Saddleback Road District Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM
[redacted], Hermosa, SD
(Ruzicka's Shouse)
Notes of Record

A. Call to Order 7:00 PM (President)
   a. Roll call for quorum & attendance
      a.i. Matt & Lona Christensen
      a.ii. David Sommers
      a.iii. Steve Charnes
      a.iv. Dale & Melody Ruzicka

B. Agenda Presentation & Approval (Secretary)
   a. Changed how the Executive session took place to after Old/New Business
   b. Added a Financial update (Treasure)

C. Approval of previous meetings' Notes of Record (Secretary)
   a. Approved May 5, 2026, Annual Meeting

D. Conflict of Interest Declaration (President)
   a. None identified by the Trustees

E. Update on springtime road maintenance activities and approval of invoices (President)
   a. Reviewed a detailed invoice from Miller Construction LLC on the Spring 2026 road work completed on Saddleback Drive (**Attachment 1**). After discussion and comments from attendees, the Trustees approved a motion to make payment on the invoice totaling $7,902.96.
   b. All the major washboard areas were both cut and graded. Five 20+ ton loads of gravel were dispersed and spread in thin areas and washboard spots, which needed extra topcoat. The Trustees have budgeted for up to eight loads of gravel application thru the year and will be addressing further "thin spots" as weather conditions allow.
   c. After reexamining the S-curve located just before Concho Trail, it was observed the roadway was continuing to be shifted from its original path by drivers hugging the inside turns and driving at excessive speed at both locations. This once again eroded the original inside shoulders, smashing the culvert end at one location, and creating a sharp drop off edge at the other. Miller LLC repaired both locations, utilizing excess gravel salvaged from the outer ditch/road bank from the first curve. To help keep the roadway in its planned original location, culvert posts/markers and corner posts/markers have been procured from the CC Hwy Dept and will be installed in the coming weeks. Similar markers/posts will be installed in several other curve and culvert locations to force traffic onto the

original roadway and prevent similar degradation from occurring. At the end of this discussion topic, the Trustees passed a motion to approve the invoice from Custer County Hwy dept {for the posts/markers to be installed} at a total of $316 (**Attachment 2)**.

d. The Trustees again discussed increasing costs of gravel and contractor fees. Miller LLC agreed to hold their fees flat for 2026 which was reflected in the invoicing of completed work. A discussion of cheaper options for addressing washboards was discussed with Miller LLC (Hydra bucket, carbide cutters on his track steer blade, etc.). He agreed to visit with area attachment rental providers on viable options, and report back to the Trustees.

e. Discussed the fact there are spots on the road that have useable amounts of "clean rock" lying along the outer edges of the shoulders. Reincorporating this back onto the roadway surface has been discussed with Miller LLC. Because of our steep hills, moving loose rock into the driving lanes will increase the speed of washboard creation, unless we have sufficient moisture and utilize Millers large grader to "roll and mix" the loose rock and fines together. This has been communicated to Cam, and we will look for the opportunity to do so.

f. Provided an update that Custer County has contracted Rosane Dust control to treat Ghost Canyon with MgCl in early June. Residents in at least two locations have contacted Rosane to treat their frontages on Saddleback.

F. Discussion and motion to enter representative engagement with GPNA (President)

a. The Trustees discussed two public information requests received from [redacted] prior to the Special Meeting. The Trustees believe engagement with GPNA {Gunderson, Palmer, Naasz, and Ashmore Law firm} will ensure inquiries, formal complaints, and any other legal actions involving the SBRD are handled appropriately. A motion proposed and passed by the Landowners at the 2026 Annual Meeting established a budgetary category to fund such services as required. Following discussion, the Trustees passed a motion to accept the engagement proposal from GPNA, formally adopting them as SBRD counsel. **(Attachment 3**).

G. Discussion and motion to fill temporary Trustee Position (President)

a. During the 2026 annual meeting Trustees shared that no nomination petitions were received for the election, and SD statute prohibits floor nominations at our Annual Meeting. It was shared that statutes specify the remaining Trustees nominate someone to fill a Trustee Position for a 1-year period until the next annual election.

b. David Sommers expressed interest in filling the 1-year Trustee position, outside the Annual Meeting. The current Trustees discussed this during the Special Meeting and passed a motion to appoint David Sommers as a Trustee to serve until the 2027 Annual Meeting. At that time, there will be two Trustee positions open for election

H. Financial update (Treasure)
   a. Dale presented a short update showing the SBRD bank balance as of the meeting date **(Attachment 4).** The district account showed the county had forwarded disbursements from 24 of 33 landowners who had made their payments by the April end deadline. The cumulation of the 2025 balance carried forward and the new 2026 receipts are adequate to cover the spring maintenance activities and cover several gradings through the summer. This is subject to change depending on expenses in other non-maintenance-related categories.
   b. Discussion and questions occurred regarding the timing of Road District funding through the County. Per county procedure, districts receive their annual disbursements when individuals make their first property tax payment, which is due by April end. Delayed tax payments to the county result in delayed transfers to the districts, which in turn affects their operating balances throughout the operating year.
   c. Discussion was made on re-allocating $1,000 from the Signage/Misc. budget line item to the Admin/Legal budget line item (as allowed by SBRD Bylaws) to provide adequate funds to cover GPNA expenses. A motion was presented and passed by the Trustee's to do so.

I. Public Comment Period – 5 minutes per requester (must sign in)
   a. Steve Charnes thanked the Trustees for all we do and for volunteering to serve our district members.
   b. He also asked what happens if no one volunteers to run for Road District Trustee in 2027. Trustees shared that SD Statue allows for the remaining "governing authority" (Trustee) to appoint individuals for both 1-year positions (as with David Sommers) but that this was not desired unless absolutely necessary.
   c. Steve also asked if there is no Road District, will the County just take over maintenance of the road. Dale shared he had (years earlier) discussed turning maintenance of Saddleback Drive over to Custer County, with individuals within the county Hwy, Audit, and Equalization Departments. Feedback was that the County Commissioners must agree to such a change, and previous commissioners opposed doing so (especially with dead end residential roadways). The commissioners would assess the current condition of the roadway in question, and the cost vs taxation necessary to properly service it. If the roadway was not "up to expected standard, the county Commissioners could insist current landowners cover the cost of any corrections before agreeing to assume responsibility. The frequency/timing (how often/when) and type of maintenance (grading, MgCl application, or etc.) would also be determined by county personnel and not decided by the residents of Saddleback Drive.

d. There was once again discussion on whether we can do our own road maintenance. Most felt it was better to enlist professional personnel who regularly perform road maintenance to perform the work.
Note: Since these topics and discussions were not on the agenda, no official action was taken.

J. Old Business/New Business (President)
   a. None

K. Motion for adjournment of Open Session of the meeting
   a.Approved at 7:55 PM

L. Move into Executive Session to discuss the following considerations
   a.Personnel Matters
   b. Legal Consultations

M. Executive Session adjournment at 8:53 PM