

*SPECIAL MEETING – MONDAY AT 4:30 P.M.*

The Switzerland County Council met in a special meeting pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: Carrie Barwick, Todd Chase, Mat Dutkiewicz, Lance Collier, Patti Kappes, Kim Hutchinson and Scott Crandell and the county auditor, Gayle Sullivan was not present. Tina Minch, payroll deputy was present.

Lance called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of minutes:** Scott made a motion to approve and Carrie second. All in favor.

**Adoption of 2026 Switzerland County budget:**

Patti made a motion to approve the county budget and Scott second. Cyndi Harris, Chief Deputy in the Clerk's office. Asked that Council explain why the Clerk's office didn't get the pay increases (lowered to 2% and the Clerk with no raise) but the Council did except the election cut. Discussion was had about the budget and what some offices did do and the other offices did not. Why were the cuts not made to the offices that did not make the 3.2%? More discussion was had about what departs did or didn't do.

Jenny Owens, Highway clerk, had question about the raise that was not given to them. Jenny said that in April the Commissioners approved the \$1.20 raise which .60 was given in May and the other was to be given in January of 2026. July budgets were submitted for the highway; there was a meeting on 9/2/25 that went over the highway's budget. On 9/29/25 the minutes reflect highway dept. no changes. On 10/14/25 the request was for every dept to cut 3.2% and Jenny emailed each council member the next day to ask how does this effect the highway with them not being in the general fund. Only one member of the council responded. Question was what happened between October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup> that took the .60 and took them down to 3%? She spoke that the Auditor said it was a suggestion about the 3% and not in minutes. Discussion was had about why this happened. Jenny asked about when this could be correct and Lance spoke that it could be discussed at the first meeting in January. Jenny said she will be back. Scott, Carri, Patti, Todd and Lance approved. Kim and Mat-Nay

**Board Reports**

Tood-no

Kim-no

Patti-no

Carrie-no

Mat-no

Scott-No

Lance-school board meeting the new GM from Belterra came and visited the new connector wing and seemed impressed and it was a good meeting.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the council. Kim made a motion to adjourn and Todd second. All in favor.

James M. Call

James M. Call

James J. Barwick

Gayle Sullivan

Gayle Sullivan, Auditor

Paul Kyr

James M. Call

James M. Call

James M. Call