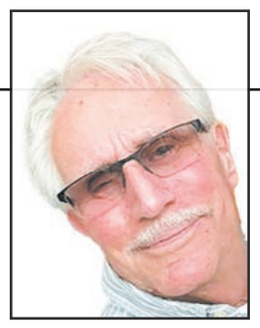

NEIL O. NELSON

# Confident, stylish - debonair, even

*Talking to mannequins*.

My grandmother talked to her flowers.

Floris, my mother, talked to herself.

I've been accused of talking to department store mannequins.

Leaving the mall in Grand Forks years ago, cutting through Dayton's to get to the southside parking lot, I stopped dead in my tracks and grabbed my friend. Hey, that mannequin over there, I said. I think it's a real person.

"She looks real enough," he said. "Go over and get close. See for yourself."

I came back even more confused; disillusioned, even. She wouldn't, couldn't, didn't look at me. Didn't matter. I suspected I was falling in love.

People don't fall in love with mannequins, my friend said.

"But then again, you could. Reach out and touch her."

I'm not touching her, I said. You touch her. I'm going to ask her out on a date.

"She probably has a date with another mannequin. Some dummy from the men's department."

Hey, I said, I'm serious.

"That's what I'm afraid of."

In my most confident, stylish approach -- looking debonair, I had to admit – I approached the woman who was impersonating a mannequin and asked if she wanted to go out after work. I know a nice country bar. Quiet, cold beer, free popcorn, dim lighting and room to dance if you push the tables back.

She didn't respond. Didn't grin, smirk, raise her eyebrows, or run her tongue over her lips, the usual response I get when I tell girls of the Jensville Country Bar & Gas Station.

No luck, I told my friend.

"Not surprised," he answered.

I have a plan, I said. I had a business card that said: MY BUSINESS CARD, that's all, no name, address or phone number. If this doesn't crack her up, nothing will, I said.

Stealthy, I approached the girl who seemed as cold as a mannequin. Hey, hon, I said, smiling. Listen, we gotta run. Not sure if I gave you one of my business cards. Nope, I'm sure I didn't. Here, take it, my business card.

She didn't move a muscle.

TAKE THE DAMN BUSINESS CARD, I shouted.

I slipped my business card in the crux of her elbow.

"SECURITY," a store clerk yelled and my brief encounter with a beautiful, real-life department store mannequin suddenly turned into a three-ring circus.

I was cornered, collared and hauled off.

"This clown was harassing one of our mannequins," Dayton's security chief told the judge. "His actions bordered on molestation."

The judge looked me up and down. "You some kind of pervert?"

Dayton's security chief stepped closer to the judge. "He thought the mannequin was real."

The judge fell out of his chair, laughing uncontrollably.

Dayton's security chief helped the poor man back into his chair. "Judge, here's the deal, Dayton's mannequins are real people, that's what we're dealing with here."

"REAL PEOPLE," the judge hollered. "Mannequins? That's it. I've heard enough. I should arrest both of you for wasting my time. Now, get out of here. I'm going out to Jensville for a beer."

I met the judge at Jensville.

Case closed.

Dakota Datebook

"Dakota Datebook" is a radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and with funding from the North Dakota Humanities Council.

## Twister in Antler

**By Alyssa Boge**

August 20, 2025 – A 1911 postcard carried this message, "This is how the storm looked [as it] passed over Antler ... wrecked a barn and killed one man 1.5 miles from where I am working. Am doing quite well...Anton."

On the front of the postcard is a picture of the tornado that hit Antler and the surrounding area on this date in 1911. The large black mass extends down not too far from some buildings.

Whoever took the photo must have had a hard time of it, worrying about the approaching twister. By that time, however, gelatin emulsions had made it possible to take pictures more quickly. The light-sensitive substance required shorter exposure times; film could be bought ready-to-go and development could take place well after the fact, making it much easier to take a picture of a tornado.

The Antler photo was not the first twister picture, though. An unknown photographer took a tornado photograph in 1884, in what was then Dakota Territory. Against a grey backdrop, one thin tornado elegantly stretches down kicking up dust as two others start swirling towards the ground.

However, on the day of the Antler tornado, there were pictures of more than just the twister. Other photos, taken the same day, show the destruction. All that remained in place of one man's house was the floor. The roof sat not too far away. Another woman's house was demolished, and the wooden boards lay scattered across her yard.

Antler's newspaper detailed the damages to homes and crops, proclaiming property losses would total more than $100,000. The paper also told the story of those caught up in the storm.

The twister hit one home where more than 20 people had gathered. Most fit in the cellar, but there wasn't space for one man. He hid in the trees and came away with only a "scalp wound."

There was also a group at the picnic grounds on Mr. Manning's property that day. Mr. Manning offered up the space so frequently that many forgot the land was private. The "Pride of Antler," with its welcoming shade and natural beauty, the picnic grounds had hosted 150 people earlier that day. Most left when they saw the approaching storm, but by the time the twister headed towards the picnic grounds 15-20 people remained. Taking shelter in the pavilion, many were injured as the place was lifted from its foundations and the structure was destroyed. Though badly beaten, all had initially survived the tornado. It was later that several died of their injuries.

Though much of the damage couldn't be undone, Mr. Manning said he would restore the picnic grounds so that in time the place would regain its former glory.

# Public Notices

## Notice of Hearing

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WELLS COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**
**Court File No. 52-2025-PR-00015**
**In the Matter of the**
**Estate of Richard T. Deivert, Deceased**
**NOTICE OF HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Lorelei Winkelman has filed herein a Petition for Determination of Testacy.

Hearing has been set upon said Petition on the 10th day of September 2025, at 2:15 p.m., at the Courtroom of the above-named Court in the City of Fessenden, County of Wells, State of North Dakota.

Dated: July 21, 2025
Brent T. Boeddeker
Attorney ID# 08392
Attorney for Petitioner
OHNSTAD TWICHELL, P.C.
444 Sheyenne St, Ste 102
PO Box 458
West Fargo, ND 58078-0458
(701)282-3294
bboeddeker@ohnstadlaw.com
Publication Dates: July 26, August 2, 9, 2025

## Bowdon City Council Minutes

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**
**BOWDON CITY COUNCIL**
**Regular Meeting**
**August 4, 2025 at 7:00pm**

Mayor Widicker called the meeting to order, with Alderman Martin and Alderman Hoff present. Anne West was also in attendance. The financials were reviewed, but no action was taken at this time.

Old Business

Tom has begun work on the water drainage project on Park Avenue. Nancy and Laural will have their water shut off once their curb stops are replaced, which is scheduled through Central Plains Water. The replacement may take up to another month. Other households paid last month and have been notified for August.

Jerome Fike purchased the two lots discussed at last month's meeting for $3,000.

We are still waiting to hear from the insurance adjuster regarding hail damage claims to city property.

Mosquito spraying took place at the end of July.

New Business

The preliminary city budget will be submitted to the County this week and will also be posted for public viewing.

When using the city dump:

Shingles must be placed in the north pit, about 100 yards north of the metal pile—not next to the metal pit.

Windows and vinyl siding may be disposed of in the pit next to the metal pile.

The dump was inspected in July, and several violations were noted. Mayor Widicker addressed the issues on Sunday, including the removal of household garbage. Some of the inspector's concerns, however, are not feasible to address.

In accordance with new state law, Public Comment will now be added as a standing item on the agenda for every meeting.

There was a motion to adjourn and a second. The meeting was adjourned.

Publication Date: August 16, 2025

## Harvey City Council Minutes

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**
**HARVEY CITY COUNCIL**
**REGULAR MEETING**
**Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, 5:30p.m.**
**City Hall**

Note: All motions unanimously passed unless otherwise stated.

Key: M-Motion, MS-Motion Second, VV-Voice Vote, RCV- Roll Call Vote, MC-Motion Carried

The Harvey City Council met at City Hall on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Mayor Dean Klier, Council Members Milo Baltrusch, Donnie Hoepfer, Gil Steedsman, and Kerry Susag. Also present were Public Works Director Jamey Weinmann, Police Chief John Foss, JDA Director Spencer Marchand, and Terri Powers. Council Member Mike Prom was present via phone. Absent were City Auditor Karen Nordby and Council Member Gary Kennedy.

VISITORS: Shelley Chin.

Mayor Klier opened the regular Council Meeting.

MINUTES: M by Baltrusch, MS by Hoepfer to approve the minutes from the regular June 11th, 2025, meeting with the correction from Bob Rexine to Bob Rotzien. Upon VV, MC.

CASH REPORT: M by Steedsman, MS by Susag to approve the Auditor's Cash Report as submitted with June revenue of $223,329.26. Upon RCV, MC.

VOUCHERS: M by Steedsman, MS by Susag to approve the vouchers with expenses of Amanda Weiss 65, AT&T Mobility 188.89, Bank of ND 1525.76, Brandjord Chevrolet 108.34, Cashwa Fargo 673.32, Chris Peterson 15, Chris Dickey 30, City of Harvey 343.57, Cole Papers 5930.92, Cole Steedsman 60, David Sting 30, DJ Schneibel 780.80, Double M Sanitation 25427, Elite Spraying 11085.32, Harvey City Band 500, Harvey Home Town Storage 10000, Harvey Park District 1894.54, Harvey Public School 250, HAV-IT Recycling 1270, Hawkins Inc. 1650.31, High Plains Equip. 407.89, Hinrich's Super Value 1393.98, Hometown Variety 5.59, Information Tech. Dept. 49.70, Interstate Power Systems 14442.51, John Deere Financial 40.52, Kenny Erickson 77, Kevin's Landscaping LLC 1600, Kim Johnson 300, Leevers Foods 542.53, Lemer's Ace 312.87, Little Mart 846.23, Mid Dakota Lumber 411.25, Midee Auto 668.98, Modern Marketing 229.74, Moore Engineering 15657.25, National Geographic 114, ND Dept. of Health 20.39, ND Dept. of Health/Microbiology 54, NDTC 1534.03, Network Center 1525.50, Nyhus Law Firm 1012.50, One Call Concepts 28.50, Ottertail Power Co. 7866.81, Penguin Management 1572, Schmaltz's Greenhouse 914.32, Seth Gleave 30, Spencer Marchand 2046.87, State Historical Society ND 40, Stein's Inc. 85.68, Top-Notch Outdoor Services 1880, Tractor Supply Co. 383.61, Trifectah Solutions 70.25, Ty Jenner 690, Unum Life Ins. 187.21, USPS 308.43, Verendrye Elec. 124, Verizon 255.12, Vestis 278.94, Visa 1733.93, & June Payroll $112,247.94. Upon RCV, MC.

VISITORS: None

JDA REPORT: JDA Director Marchand's report was in the packet for the Council to review. He informed the Council that they have approved the pace buydowns for Brad Wolbert and Susan Muske. We have received reimbursement for the Slum/Blight Removal Grant from the ND Department of Commerce. He stated that Home Town Meats will get reimbursed for the equipment purchased with proof of receipts. Spencer informed the Council that he is resigning as his family is relocating. He will be done at the end of July 2025. Mayor Klier thanked him for all his work.

JDA MINUTES: JDA Minutes from the regular May 13th, 2025, meeting was included in the packet for the Council to review. JDA Minutes from the special March 18th text meeting was included in the packet for the Council to review.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Foss's report was in the packet for the Council to review. He updated them on his ongoing cases.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Director Weinmann's report was in the packet for the Council to review. M by Susag, MS by Steedsman to approve the purchase of four 55-gallon barrels of mosquito spray for $9680. Upon VV, MC. The crew has been busy mowing and moving grass & wood. The asphalt patching is on hold. Bechtold Paving is working elsewhere and will call when they are available to come to Harvey.

AUDITOR REPORT: Nordby's report and the financials were in the packet for the Council to review. She included some information and a quote from TextMyGov, a service that allows you to send out mass text messaging to keep the residents informed on issues. It would allow us to communicate quickly and efficiently. M by Prom, MS by Hoepfer to approve the service for $3000 for the first year and $1500 annually after the initial setup. Upon VV, MC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ARMORY UPDATE: Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPANE BIDS: Mayor Klier opened the propane bids from Farmer's Union Oil Co. for 23,000 gallons @ $1.29/gallon no taxes, Kotaco for 23,000 gallons @ $0.98/gallon no taxes, Ferrell Gas for 23,000 gallons @ $0.99/gallon no taxes, and Harvey Oil Co for 23,000 gallons @ $1.22/gallon no taxes. M by Baltrusch, MS by Steedsman to accept the bid of $0.98 from Kotaco. Upon VV, MC with Hoepfer abstaining.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: M by Baltrusch, MS by Hoepfer to accept Mayor Dean's appointment of Madison Schmaltz, Ryan Mickelsen, Jason Beck, and Wyatt Toso to the Community Foundation. Upon VV, MC.

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT: M by Baltrusch, MS by Steedsman to approve the special event permit for the Lies Cattle Co./Bean Counter Café/Just Good BBQ to block the east side of Lincoln Ave from 9th St. to the end of the Bean Counter Café for their meat showcase. Upon VV, MC.

ORDINANCE 6.06.02: M by Baltrusch, MS by Prom to amend the ordinance to state that campers need to be parked in front of the owner's property. Upon VV, MC. Mayor Klier will review and consult with our attorneys on making the change.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS MINUTES: M by Hoepfer, MS by Steedsman to approve the recommendations made by the BOA. Upon VV, MC.

HARVEY WELLS COUNTY LIBRARY MINUTES: Library minutes from the regular June 18th, 2025, meeting was included in the packet for the Council to review.

With no further business, Mayor Klier adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Dean Klier, Mayor
Karen Nordby, Auditor
Publication Date: August 16, 2025

**ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AND AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO N.D.A.C. ARTICLES 71-02 & 71-08 REGARDING ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS PARTICIPATION IN NDPERS RETIREMENT PLANS**

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 1600 East Century Avenue Suite 2, Bismarck, North Dakota. The rules relate to the participation of elected county officials in North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) retirement plans.

These rules are emergency rules with an effective date of July 31, 2025.

A copy of the proposed rules may be requested by writing to PO Box 1657, Bismarck, ND 58502, e-mailing NDPERS-info@nd.gov, or calling 701-328-3900. Written comments on the proposed rules can be mailed to PO Box 1657, Bismarck, ND 58502 or emailed to NDPERS-info@nd.gov. Oral comments can be submitted by calling 701-328-3900. Comments received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 22, 2025, will be fully considered. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System at the above telephone number or address at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 31st day of July, 2025.
Rebecca Fricke
Executive Director

**The North Dakota Game and Fish Department announces the following summary of regulations & changes for the 2025-2026 Small Game, Furbearer and Waterfowl Seasons.**

| Species | Opens | Closes | Daily Limit | Poss. Limit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crows (Fall) | Aug. 16 | Nov. 03 | There is no limit on crows | |
| Crows (Spring) | Mar. 14 | Apr. 26 | | |
| Early Canada Geese (Missouri River Zone) | Aug. 15 | Sept. 07 | 15 | 45 |
| Early Canada Geese (Western Zone) | Aug. 15 | Sept. 15 | | |
| Early Canada Geese (Eastern Zone) | Aug. 15 | Sept. 22 | | |
| Doves | Sept. 01 | Nov. 29 | 15 | 45 |
| Hungarian Partridge | Sept. 13 | Jan. 04 | 3 | 12 |
| Sharp-tailed Grouse | Sept. 13 | Jan. 04 | 3 | 12 |
| Ruffed Grouse | Sept. 13 | Jan. 04 | 3 | 12 |
| Tree Squirrels | Sept. 13 | Feb. 28 | 4 | 12 |
| Sage Grouse | Season closed | | | |
| Snipe | Sept. 13 | Nov. 30 | 8 | 24 |
| Woodcock | Sept. 20 | Nov. 03 | 3 | 9 |
| Sandhill Cranes (Unit 1) | Sept. 20 | Nov. 16 | 3 | 9 |
| Sandhill Cranes (Unit 2) | Sept. 20 | Nov. 16 | 2 | 6 |
| Tundra Swan | Oct. 04 | Jan. 04 | Season limit one swan - must be tagged | |
| 2,200 licenses issued by lottery (deadline – Aug. 20) | | | | |
| Pinnated Grouse (prairie chicken) | Season closed | | | |
| Male Pheasant (youth season) | Oct. 04 | Oct. 05 | 3 | 12 |
| Male Pheasant (regular season) | Oct. 11 | Jan. 04 | | |
| Mountain Lion (Zone 1 Early) (hunting) | Aug. 29 | Nov. 23 | One per season - restricted | |
| Mountain Lion (Zone 1 Late) (hunting) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 31 | | |
| Mountain Lion (Zone 2) (hunting) | Aug. 29 | Mar. 31 | | |
| Fisher (trapping or cable devices) | Nov. 24 | Nov. 30 | One per season - restricted | |
| River Otter (trapping or cable devices) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | One per season - restricted | |
| Beaver and Raccoon (hunting, trapping or underwater cable devices) | Year-round | | There is no limit on other furbearers | |
| Beaver and Raccoon (cable devices on land) (type and placement restricted from Mar. 16 – May 10) | Nov. 24 | May 10 | | |
| Weasel (trapping) | Oct. 25 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Muskrat and Mink (trapping) | Oct. 25 | May 10 | | |
| Weasel (cable devices) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Muskrat and Mink (cable devices) | Nov. 24 | May 10 | | |
| Weasel (hunting) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Muskrat and Mink (hunting) | Nov. 24 | May 10 | | |
| Muskrat and Mink (restricted trapping and cable devices season) | Mar. 16 | May 10 | | |
| Muskrat and Mink (protective covering over float sets) | May 01 | May 10 | | |
| Red Fox, Gray Fox, Coyote, and Badger (day hunting or trapping) | Year-round | | | |
| Red Fox, Gray Fox, Coyote, and Badger (cable devices) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Red Fox, Gray Fox, and Coyote (night hunting) | Nov. 24 | May 31 | | |
| Bobcat (Zone 1) (hunting or trapping) | Nov. 08 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Bobcat (Zone 1) (cable devices and dogs) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | | |
| Bobcat (Zone 2) (hunting, trapping, cable devices, dogs) | Nov. 24 | Mar. 15 | One per season- restricted | |
| Special Veteran and Active Military Personnel Waterfowl Season | Sept. 20 | Sept. 21 | * Limits same except no bonus BWT may be taken | |
| Special Youth Waterfowl Season | Sept. 20 | Sept. 21 | * Limits same except no bonus BWT may be taken | |
| Ducks including Mergansers | Low Plains Unit - Sept. 27 thru Dec. 07; High Plains Unit - Sept. 27 thru Dec. 07 & Dec. 13 thru Jan. 04 | | 6 (see restrictions below) | 18 |
| Coots | | | 15 | 45 |
| White-Fronted Geese | Sept. 27 | Dec. 07 | 3 | 9 |
| Canada Geese (Missouri River Zone) | Sept. 27 | Jan. 02 | 5 | 15 |
| Canada Geese (Western Zone) | Sept. 27 | Dec. 25 | 8 | 24 |
| Canada Geese (Eastern Zone) | Sept. 27 | Dec. 20 | 8 | 24 |
| Light Geese | Sept. 27 | Jan. 04 | 50 | No Limit |

✂ CLIP AND SAVE

**DUCKS AND MERGANSERS: SPECIES/SEX RESTRICTIONS**

The daily bag limit of 6 ducks including mergansers may include no more than 5 mallards of which only 2 may be female mallards, 1 scaup, 3 wood ducks, 3 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks. **** In addition to the daily bag limit of ducks listed above, an additional 2 blue-winged teal may be taken from Sept. 27 - Oct. 05.*** The possession limit for duck including mergansers shall be three times the daily bag limit.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR**

- Nonresident waterfowl zones increased to 6
- A waterfowl habitat restoration stamp is required to hunt waterfowl
- Fridays will be include in extended shooting hours for geese, beginning Nov. 28
- Nonresidents are not allowed to hunt on Department wildlife management areas or on PLOTS areas from Oct. 11-17. Exception: nonresidents hunting on PLOTS land that they own.

A complete 2025-2026 Small Game, Furbearer and Waterfowl proclamation is available from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, 100 North Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-5095 (701) 328-6300.

**ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO BUSINESS REGISTRATION NAME AVAILABILITY STANDARDS**

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Office of the Secretary of State will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code at 10 am on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at the Office of the Secretary of State conference room at the North Dakota State Capitol, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota.

A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained at sos.nd.gov, by writing the Office of the Secretary of State, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 108, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, or calling 701-328-3660.

Written comments may be submitted to the address above or by email at sos@nd.gov until the comment period closes at 12 noon on September 28, 2025.

If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Office of the Secretary of State by calling 701-328-3660 at least four days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 1st day of August, 2025
Sandra McMerty
Deputy Secretary of State