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work for rock excavation prior to preparing the site and placing a box culvert. The plans did not account for the rock excavation needed.

3. Project: NH 0100(106)409, Lincoln County, PCN 01V7
 Location: Veteran's Parkway from Cliff Avenue to Sycamore Avenue
 Contractor: John Riley Construction, Inc.
 Type of Work: grading, structures, PCC surfacing

Original Contract Amount:	\$	40,996,599.81
\$ Change on CCO No. 2:	\$	257,329.95
% Change on CCO No. 2:		0.6%
Net Change to Date:	\$	289,345.95

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 2: This increase is the result of SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work to excavate and haul additional borrow from a different source to replace soil removed by the previous landowner.

4. Project: NH 2042(28), Minnehaha County, PCN 05UW
 Location: Arrowhead Parkway from Highline Avenue to .5 mile west of Six Mile Road in Sioux Falls
 Contractor: T & R Contracting, Inc.
 Type of Work: urban grading, curb & gutter, storm sewer, PCC surfacing, lighting, signals

Original Contract Amount:	\$	25,943,226.62
\$ Change on CCO No. 4:	\$	1,027,636.04
% Change on CCO No. 4:		4.0%
Net Change to Date:	\$	1,045,367.79

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 4: This increase is the result of the SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work to install a MSE large block wall adjacent to the Willows Edge Apartments complex to retain the roadway embankment.

5. Project: NH 2042(28), Minnehaha County, PCN 05UW
 Location: Arrowhead Parkway from Highline Avenue to .5 mile west of Six Mile Road in Sioux Falls
 Contractor: T & R Contracting, Inc.
 Type of Work: urban grading, curb & gutter, storm sewer, PCC surfacing, lighting, signals

Original Contract Amount:	\$	25,943,226.62
\$ Change on CCO No. 5:	\$	102,925.00
% Change on CCO No. 5:		0.4%
Net Change to Date:	\$	1,148,292.79

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 5: This increase is the result of the SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra work to install tie backs and whalers for sheet piling. A discrepancy in the number of lanes of traffic in the plans led to increasing the height of the wall and adding the tie backs and whalers to this project.

6. Project: P-PH-EM 0046(60)347, Yankton County, PCN 04X4
 Location: SD46 from US81 to Irene
 Contractor: Foothills Contracting, Inc.
 Type of Work: grading, interim surfacing, replace structure

Original Contract Amount:	\$	19,329,354.59
\$ Change on CCO No. 7:	\$	(137,158.58)
% Change on CCO No. 7:		0.7%
Net Change to Date:	\$	53,276.05

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 7: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities and removing items not used in such as erosion control, fencing, signing, and traffic control.

7. Project: IM-B 0291(134)44, Union County, PCN 05TJ
 Location: I-29 Structure 3 miles south of Beresford at 300th Street
 Contractor: Journey Group Companies
 Type of Work: structure, approach grading

Original Contract Amount:	\$	6,629,863.08
\$ Change on CCO No. 5F:	\$	(132,420.37)
% Change on CCO No. 5F:		2.0%
Net Change to Date:	\$	(102,886.90)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 5F: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities and removing items that were not necessary.

8. Project: NH 0037(164)24, Bon Homme & Hutchinson County, PCN 06PN
 Location: SD37 from SD50 to the Bon Homme/Hutchinson County line
 Contractor: Spencer Quarries, Inc.
 Type of Work: cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	\$	4,540,728.49
\$ Change on CCO No. 3F:	\$	(522,839.14)
% Change on CCO No. 3F:		9.7%
Net Change to Date:	\$	(401,590.22)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 3F: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities and removing items that were not necessary.

9. Project: NH 0081(110)61, McCook County, PCN 06J6
 Location: US81 from SD38 to the McCook/Miner County Line
 Contractor: Spencer Quarries, Inc.
 Type of Work: cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, pipe work

Original Contract Amount:	\$	3,276,735.13
\$ Change on CCO No. 5:	\$	(335,368.28)
% Change on CCO No. 5:		10.2%
Net Change to Date:	\$	(323,116.48)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 5: This decrease is the result of SDDOT adjusting contract quantities to match as built quantities and removing items that were not necessary.

PIERRE REGION

10. Project: NH-CR 0014(185)229, Hughes County, PCN 026Z
 Location: US14 from Sioux Avenue to the divided highway of SD1804 in Pierre
 Contractor: Morris, Inc.
 Type of Work: urban grading, curb & gutter, sidewalk, signals, storm sewer, lighting, asphalt concrete surfacing, PCC surfacing

Original Contract Amount:	\$	26,410,308.58
\$ Change on CCO No. 3:	\$	234,400.75
% Change on CCO No. 3:		0.9%
Net Change to Date:	\$	251,305.75

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 3: This increase is the result of SDDOT compensating the contractor for extra materials and work to install a clanker system preventing future bridge strikes at the railroad bridge over Pierre Street

11. Project: P 0047(117)67, Lyman County, PCN 069Q
 Location: SD47 from I-90 to west of Fort Thompson
 Contractor: Spencer Quarries, Inc.
 Type of Work: cold milling, asphalt concrete resurfacing, approach guardrail, landslide repair, rumble strips

Original Contract Amount:	\$	9,262,523.63
\$ Change on CCO No. 5:	\$	209,498.66
% Change on CCO No. 5:		2.3 %
Net Change to Date:	\$	449,933.92

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 5: This increase is the result of SDDOT adding base course, salvaged to the contract due to a shortage of material needed to shape the shoulders on the job.

12. Project: PH 0030(46), Bennett, Potter, Sully, Todd, & Tripp County, PCN 09FP
 Location: Pierre Region
 Contractor: Diamond Surface, Inc.
 Type of Work: centerline rumble strips

Original Contract Amount: \$ 6,658,274.23
 \$ Change on CCO No. 1: \$ (285,777.40)
 % Change on CCO No. 1: 4.3 %
 Net Change to Date: \$ (280,834.60)

Explanation of Change on CCO No. 1: This decrease is the result of SDDOT removing pavement marking items from the contract in segment 1 & 2. These items would be damaged by the centerline rumble strip installation.

Smith discussed the process going forward for reporting CCOs. The CCO informational report will now include all CCOs that are an increase or decrease of \$100,000 and any CCO that has an increase or decrease of 25% based on the contract amount.

Larry Nelson joined the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

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

September 17, 2025

Structure (5-12x12 CIP RCBC) & Approach Grading

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 09A7 BRO-B 8058(33)
Lehtola Builders, Inc.
Structure 5 N & 5.9 W of Northville on 149th St over Snake Creek SN 58-011-010 | Spink County
\$1,049,716.39 |
|---|---|--------------------------------|

Repair Str RCBC

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| 2 | 09VU P 0248(19)247
BX CIVIL & CONSTRUCTION, INC.
SD248 - 1 W of Kennebec | Lyman County
\$176,734.50 |
|---|--|------------------------------|

Signing & Delineation

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 3 | 04LD PH 8032(06)
Hamm Contracting, LLC
Various County, City, & Township Roads in Harding County | Harding County
\$733,316.35 |
|---|---|--------------------------------|

A MOTION WAS MADE by Frick and seconded by Karim to approve the bids #1, 2, and 3 for contract award. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

John Keyes, Program Manager for the Office of Right of Way, presented the following items for Commission consideration:

1. Request Transportation Commission approval to abandon by resolution the Roberts County Project IM 0012(306), PCN 08EJ DOT drainage and utility permanent easement on the following property:

The S1/2 NW1/4 of Section 26, Township 123 North, Range 51 West of the 5th P.M., except Lot H1 in the SE1/4 NW1/4, except Lot H2 and Lot P1 therein and except Lot H3 therein, Roberts County, South Dakota.

The parcel 2 permanent easement is located on the east side of I29 approximately 1/2 mile north of the Hwy 15 intersection and 7 miles west of Wilmot.

The property was previously entered into a US Fish and Wildlife waterfall production area easement and the USFWS requests DOT to not encumber the WPA property with a permanent easement. DOT will complete future project property needs by agreement with the USFWS.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Rosenboom and seconded by Vallery to approve this abandonment in Roberts County. All presented voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 – 9.1 was adopted.

2. Request Transportation Commission approval to dispose of the following DOT right of way property in accordance with the procedures provided by SDCL 31-2-27 and ARSD chapter 10:02:01.

Lot A in a portion of Lot H1 in the S1/2 NW1/4 of Section 14, Township 4 North, Range 20 East of the B.H.M., Haakon County, South Dakota. (contains 0.71 acre)

Lot B in a portion of Lot H1 in the N1/2 SW1/4 and a portion of Lot H1 in the S1/2 NW1/4 of Section 14, Township 4 North, Range 20 East of the B.H.M., Haakon County, South Dakota. (contains 2.49 acres)

Lot A and Lot B appraised value: \$826.00

The above DOT right of way property was acquired in 1992 for project F 0073(15)102 and is located on the west side of SD Hwy 73 approximately 18 miles north of Philip. The property is irregular shaped sloping hay land without utilities. Access is from SD Hwy 73. As adjoining landowner to the Lot A and B DOT property, Western Area Power Administration would be offered the first purchase rights. Pierre Region and Area DOT request the property disposals.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vallery and seconded by Nelson to approve the disposal in Haakon County. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

Karla Engle, Office of Legal Counsel, presented for Commission consideration amendments to Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 70:01:02:04 – Beadle County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:09 – Lawrence County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:27 – Fall River County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:32 – Hamlin County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:34 – Hanson County Speed Zone Rule; and ARSD 70:01:02:41 – Jones County Speed Zone Rule.

Engle explained the rule adoption process that had been followed to date for the amendments to the rules. Engle discussed the purpose and effect of the speed zone rule changes as follows.

70:01:02:04 – Beadle County speed zone rule. The South Dakota Department of Transportation proposes to extend the current 45 mph speed limit on U.S. Highway 14 on the south edge of Wolsey an additional 0.3 mile past the intersection with 206th Street. This speed limit change was requested by the Huron Area Engineer due to citizen concerns. The Highway Patrol concurs with this change.

The department also proposes to extend the current 45 mph speed limit on Highway 37 in Huron an additional 0.3 miles to capture the highway segment abutting the Runnings store. In addition, the current transitional speed limit of 55 mph would be shifted westward. This speed limit change was requested by the Huron Area Engineer due to citizen concerns. The Highway Patrol concurs with these changes.

The department also proposes to change distance measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile and replace legal descriptions with references or markers that will be easier to administer in the field and easier for the public to understand.

70:01:02:09 – Lawrence County speed zone rule. On U.S. Highway 14A and U.S. Highway 85 at and around Cheyenne Crossing in Lawrence County, the department plans to add a 45 mph transition speed zone. The department is also eliminating a truck speed limit on U.S. Highway 14A east of Cheyenne Crossing, because the speed limit for other vehicles is only 5 mph faster and this is not a meaningful difference between vehicle types. Furthermore, the department is correcting minor deviations in speed zone distances, revising measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile, and eliminating redundancy in the rule.

70:01:02:27 – Fall River County speed zone rule. On State Trunk Highway 79 in Fall River County, the department proposes to extend a 55 mph speed zone 0.25 mile north of Maverick Junction. The Highway Patrol concurs with this change. The department is also eliminating unnecessary language, correcting minor deviations in speed zone distances, clarifying the starting points for speed zone rules, and revising speed zone measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile.

70:01:02:32 – Hamlin County speed zone rule. The department proposes to extend the current 25 mph speed zone on State Trunk Highway 21 approximately 700 feet on the east edge of Hayti, which will result in the 45 mph speed limit also shifting eastward. The Highway Patrol and county sheriff concur with this change. The department is also revising speed zone measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile.

70:01:02:34 – Hanson County speed zone rule. On State Trunk Highway 262 in Hanson County, the department proposes to lengthen the existing 45 mph speed zone at the I-90 interchange. The Highway Patrol and sheriff of Hanson County concur with this change. The department is also correcting naming conventions and revising measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile.

70:01:02:41 – Jones County speed zone rule. The department is adding a 45 mph transition speed zone on U.S. Highway 83 in and around Murdo. Currently, the speed limit goes from 65 mph to 35 mph. The department is also eliminating redundancy in the rule, clarifying the starting and ending points for speed zones, eliminating a speed zone for a highway that is no longer under the department's jurisdiction, and revising speed zone measurements to the nearest one-tenth of a mile.

The purpose of all the rule changes is to enhance safety, facilitate accurate speed zone signing, promote understanding of speed limit locations, and make formatting changes.

Engle discussed speed study results and the engineering analysis associated with the proposed rule changes. Engle reported that no members of the public submitted timely written comments on the rule changes. Engle also reported that all changes requested by Legislative Research Council were incorporated into the rules.

Chairman Roby called for public testimony in favor of or opposed to the proposed rule changes. No members of the public offered any testimony.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Jensen and seconded by Simons to approve the proposed amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:04 – Beadle County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:09 – Lawrence County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:27 – Fall River County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:32 – Hamlin County Speed Zone Rule; ARSD 70:01:02:34 – Hanson County Speed Zone Rule; and ARSD 70:01:02:41 – Jones County Speed Zone Rule. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 – 9.2 was adopted.

Engle requested the Commission set a hearing date of October 23, 2025 to consider amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:26 – Edmunds County speed zone rule and ARSD 70:01:02:52 Moody County speed zone rule. The Edmunds County speed zone rule would extend the current 45 mph speed limit on US Highway 12 westward from Ipswich past the intersection with 357th Avenue. This speed zone change request is the result of a petition filed by an Ipswich resident. The department is also requesting to change the speed limit on State Trunk Highway 34 in and around the I-29 interchange in Moody County.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Vehle and seconded by Rosenboom to set the administrative hearing date of October 23, 2025 for consideration of amendments to ARSD 70:01:02:26 – Edmunds County speed zone rule and ARSD 70:01:02:52 Moody County speed zone rule. All present voted aye by voice vote. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 – 9.3 was adopted.

The Commission took a break from 2:43 p.m. to 3:08 p.m. to relocate to the Pierre Region Complex located at 104 S. Garfield Avenue. At this complex, the Commission toured the new equipment shop and the materials lab and observed equipment at the complex.

Commissioner Vehle arrived at 3:11 p.m.

The Commission recessed at 4:59 p.m.

Chairman Roby called the meeting of the Commission back to order at 8:00 a.m. CDT on September 24, 2025. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Commissioner Vehle arrived at 8:02 a.m.

Dean Van De Wiele presented to the Commission a safety and project overview for the planned tour.

The scheduled project tour departed the Becker-Hansen Building to tour the Morris Asphalt Plant. The Commission then toured the new Pierre/Fort Pierre Bridge from the Pierre side plaza. Lastly, the Commission traveled to the Hughes County Courthouse parking lot for the tour of the Euclid/Capitol Avenue project before heading back to the Becker-Hansen Building. Mike Behm, Craig Smith, Jason Humphrey, and Dean Van De Wiele from the Department narrated these tours.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Roby declared the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m. CT.