

Outdoor enthusiasts reminded of spring wildfire potential

Outdoor enthusiasts need to be aware of ground conditions while enjoying spring activities. Increased human activity outdoors in spring, combined with dead ground vegetation and high winds, make this time of year highly susceptible to wildfires. Because of highly variable weather patterns, North Dakota experiences a distinct spring fire season every year. With that in mind, it's important to pay attention to the fire danger index and to follow the appropriate measures. Hunters and anglers are urged to keep up with the daily rural fire danger index, issued by the National Weather Service, to alert the public to conditions that may be conducive to the accidental starting or spread of fires. In addition, county governments have the authority to adopt penalties for violations of county restrictions related to burning bans. These restrictions apply regardless of the daily fire danger index and remain in place until each county's commission rescinds the ban. Information, including restrictions, on current fire danger indexes is available at NDRresponse.gov.

NDG&F advisory board spring meetings set

The ND Game and Fish Department Advisory Board will host public meetings this spring at eight locations across the state. These public meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to discuss fish and wildlife issues and ask questions of their district advisors and agency personnel. The meeting for District 4, which includes Nelson, Grand Forks, Pembina and Walsh counties, is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at the Cavalier Fire Department (305 Elizabeth St. W). The meeting is being hosted by the Pembina County and Area Sportsman's Club. Contact person is Roger Furstenau (701-265-2960). Advisory board member is Karissa Daws of Michigan.

Paddlefish snagging opens May 1

North Dakota's paddlefish season opens May 1 and is scheduled to continue through May 21. However, depending on the overall harvest, an early in-season closure may occur with a 24-hour notice issued by the state Game and Fish Department. Paddlefish tags are available for purchase online at the Game and Fish website, gf.nd.gov, and during business hours at Game and Fish Department offices in Bismarck, Dickinson, Jamestown, Devils Lake, Lonetree (Harvey) and Williston. Snaggers buying tags online have the option to have the tag mailed or can stop at a Game and Fish office and pick it up during business hours. Those having a tag mailed should plan accordingly and allow for a few days for delivery. All paddlefish snaggers must possess a paddlefish tag, in addition to a valid fishing license for anyone 16 and older. Lost or destroyed tags will not be replaced. The Game and Fish Department will allow camping during the open paddlefish season at Lewis and Clark Wildlife Management Area Pumphouse and at Neu's Point WMA. However, no roads or gates will be open at Neu's Point; therefore camping is allowed in the small Neu's Point parking lot, and the rest of the WMA for walk-in access. All other WMA regulations apply. Snaggers are urged to be aware of the current fire index. Information, including restrictions, on current fire danger indexes is available at NDRresponse.gov. For more information on the paddlefish snagging season, snaggers should refer to the Game and Fish website.

Caution urged near bridge project on Missouri River

The ND Game and Fish Department, under US Coast Guard authority, has created an idle-speed-only and navigational safety zone near an ongoing bridge construction project on the Missouri River. This summer will mark the start of an idle-speed-only area and a navigation channel around the Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad bridge project. The navigational channel will be marked with green and red floating buoys to direct the public to the navigable area through the construction zone. Additionally, the project area will be marked with multiple types of lighted floating buoys and encloses an area from the west bank north of the project staging area, to the east bank, and then following the east bank south approximately 1,500 feet and back to the river's west bank. The "No Boats" buoys are located north and south of the active construction barges and have yellow flashing lights for nighttime visibility. The solid, white light "Idle Speed Only" buoys indicate where the idle speed zone starts and operate day and night. The cautions are in place to protect people and boat traffic during the construction project and operate during the open water months on the Missouri River near Bismarck-Mandan. Also, river users operating paddlecraft, such as canoes and kayaks, are encouraged to exit the river upstream or downstream of the navigational safety zone. A violation of the regulatory buoys is subject to a fine under ND Administrative Code.

Sudoku answers

8	5	9	6	9	4	1	3	7	2
7	2	9	3	6	8	4	1	5	7
4	1	3	7	2	5	6	8	9	4
9	7	5	8	3	1	6	2	4	9
6	2	1	4	9	8	7	3	5	6
4	3	9	7	5	2	8	6	1	4
1	6	7	2	8	4	5	9	3	8
8	4	2	9	3	5	1	7	6	4
3	9	5	6	7	1	4	8	2	9

E G P E M R M U L T U A A R X E D N I K
V L F C B A L F B P U X F C R X P L P G
N O A N B C V D R A C P A U K O N E B V
W S P E E V R E S E R N X Y T T W T S W L
E S H R D I D Y H H A X K M N E X I V E
N A L H F G B B E X R M J C B O P S A D D U
E R H E F R R S O L F L K I M L B I B X E
R Y U E L O K A Y G O T M D S W I J T T I
X T R R D W H Y P I A A W T T S K O O B
K R Y K E S H T I L N L R K H N C S O S
W S P V N E F C U L E A P V O O A B T E
J H T E C R C G A C M I W U W N I D R
Y D L A R T R S M T R Y W R H C I G R E
X I A N C I T Y I O P C S B A T J W O Y
U C N A C K O A G R V E H T S A Y A W B
G C R H A E S D T X C I A I S N E T Y Y
T T U J C H A X I I X L E E V C E L E F
V H O V U U G K O C O E W S K E U V K V
L A J R K M K G W G A N G G N S S L W L
V R J F J U J G F L V L X K L F C C S M

Tentative 2025 season opening dates

The ND Game and Fish Department annually provides its best estimate for opening dates to help hunters prepare for hunting seasons. Dates become official when approved by governor's proclamation. Tentative opening dates for 2025 include:
Deer and pronghorn bow, mountain lion -- August 29
Dove -- September 1
Sharp-tail, Hun, ruffed grouse, squirrel -- September 13
Youth deer -- September 19
Youth waterfowl -- September 20
Early resident waterfowl -- September 27
Pronghorn gun -- October 3
Regular waterfowl, youth pheasant -- October 4
Pheasant, fall turkey -- October 11
Mink, muskrat, weasel trapping -- October 25
Deer gun -- November 7
Deer muzzleloader -- November 28

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL April 7, 2025

Petersburg City Council met April 7, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the community center. Members present were Amber Vickaryous, Susan Dahl, Kevin Sundre, James Schmidt and Tricia Johnson. Assessor James Miles was present. Brian Johnson was not present. The city tax equalization meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Meeting recessed at 7:39 p.m. to open the regular meeting, then resumed at 8 p.m. Motion by James, second by Susan, to approve report and assessed values as presented by Assessor James Miles. Motion carried. The next meeting of the board of tax equalization for the city of Petersburg will be April 6, 2026 at 7 p.m. at the community center. The city council meeting reopened; Megan Hanssen with TPII entered the meeting. Motion by James, second by Kevin, to approve Feb. 3, 2025 minutes and the current financial report, and bills to be paid. Motion carried.
Otter Tail Power \$878.66
Tri-County Water 60.80
David Gallaway 221.64
Tricia Johnson 507.92
WSI 250.00
Lakota American 58.50
Hamster Oil, LLC 128.95
Amber Vickaryous 138.52
Kevin Sundre 83.11
James Schmidt 83.11
Susan Dahl 83.11
Brian Johnson 83.11
US Treasury 564.61
ND Job Service 9.96
Erwin Schmidt 138.52
Stariion Bond Services 61,530.00
Otter Tail Power 802.95

Tri-County Water 60.80
David Gallaway 360.17
Tricia Johnson 507.92
Nelson Co. Recorder 20.00
Jerry Johnson 126.98
Lakota American 24.00
Hepper Olson Architects 1,000.00
Petersburg Oil 6.00
Polar Communications .. 48.05
Nelson Co. Sheriff's Dept. 810.00
Otter Tail Power 52.76
Motion by Kevin, second by Susan, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization: Organization--Aggie Foundation, Name of Location--Town Pump II, effective 07/01/25--06/30/26. Motion carried.
The council discussed:
• Repairs needed on the snowplow--wheels and blade; street sweeping; lagoon (has not been looked at this time); and recent look at the curling club's condition.
• This week will be a good week for crack sealing.
• City will provide another roll-off for city spring cleanup; postcards will be sent out when dates for roll-off are decided.
Next city council meeting will be May 5, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the community center.
City residents can renew their annual pet license at city council meetings.
Motion by Kevin, second by James, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.
Tricia Johnson
City Auditor

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF TAX EQUALIZATION MEETING LAKOTA CITY COUNCIL April 7, 2025

The Lakota City Board of Tax Equalization met on Monday, April 7, 2025. Mayor Bill Solberg called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. All council members were present except Member Nelson. Assessor Michelle Linstad, City Auditor Amie Vasichek and City Superintendent Josh Ulland were also present. Assessor Linstad's tax evaluations are as presented:
15 1 23082 2,345
15 1 23294 (21,416)
15 1 23336 (5,742)
15 1 23538 8,856
15 1 23569 (2,678)
15 1 24655 (33,046)
15 1 23727 10,147
15 2 23930 134,495
15 3 24105 100 74,205
15 4 24249 100 61,740
15 4 24272 191,498
15 5 24505 500 10,560
15 9 24764 201 4,192
15 9 24764 204 4,040
15 9 24772 3,708
15 10 24786 500 1,952,500
15 11 24800 100 4,900
15 11 24800 300 5,050
Member Vasichek made a motion to approve the property tax changes as presented by Assessor Linstad, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Haugland made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Vasichek. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.
Amie Vasichek
Auditor

Bill Solberg Mayor UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LAKOTA CITY COUNCIL April 7, 2025

The Lakota City Council held its regular meeting on April 7, 2025 at the city hall. Mayor Bill Solberg called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. All council members were present, except Member Nelson who was absent. Member Vasichek made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2025 regular meeting and the March 19, 2025 special meeting, seconded by Member Fahey. All voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Vasichek made a motion to launch the Stay Home/Return Home to Work grant program in June 2025, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Fahey made a motion to approve the Lakota Housing Incentive program as proposed, seconded by Member Matejcek. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Vasichek made a motion to approve the overall electrical rate increase of 3.5% for year 2025 and year 2026, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Matejcek made a motion to approve the proposed sewer rate increase, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Fahey made a motion to approve the proposed water rate increase, seconded by Member Haugland. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Ferguson made a motion to approve the expense for supplemental insurance or Medicare for K. Burkland in lieu of the provided group health insurance with the city, seconded by Member Vasichek. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Fahey made a motion to approve Morris Seal Coat's

estimate of \$195,630 to chip-seal approximately 50% of the town in 2025, seconded by Member Matejcek. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Vasichek made a motion to approve the bid from Witzel Construction of \$4,457 to install water/sewer in the Market Village lot, seconded by Member Haugland. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Vasichek made a motion to update the landfill rates as proposed, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
Member Fahey made a motion to approve a special events permits for Till House for May 3, 2025 at the Lakota Community Center, seconded by Member Haugland. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.
After reviewing the bills and vouchers, a motion was made by Member Ferguson to pay all the bills presented for payment and those bills paid prior to the meeting. Member Fahey seconded the motion. Motion carried on roll call vote of 5-0.
605Sheds \$24,245.00
Advanced Business Methods 248.51
Associated Pool Builders 450.00
Auto Valve 248.64
BCBS 8,503.92
Border States 79,482.75
Catalis 704.49
Dept. of Environmental 96.06
EFTPS 2,196.88
EFTPS 3,075.24
Elan 6,472.34
Farmers Union Oil 2,066.76
Ferry, Mark 810.00
Fahey, Gary 455.00
GF Utility 169.00
H. E. Everson 117.15
Hawkins 708.63
Job Service ND 366.53
Lakota American 327.75
Lakota Drug 4.29
Lakota Hardware 360.11
Lakota Municipal Utilities 150.00
Lakota Municipal Utilities 751.76
Lakota Municipal Utilities 7,405.34
Lakota Sanitation 11,604.13
Leon's Building 1,893.99
Mead & Hunt 16,500.00
MRES 86,217.87
MMUA 1,630.00
Nationwide 290.00
NDPERS 3,745.73
Nelson Co. Sheriff 3,415.00
Neonlink 42.00
Nodak 1,066.45
ND Telephone 49.47
Office of State Tax 41.23
Polar 1,487.10
Quill 332.92
Renewed State 1,400.00
Rock Creek Clubhouse 1,030.96
Ross, William 5.55
Runnings 173.96
Rysavy Plumbing 2,761.22
Skips NAPA 62.98
Swenson, Laurel 50.00
Stromme, Jolene 551.21
T & R Electric 9,872.70
Total Heating 125.00
USABluebook 295.31
Vasichek, Amie 382.20
Verizon 145.71
Vestis 71.27
Zions Bank 84,065.02
City Salaries 12,084.83
City Salaries 16,773.51
Total \$397,583.47
The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6 p.m.
Member Fahey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Vasichek. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.
Amie Vasichek
Auditor
Bill Solberg
Mayor

Lakota Community Club's
Wine Walk
Friday, May 2
6 - 9 p.m.
13+ Stops
Two wine samples per stop
\$20 PER PERSON
Tickets available night of event @ Rysavy Plumbing, 107 Main St. S., Lakota, ND

The Joy Of Easter

Crown him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save;
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.
~ Matthew Bridges, 1851

As we celebrate Easter, we're reminded of Christ's death, burial, and glorious resurrection. We wish you a joyful Easter.

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