

Rail travels across southeast North Dakota, 1909

*(continued from page 1)*

Our last view of the capital building shows that we are considerably higher than it, and the three great steel arches of the Mandan bridge loom up in the valley like rude iron cages. We pass through a pasture country with an occasional farm home to break the monotony. One lone schoolhouse with its school in session is the only sign of civilization in sight of the stopping place of the train. The place bears a name and receives some empty creamery cans as its share of our train load.

We stop at a place showing all signs of active frontier life. A general store with the proprietor's family occupying apartments on the 2nd floor; a Main Street with unbroken sod and no sidewalks; and about a dozen houses scattered over the slope, forms the promising city. This is Moffitt, and three days after this there is to be a great sale of town lots. It is supplied by two railroads, for yonder broken strip in the prairie sod is the Northern Pacific Railway to Linton. Back of this railway, in green with bullrushes against its alkaline bottom, lies the lake which is to add to the charms of this new metropolis. At Braddock, one hotel and three restaurants do a thriving business at noontime as this is the eating station for crew and passengers.

After another 16 miles of country filled with rolling pastureland and prosperous homes, Napoleon is reached. This is a hustling little town with excellent water, well-kept streets and thriving businesses. The courthouse of Logan County is about a mile out, but that seems no drawback to the

town, and probably will prevent county seat fights in the future, for some years will elapse before the town of Napoleon engulfs the court house. The people of Napoleon are hospitable, sociable and wide awake, giving a stranger a good impression of their town and of their enterprise.

From Napoleon we go to Ashley. Ashley is the largest town of the region and the county seat of a well settled and prosperous county. Its five by sixteen courthouse is by no means the measure of the county. On Thursday an old settlers' picnic at a lake four miles out [Lake Hoskins] had nearly depopulated the town. Everybody had a piece of smoked glass ready for the eclipse, and if the eclipse were not total, the sight of "Old Sol" with a "piece of biscuit cut out of him" was well worth seeing.

Ashley is the cream city of the slope, for there are seven cream stations, and the cream can could appropriately be the city emblem. This business always makes a prosperous country, and Ashley has three good banks.

On the way, an enforced visit is made at Wishek. There is only one train a day west and south of Wishek. Three good hotels, a flower mill, and trade enough for a large city shows that the old railroad alone is not responsible for the town's prosperity.

From Wishek to Kilbirnie there are several good little towns, and each one handles cream cans and shows prosperity. Every town in this region has a good schoolhouse, usually the best and most imposing structure in the place.



"Ashley is the cream city of the slope," Black reported, having witnessed large numbers of cream cans being moved by rail. This early 20th century scene, from a Canadian rail line, depicts a common sight at railroad depots. [bit.ly/creamcans](https://bit.ly/creamcans)

Between Kulm and Merricourt, after hours in the hills, the railway takes the edge of the plateau, and without warning, a panoramic view of western LaMoure County bursts upon the vision. Edgeley, eight miles away, lies just below us. The tall elevators of many other towns show their heads in the distance.

At Kilbirnie I am transferred to stage to Monango, and from here a drive of 13 miles over a veritable garden spot brings me to the city of Ellendale. Here the best hotel in the state bids us welcome over the Sabbath.

*(continued on page 9)*

AREA EVENTS

- September 12-14 (Friday-Sunday): Ellendale Days (see schedule on back page)
- September 14 (Sunday): Aurdal Annual Church service, 2:30 pm (see ad on page 9)
- September 14 (Sunday): Golf Scramble at Ellendale Country Club, 11:45
- September 16 (Tuesday): Girls 5th & 6th grade volleyball vs. Oakes 4:30
- September 19 (Friday): Thunder Varsity Football vs. Sargent County, at Kulm, 7:00
- October 2 (Thursday): Lunch & Learn at the Legion Events Center, 12:00-1:00

Public Notices

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT, SOUTH-EAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF DICKEY PROBATE DIVISION**

Court File No. 11-2025-PR-00022  
In the Matter of the Estate of Ryan J. Lagodinski, Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Cassandra M. Setter, Personal Representative of the Estate, at 1550 67th Ave S, Fargo, North Dakota 58104, or filed with the Court.

Dated this 28th day of August 2025  
Cassandra M. Setter

1550 67th Ave S  
Fargo, ND 58104  
Timothy G. Richard, ND #05454, of SERKLAND LAW FIRM.  
10 Roberts Street N  
Fargo, North Dakota 58102  
Phone: 701-232-8957  
trichard@serklandlaw.com  
Attorneys for:  
Personal Representative  
(September 4, 11 & 18, 2025)

**CITY OF ELLENDALE  
Special City Council Meeting  
August 25, 2025  
5:30PM – City Hall and ZOOM**  
Mayor Flaherty called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM via Zoom Virtual Meeting.

Council members present: Crabtree, Belgarde, Meidinger, Lee, Langeliers via zoom, Denison via zoom

Township Board Supervisors present: Joel Hamar, Ken Moorehead, Vincent Carruth, Dennis Durheim as well as Jerry Rekow, Township Clerk

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Absent: None  
Other Employees: Auditor Gunn and Deputy Auditor Schmidt, and Attorney Fallon.

Others Present: Andrea Mireles, Lane Visto, Pam Cook.

Ellendale Twp Supervisors/Ellendale City Council Road Discussion:  
Township Board Supervisors met with Ellendale City Council to discuss possible road solutions for 87th Ave. Dickey County held a meeting last week to discuss the the County taking control of 87th Ave from Hwy 11 to 95th St SE from Ellendale Twp. Supervisor Joel Hamar and Mayor Don Flaherty were present at that meeting. Mayor Flaherty suggested that Ellendale City and Ellendale Twp meet to discuss the possibility of the Twp ceding control of that portion of 87th Ave, to the City of Ellendale. Prior to this meeting, Mayor Flaherty had a discussion with City Attorney Fallon Kelly and according to Attorney Kelly, ND Century Codes: 24-06-01, 24-06-09, 40-05-10 and 40-05-14 prohibits the City from being able to take over Township roads. There was also a question if any type of cooperative agreement could be made between a city and a township for the maintenance of common roads. Attorney Fallon will send the noted Century Codes to Ellendale Twp Board member Joel Hamar (See Attached).

Meeting adjourned 5:46PM.

Donald Flaherty, Mayor

Nicole Gunn, Auditor  
(Minutes subject to corrections and approval at next regular meeting.)  
(September 11, 2025)

**CITY OF ELLENDALE  
Regular Meeting  
City Council  
August 25, 2025  
6:00 pm – City Hall & Zoom Virtual**  
This meeting was held at City Hall and virtual Zoom Meeting option was also available.

Mayor Flaherty called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:00 pm with Council members in attendance: Belgarde, Lee, Meidinger, Crabtree,

Denison and Langeliers via zoom. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Absent: None  
City Employees present: Auditor Gunn, Deputy Auditor Schmidt, Attorney Kelly; and PW Monroe via Zoom

Others attending: Andrea Mireles, Applied Digital; Pam Cook via zoom; Justin & Monica Pakonen; Mark Rumney via zoom; Dineen Mitchell via zoom; Brad and Kari Nishek

Chicken Permit: Justin and Monica Pakonen submitted a chicken permit. Ordinance states 5 chickens per 6500 square foot of property, and as they own two lots they can have 10 chickens as long as the pen they construct is big enough for 10 chickens. Lee moves, Crabtree seconds to approve the chicken permit. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Mosquitoes: Meidinger moves, Lee seconds to have PW Monroe spray down streets and alleys twice a week for the next two weeks to see if that helps the mosquito issue. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Resolution Regarding Public Comment At Meetings: Final draft of public speaking ordinance with all changes made by Attorney Fallon. Belgarde motions, Langeliers seconds to approve the final version of this resolution. All members, aye. Motion carries.

Brad & Kari Nishek arrive at 6:18 pm  
Resolution Directing Assessments To Be Levied: Lee moves, Meidinger seconds to approve Resolution Directing Assessments To Be Levied for Improvement District 2025-1 and Resolution Directing Assessments To Be Levied for Improvement District 2025-2. Roll Call vote: Lee, Belgarde, Langeliers, Crabtree, Meidinger, Denison-yes. Motion carries.

Langeliers arrives in person at 6:22 pm  
Witte/Bianchi Deed: Shannon Witte and Brent Bianchi have both expressed wishes to terminate their contract for deed they signed in October 2023 with City of Ellendale for Lot 1 & 2, Block 4, Bell's Addition to the City of Ellendale. Brad and Kari Nishek have expressed interest in obtaining that property to put a residential home on it. Belgarde motions, Lee seconds to transfer this contract over to Nishek's with them picking up whatever remaining timeline that is left on

the original contract to build on the property with the costs of attorney fees and recording fees paid for by the Nishek's. Roll call vote: Lee, Belgarde, Langeliers, Crabtree, and Meidinger- yes. Denison-Abstain. Motion carries.

Building Permits: Meidinger moves, Crabtree seconds to approve to place a house at 621 3rd St N. Roll Call vote: Belgarde, Langeliers, Crabtree, Meidinger, Lee and Denison- yes. Lee moves, Langeliers seconds to approve to place a house at 304 3rd Ave SW contingent upon Brad and Kari Nishek signing the contract and becoming the new owners. Belgarde, Langeliers, Crabtree, Meidinger, and Lee- yes. Denison abstains. Meidinger moves, Belgarde seconds to approve building permit for B. Crabtree to replace shingles and window at 119 8th Ave N. All members, aye. Crabtree abstains. Motion carries.

Water/Sewer/Garbage: No discussion held on garbage. New fees for water shut on/off for residents turning it off for any reason will be as follows: \$25 to turn on at curb; \$25 to turn off at curb; if turned off \$2 meter charge remains; sewer charge will be reduced to \$5; no water charges. If water is turned off for maintenance, it can be turned off for a maximum of 2 weeks at no charge to turn off or on. All other fees remain for normal charges even with water being shut off at curb. Denison moves Langeliers seconds to start this new fee structure as of September 1, 2025. Roll call vote: Belgarde, Langeliers, Denison, Crabtree, Meidinger, and Lee- yes. Motion carries.

Gaming Site Authorization: No update  
Tree Inventory: Tree inventory was updated by NDSU representative. Grants will soon be available to help with costs of taking down ash trees due to the Emerald Ash Bug that is invading surrounding cities, Auditor Gunn to start the process of applying for those grants when they open.

Developers Agreement with Applied Digital: Revisions were made and all attorneys involved agree to changes. Denison moves, Lee seconds to approve this Developers Agreement as presented. Roll call vote: Denison, Lee, Belgarde, Meidinger, Langeliers, Crabtree- yes. Motion carries.

Hawkers/Peddlers Ordinance: Discussion held on changes to be made to hawkers/peddlers ordinance. Attorney Fallon to work on those changes and bring new version to future meeting.

Mobile Home/RV Park Ordinance: Discussion held on changes to be made to mobile home/RV Park ordinance. Attorney Fallon to work on those changes and bring new version to future meeting.

NDLC Annual Meeting September 17-19, 2025 in Bismarck ND.  
Next meeting: Regular meeting September 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Donald Flaherty, Mayor

Nicole Gunn, Auditor  
(Minutes subject to corrections and approval at next regular meeting.)  
(September 11, 2025)

**CITY OF ELLENDALE  
Special City Council Meeting  
August 29, 2025  
5:00PM – City Hall and ZOOM**

Mayor Flaherty called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Council members present: Crabtree via zoom, Denison via zoom, Lee in person.

Absent: Belgarde, Langeliers, Meidinger

Other Employees Present: Deputy Auditor Schmidt in person at City Hall.

Rural Grocery Store Grant Application: Lee motioned, Denison seconded to approve submitting the Rural Grocery Store Grant, and to send a letter of support for the reception of this grant. City of Ellendale would serve as a conduit for this grant, as only political subdivisions are allowed to apply. Roll Call vote: Lee, Crabtree, Denison- Yes. Absent: Belgarde, Meidinger, and Langeliers Motion carries.

Concerning special meetings: There are concerns regarding the amount of special meetings lately and if the public has things they need to present to the city council they need to be cognizant of putting their requests in a timely manner. Meeting adjourned 5:10PM.

Donald Flaherty, Mayor

Nicole Gunn, Auditor  
(Minutes subject to corrections and approval at next regular meeting.)  
(September 11, 2025)

KEYSTONE TOWNSHIP

Keystone Township will hold a public budget hearing on Monday, September 29 at 6:30 pm at the Monango Gym.

Sue Kinzler, Clerk  
(September 18 & 25, 2025)

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND, ADOPT, AND REPEAL ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the ND Admin. Code at 5:30pm on October 6, 2025, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 825 E. Beaton Drive, West Fargo, ND 58078.

A copy of the proposed rules and/or a regulatory analysis may be requested by writing the NDBVME, PO Box 328, Lisbon, ND 58054 or calling 701-683-4705. Also, written comments may be submitted to the above address until October 16, 2025. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at the above telephone number or address at least one week prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 2nd day of September, 2025,  
Sara Lyons, DVM  
NDBVME Executive Director

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

ADVERTISE HERE FOR \$7.50 PER WEEK! CALL THE LEADER - 701-349-3222

**Bingo is canceled for the summer: it will resume in the fall (date TBA)**  
*Thank you for a great 2024-2025 season!*  
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THE NODAK IS EXPANDING ITS MENU AND CHANGING ITS HOURS:  
THE NEW HOURS ARE: TUESDAY TO SATURDAY FROM 7:00 AM TO 2:00 PM, AND SUNDAY FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM.

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The digitization of the *Leader* from 1882 to 2021 is a project of the Ellendale Historical Society, which thanks you for your support.