



UNION CENTER MEETING SUMMARY

05/26/2022

IN ATTENDANCE: 7

#1 Reason why you live in Meade County? Aka: Favorite thing about Meade County?

- People
- Open spaces
- Rural
- Great place to live
- Nice people
- Good place to work
- Sense of community
- Excellent at social distancing (everyone is spread out)
- Landscape
- Close to lots of opportunities
- Independent
- Family, community
- All of the above

What should be **Preserved** in Meade County?

- History
- Preserve the agriculture business tradition
- Sense of community
- Preserve a certain amount of open space (leave floodplains green space)
- Preserve native grasslands (working with private landowners)
- Conservation effort
- Teach ag in high school to keep ag tradition

Biggest **Challenges** facing Meade County?

- Lack of recreation for teens
- Diversity in social attitudes, needs, wants, history, climate
- Water (access and cleanliness)
- Escalating cost of agriculture land
- Funding mechanism for everything
- County size and access to services (serving areas with a lower population)
- Housing, utilities, growth (increased costs)
- Need a comprehensive plan for the schools

- Emergency services (lack volunteers – ensure services to rural areas)
- Infrastructure (quality and quantity)
- Quality of life (amenities)
- Difficulty working as a region (roads, boundaries)
- Intergovernmental cooperation
- Differing priorities, hard to be on same page. (People in urban areas face different challenges than rural)

Opportunities to make Meade County even better as a place to...

Live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career housing • Need secondary access • Regionalize I-90
Recreate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sturgis Library- continue and increase funds (possibly expand to rural areas?) • Hunting • Explore 4-H opportunities for youth • Wide variety of activities to get kids outdoors
Get Around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic routes • Electric vehicles pose a challenge (specifically the needed infrastructure for them) • Fire truck/school bus issues (road size, load limits) - need to ensure roads and bridges can support them.
Work & Do Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wi-Fi • Entrepreneurs • Better placement of water and sewer lines (line along I-90 from Sturgis to Blackhawk) • Incentivize industry
Farm & Ranch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag-tourism (scenic routes, bike routes) • Tremendous opportunity due to conditions in the world (food security)
Visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunting • Ag-tourism