# COMBINED ELECTION AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into between McCook County and the City of Salem; both political subdivisions of the State of South Dakota, for the purpose of conducting a combined election as provided under the provisions of SDCL 9-13-37, and 12-2-5.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This agreement shall become effective on the date that all parties have signed the agreement.

**PURPOSE:** It is the purpose of this agreement for the parties to conduct their individually required elections in one combined election. The combined election will be held on June 2, 2020, which is the date of the regular primary election. Elections are being combined to save tax dollars on the cost of individually conducted elections and to encourage a better voter turnout for both entities.

**COST SHARING:** The parties to this agreement shall share the costs of the combined election as set forth herein.

- Each Government entity shall publish its own required notices, except where they may by law be jointly published. The cost of jointly published notices shall be shared proportionately by ballot issue and/or candidate.
- Salaries and expenses of election boards within the city shall be shared equally by the parties.
- Polling place rent within the city of Salem shall be shared equally by the parties. Polling place rents outside the city of Salem shall be borne by the county.
- The cost of jointly used material (ballots, poll books, etc.) will be shared equally. Each entity will pay the cost of its individually used materials and supplies.
- Data processing costs (setup, test run, ballot count) incurred shall be shared proportionately by ballot issue and/or candidate.

If either parties of this agreement are not required to have an election, only those costs of the joint action, if any, to the point of withdrawal will be shared. The remainder of the election costs will be borne by the remaining entity conducting the election.

McCook County will pay all costs associated with the election and the city agrees to reimburse the county for their share of the costs as determined in this agreement.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS:** Absentee ballots shall be available at the office of the county auditor for voters who wish to vote absentee.

**CANVASSING OF THE VOTE:** Each entity shall canvass the votes of their election at the next meeting following the election. Poll books will be opened by the county canvass board, canvassed, resealed and passed on to the city, which will canvass. After the completion of the final canvass the poll books will be returned to the county auditor's office.

The McCook County Auditor and the City Finance Officer are hereby empowered and directed to cooperate in any manner that will accomplish the purpose and intent of this agreement in order to facilitate this election in the most efficient and economical manner.

**ATTEST:**

Gerreyn Sherman
County Auditor, McCook County

AUDITOR McCOOK COUNTY SOUTH DAKOTA

Charles Fiesinger
Chair, McCook County Commission

Date: 12/31/2019

Joan Heumiller
Finance Officer, City of Salem

Robin Westhoff
Mayor, City of Salem

Date: 12/9/2019