North Dakota Rural Health Issues

The North Dakota Rural Health Association (NDRHA) represents and advocates for rural North Dakotans on a range of health issues. Federal health policy does not always work well in rural areas. Nationally, only 20 percent of Americans are classified as rural; nevertheless, rural populations are more reliant on federal health and social service programming. A higher percentage of rural residents receive Medicaid than urban. In North Dakota, 54 percent of the people using Medicaid are rural. In rural North Dakota, people have pride in their communities. They care about their neighbors. The people they meet at the clinic are the same people they sit next to at the basketball game, or at church, or visit with in the grocery store. Rural communities tend to be collaborative, creative, and resilient. People band together for the good of the town. At the same time rural areas have barriers to deal with that impact both health and health care.

One barrier is access to care, which includes physical remoteness and isolation, the distance between services and resources; financial insecurity such as higher rates of unemployment, poverty, and less health insurance; lower and less reliable payment to health care providers and facilities; and health workforce shortages and maldistribution.

A second barrier is "mortar and brick" or the physical infrastructure of a community and a health system. The third barrier is technology, including broadband which is essential for modern health systems. And a fourth barrier is economics, including maintaining a viable local economy providing good paying jobs and growth opportunities.

What happens in Washington D.C. has an impact on us in our daily lives, affecting family and

Minutes Of White Earth City Council

CITY OF WHITE EARTH MEETING MINUTES **AUGUST 5, 2025**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Alle-

Mayor Greg Gunderson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. 2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Greg Gunderson; Alderpersons Jerald Ogden, Van Rice, Jax Wearley, and Justin LaBar; Deputy Auditor Tami LaBar; and Employee Dan Goettle.

Absent: None 3. Approval of Agenda and Consent

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Wearley, to remove the meeting minutes from the Consent Agenda for separate reading. Motion carried

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Ogden, to approve the minutes with changes. Mo-

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Wearley, to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of the minutes. Motion car-

Motion by Rice to pull employee hour sheets from the Consent Agenda. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Ogden, to approve the Consent Agenda (including agenda, treasurer's report, bills, and employee hours). Motion carried. Rice nay.

4. Financial Report Bravera:

Account Balances: Bravera: \$64,115.22; WECU: \$495.00, \$500.70, \$129,729.37; BNC: N/A Deposits: Highway Tax: \$625.62; State

Aid: \$828.19; Oil & Gas: \$11,780.98; Hess: \$204.92; Interest: \$0.51 Expenses: MDU \$54.38; R&T \$55.12;

OB Online \$122.00; USPS \$73.00; MWEC \$344.36; Amazon \$112.30; RTC \$156.00. IRS \$455.52; Circle Sanitation \$1,500.00; Job Service \$6.26; Circle Sanitation Checks Approved: Pringle & Herigs-

tad \$1,000.00 Payroll: Council: \$1,059.25; Employ-

5. Old Business:

City Ordinances: Motion by Rice to direct the city attorney to draft items to repeal weight restrictions. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Wearley, seconded by Rice, to have the city attorney draft an amendment to weight restrictions to designate LaBar Lane as a truck route consistent with bridge load capacity. Roll Call: LaBar - Yea; Rice - Yea;

Wearley - Yea; Ogden - Nay. Motion car-

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Rice, to have the city attorney include exceptions for local businesses and local deliveries. Roll Call: LaBar - Yay; Rice - Yay; Wearley - Yay; Ogden - Nay. Motion carried.

6. New Business

Economic Development - Surrey: Discussion regarding potential grant opportunities. Rice requested ideas from the council for possible projects.

Street Mowing Grant: Discussion regarding possible grants for mowing, options for remaining grass season, and the possibility of hiring a landscape company. Budget: Preliminary budget statement presented. Budget meeting scheduled for October 7, 2025, no later.

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Wearley, to approve submission of the preliminary budget to the County Auditor and schedule the budget meeting for October 7, 2025. Motion carried.

Resignation: Motion by Rice, seconded by LaBar, to accept the resignation of Shannon Swain. Motion carried.

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Ogden, to post the Auditor position for one month. Motion carried. Resolution: Motion by LaBar, sec-

onded by Ogden, to adopt the resolution as read. Motion to table by Wearley, seconded by LaBar. Motion carried.

7. Announcements/Public Comment City Hall reserved August 15-17, 2025. 8. Adjournment

Motion by LaBar, seconded by Ogden, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tami LaBar, Deputy Auditor Approved by the White Earth City Council on August 30, 2025.

friends. The recently passed One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) is a massive federal policy change that impacts our health care system and even our personal health.

The OBBBA ushered in many health-related changes that can have a negative impact on rural North Dakota. This includes reducing access to care and contributing to poorer health outcomes. Over a tenyear period, OBBBA will cut Medicaid by \$1 trillion nationally. This includes a projected \$1.4 billion cut to North Dakota (source: North Dakota Legislative Council). The cause of reductions is related to a stronger work requirement. The new work requirement stipulation is not necessarily a bad idea; however, nationally, 67 percent of adult Medicaid recipients already work (72 percent in ND). Another 20-25 percent are either disabled/have medical issues preventing work or are family care givers and not required to seek employment.

Nationally, the federal government estimates that 12-17 million would lose Medicaid coverage, primarily those in Medicaid Expansion. Out of the 105,000 ND Medicaid recipients, upwards of 18 percent or 19,000 would lose access in the state (Legislative Council). The rea-



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:35 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Landon & Cheryl Stern-Applicant/Landowner, for the purpose of placing a mobile home in an agricultural zone on a tract of land described as the NW1/4 of Section 9, Township 154 North, Range West (Unorganized Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments can be mailed to Mountrail County Planning & Zoning, PO Box 248, Stanley ND 58784-0248 and will be accepted until Noon on Friday, September 12th, 2025. Phone: 701-628-2909 or Email: melissav@co.mountrail.nd.us.

Mountrail County complies with Title VI Nondiscrimination Standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act. These policies can be viewed at the Mountrail County Human Resources Office. If any special accommodations are required, please contact: Mountrail County Title VI Compliance & ADA Coordinator, Randi Schumaier, P.O. Box 69, Stanley, ND 58784-0069, phone: 701-628-8980, Fax: 701-628-2276, email: rschumaier@

co.mountrail.nd.us. September 22nd, 2025 P&Z meeting Monday, September 22nd, 2025, 8:30

AM - 1:30 PM (CDT) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Access Code: 321-677-277 Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: https://meet.goto.

com/install Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025.

Charlie Sorenson, Chairman

Planning & Zoning Commission

ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:38 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Smartlink Group o/b/o AT&T-Applicant in concurrence with Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative-Landowner, for the purpose of modifying existing cell tower in an agricultural zone. on a tract of land described as Outlot 1 of the NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 13, Township 153 North, Range 92 West (Knife River

PUBLIC NOTICE

Township). The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Plan-

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ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

son for the reduction in the number of Medicaid participants is directly related to implementing the work, and especially the reporting requirement, the administrative function is needlessly burdensome; applying twice a year, reporting work data, online, monthly to prove they are working, dealing with cumbersome online systems and technology, making re-application mistakes and/ or administration burdens, having to wait to reapply, and added service costs/out-of-pocket expenses for those on Medicaid Expansion (\$35 service fee). Nationally, about 40 percent receiving Medicaid Expansion are expected to lose access. With rural North Dakota's high utilization of Medicaid this will have a profound impact in rural areas for patients and health providers. Future policy needs to ensure that work requirements help as opposed to harming rural communities.

In addition to Medicaid, there are serious modifications to the ACA Marketplace, the federally supported health insurance option. About 45,000 North Dakotans have insurance through the Marketplace. The OBBBA eliminates the expanded tax credit that buys down the cost to the subscriber. This will increase premium costs, some as high as 75



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:41 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose receiving comments on a subdivision plat filed by WSB LLC-Applicant in concurrence with Three Affiliated Tribes of Ft Berthold Reservation-Landowner, for the future sale of residential lots. Legal Description: A tract of land known as Parshall Bay Subdivision 2nd Addition consisting of lots 1-7 Block 1, located in part of the S1/2SE1/4 Section 1, Township 151 North, Range 91 West (Liberty Township).

The provision regarding a subdivision contained within the Mountrail County Land Development Code. The Land Develoment Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments can be mailed to Mountrail County Planning & Zoning, PO Box 248, Stanley ND 58784-0248 and will be accepted until Noon on Friday, September 12th, 2025. Phone: 701-628-2909 or Email: melissav@co.mountrail.nd.us.

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September 22nd, 2025 P&Z meeting Monday, September 22nd, 2025, 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM (CDT)

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computer, tablet or smartphone. /meet.goto.com/32167 You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 321-677-277

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Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025.

Charlie Sorenson, Charling & Zoning Commission
ATTEST:

Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:50 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on a conditional use filed by Terry Clayton-Applicant in concurrence with LVH-15 LLC-Landowner, for the purpose creating a retail space in a commercial zone, a tract of land described as a Replat of Outlot 4 being portions of Outlot 4 & Outlot 6 located in the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 17, Township 152 North, Range 91 West (Van Hook Town-

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments can be mailed Mountrail County Planning & Zoning, PO Box 248, Stanley ND 58784-0248 and will be accepted until **Noon** on Friday, September 12th, 2025. Phone: 701-628-2909 or Email: melissav@co.mountrail.nd.us.

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Planning & Zoning Commission ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

percent for the 90 percent of North Dakotans who have their insurance

through the Marketplace. Other OBBBA concerns impacting health are cuts and changes to "safety net" programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), home weatherization, fuel assistance, and other services. This will negatively affect specific rural populations such as seniors, moms with children, veterans, and people with disabilities.

We recognize that these changes not only affect rural citizens but also your local health system. The national projection is that over 300 rural hospitals will close, with North Dakota looking at projected three closures. Due to cutbacks in payment and in the number of people having insurance through Medicaid and/or the ACA Marketplace, rural hospitals and clinics will have to cutback services offered and will see staff and provider reductions.

As one North Dakota Critical Access Hospital CEO commented 'people will still get sick. They will come to our emergency room, and we will treat them. But there will not be any funding to cover the cost, it will go to our bad debt. Also, emer-



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:53 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on a Conditional Use filed by Terry Clayton-Applicant in concurrence with LVH-15 LLC-Landowner, for a Country Store in a commercial zone, a tract of land described as a Replat of Outlot 7 being portions of Outlots 4, 6 & 7 located in the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 17, Township 152 North, Range West (Van Hook Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission

ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:56 **A.M.** via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on a Variance request filed by Terry Clayton-Applicant in concurrence with LVH-15 LLC-Landowner, to request for a setback 167'3" off of HWY 23 rather than the required 250', to place the new building in the same place as the old building for a Country Store. A tract of land described as a Replat of Outlot 7 being portions of Outlots 4, 6 & 7 located in the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 17, Township 152 North, Range 91 West (Van Hook Township).

The provision regarding a variance is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www. co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission ATTEST:

Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

Melissa Vachal

gency care is not primary care, there will be no continuation of prevention, wellness, and disease management. People will just get sicker."

We encourage you to discuss your concerns with your local providers. NDRHA will stay committed to improving health and access to care for rural North Dakotans.





PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 8:59 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on a renewal of a conditional use request filed by Fritel Construction-Applicant in concurrence with Sam Fritel-Landowner to use agricultural land to mine gravel on a 22.00 acres, more or less, tract of land in the NW1/4NW1/4, Gov't Lots 2 & 3 less Outlot 1 of Section 22, Township 157 North, Range 90 West (Clearwater Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments can be mailed to Mountrail County Planning & Zoning, PO Box 248, Stanley ND 58784-0248 and will be accepted until Noon on Friday, September 12th, 2025. Phone: 701-628-2909 or Email: melissav@co.mountrail.nd.us.

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Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman

Planning & Zoning Commission ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 9:02 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on a renewal of a conditional use request filed by Gravel Products Inc-Applicant in concurrence with Smokey Nelson LLP-Landowner to use agricultural land to mine gravel on a 40.00 acres, more or less, tract of land in the SE1/4NE1/4 of Section 30, Township 156 North, Range 90 West (Palermo Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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com/install Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman

Sept. 3, 10, 2025

Planning & Zoning Commission ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator



NOTICE OF APPLICATION APPLICATION FOR APPROPRIATION OF WATER FROM GROUND WATER

TAKE NOTICE that H20 CONNECTIONS, LLC, WATFORD CITY, ND, has submitted Water Permit Application No. 7420 to the North Dakota Department of Water Resources for a permit to divert and appropriate water from ground water.

The application requests an annual appropriation of 500.0 acre-feet of water for Industrial use at a pumping rate of 1,500 gallons per minute, utilizing point(s) of diversion located in the NW1/4 of Sec. 12, T. 155 N., R. 091 W., Mountrail County.

TAKE NOTICE that written comments regarding the proposed appropria-tion must be filed in the Department of Water Resources, 1200 Memorial Highway, Bismarck, North Dakota 58504-5262, by 5 o'clock p.m., on the 10 day of October 2025. The Department of Water Resources shall consider all written comments received and prepare a recommend-ed decision which will be provided to the applicant and any person who filed written comments. Those persons may file additional comments with the Department of Water Resources, request an adjudicative proceeding on the application, or both.

Dated at Bismarck, North Dakota, on

August 26, 2025.

/s/ John Paczkowski, P.E. State Engineer
Department of Water Resources
1200 Memorial Highway
Bismarck, ND 58504-5262
Sept. 10, 17, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 9:05 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Jonathan Patten-Applicant in concurrence with Salgado Estates LLC-Landowner, for the purpose of placing a manufactured home in a residential zone, on a tract of land described as Lot A of the Replat of Schmidt's Country Estates located in the S1/2NE1/4 of Section 9, Township 156 North, Range 91 West (Idaho Township).

The provision regarding a tional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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com/install Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of August, 2025. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman

Planning & Zoning Commission ATTEST: Melissa Vachal

Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 22nd, 2025 at 9:08 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Kayla Salgado-Applicant in concurrence with Salgado Estates LLC-Landowner, for the purpose of placing a manufactured home in a residential zone on a tract of land described as Lot B of the Replat of Schmidt's Country Estates located in the S1/2NE1/4 of Section 9, Township 156 North, Range 91 West (Idaho

Township). The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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Charlie Sorenson, Charling...
Planning & Zoning Commission
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Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator Sept. 3, 10, 2025