

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on February 16, 2016 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson. Commissioner Sid Berg was absent. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Bailey and DeVal; States Attorney McBeth; and a Daily News Reporter.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Flood Plain Development Permit for NDDOT - NDDOT has requested a floodplain permit for a project on ND Hwy 13 from I-29 to Wyndmere for a 1" mill and a 3" HBP overlay this summer during the 2016 construction season.

FY 2014 Homeland Security Grant - The grant for the Courthouse and LEC has been completed.

FEMA Projects - Submitted the information for Duerr Township that was due by January 9; and submitted last closeout requests on County projects.

Code Red Test - Scheduled for today at 10:00 A.M. for Richland County.

JILL BREUER - COLFAX TOWER

Breuer has received a request from Red River Regional Dispatch for a permanent patch on our Colfax Tower so that Sabin Fire and Wolverton Fire can communicate with Christine Fire. There will be no cost to Richland County. A motion was made by Thompson to approve the request from Red River Regional Dispatch for a permanent patch for the Colfax Tower; vote seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous.

DEB FLACK - REQUEST FOR RN STAFF

Flack distributed a listing of current staff and requested the Board authorize her to hire an additional RN. This person would assist with coverage of current programs to lighten the workload of current staff; would allow for backup coverage; and would also research new opportunities and assist with the accreditation process.

Flack explained that the work load in the Health Dept has increased over the past two years and the Department has passed up on opportunities because no staff was available to apply for grants, etc. There is also a lack of backup coverage.

The Health Board approved the request at their January Board meeting; the individual would start at a base salary of \$48,380. This position was not budgeted for in the 2016 budget, however the Health Dept had a carry-over balance of \$190,000 at year-end.

A motion was made by Thompson to authorize Flack to hire a full-time RN; motion seconded by Campbell. Voting NO was Berseth, the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Berseth to approve a Temporary Liquor License for Ted Mauch, the Black Pelican, LLC for an event at the Bagg Farm February 24-26, 2016; motion seconded by Ehlert. Vote was unanimous. Private Security was also briefly discussed by the Board - Sheriff Leshovsky will be contacted to see if he is available to discuss with the Board.

- Notice of grant award in the amount of \$3,530.25 from the Court Facilities Advisory Committee

- Correspondence from ND Highway Patrol re- weight enforcement on County roads

Bailey reported that at the February 2nd Commission Meeting the Board passed a motion to approve the sale of County Property to the City of Mantador; upon further research, it was determined the County needs to list this property during the November Sale so the motion should be rescinded. A motion was made by Berseth to rescind the Motion made at the February 2nd meeting approving the sale of County Property to Mantador; motion seconded by Ehlert. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Lowell Bladow, Ron Hohenstern, Troy Dickerman and Moriah Herding. Damon DeVillers and Jessie Seedler of Interstate Engineering were present. A large group was also in attendance regarding Co Rd 81 concerns.

Rick Snyder - Co Rd 81 Complaint - Snyder requested blacktop on the two miles that were changed to gravel by the County. For the past two summers, it has been graded too often causing a hazard. His wife has witnessed several near-miss accidents after it has been graded. Wheaton-Dumont Elevator built a new facility that is mostly operational and the truck traffic is steady creating a dust

hazard; he is worried what will happen next fall when the facility is fully operational, it's a hazard waiting to happen. There is blacktop to the south - to South Dakota, to the north on Hwy 81, and to the east on CR 22.

The Board also heard similar concerns from Tom Bisek, Bruce Luick, Arv Burvee, and Phillip Deal.

Berseth asked when the road was turned to gravel - Bladow replied 4 years ago. Berseth asked what it would cost to repair - Damon DeVillers estimated \$1.3 million.

Thompson commented that the County has nearly 600 miles and maybe half of it is paved; expenses have increased the past several years and it is impossible to keep up with them all. The state issues us money along with criteria so it is not an easy situation - some of the projects scheduled for this summer will need to be cut back due to funding.

Berseth commented that the state does have strings on what we can and can't do and what roads we can do; and there is not \$1.3 in the budget. However too much grading and dust control are the main concerns he has heard from this group and that may be something we can work on.

Ehlert and Campbell agreed with the comments made by Thompson and Berseth.

Dust control was discussed - the estimated cost is \$7,000-10,000 a mile.

The Board will use the comments they have heard as they plan forward and will take them under advisement.

HB1176 - Bladow reported the HB 1176 funding amount decreased 4% and we can expect \$165,000 less than what we expected for our three projects so we will be about half million short.

DeVillers re-did some estimates for projects, the Board will need to make decisions on which projects to proceed with.

Additional Cost for Guardrail on Co Hwy 1 - The additional cost for the installation change (plates and welding) is \$33,708. A motion was made by Thompson to approve the Change Order; motion seconded by Ehlert. Berseth was absent during the Vote, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

Spring Road Restrictions - CH16 & CH3 are at 8 tons; CH1 will change from 6 to 8 tons. The Highway Dept will work at updating maps and getting notices out.

Culvert Bids and Aggregate Bids - Will work on advertising for the 2016 Season.

Thompson addressed the Group still at the meeting regarding Co Rd 81 concerns. He commented that he was unaware of the concerns until presented today, but felt the Highway Dept does a good job of doing what they can, monitoring situations, and keeping the Board informed. He reported that the Commission goes on a road tour each year with Highway Personnel, but the funding each year is not enough for all areas.

Senator Luick commented that when the County goes to future DOT Meetings to discuss Surge Funding he would like to be part of those meetings.

DOUG BIEWER & STEPHANIE KUZEL - HUB INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE

Biewer explained that when BW Insurance in Wahpeton closed all their business was moved to Fargo through the acquisition. Shortly after the acquisition, Fargo reviewed the Richland County policy and suggested it be handled in Richland County by the Hub International Lidgerwood Office. Shortly thereafter Doug and Marlin from the Lidgerwood Office met with Mary DeVal regarding the County Policy. The Lidgerwood Office has been the Account Manager for the County Policy since, and are here today to request they retain the policy. Deb from the Fargo office is the primary contact and works well with DeVal, but if the Board has any concerns about working with a Fargo Office, the Lidgerwood Office can take care of being the primary contact instead of routing things through Fargo.

Thompson commented on keeping the policy local if we can and was feeling we lost the local contact when the agency closed and it moved to Fargo.

Campbell commented that Jeff Kleven from Insure Forward was at the last Commission meeting and is here today. He has been aggressive at wanting the account.

Campbell stated the Board will take under review, and make a decision at the March 1st meeting.

Jeff Kleven from Insure Forward commented that Insure Forward is a locally owned North Dakota Company - the first item in the proposal requested from the County was experience and expertise and he can offer that to the County.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

- Post Sale Analysis on \$1,215,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds
- Notice of Annual Meeting of Southeast Water Users District, March 16

Sheriff Leshovsky joined the meeting - He commented on the Letter from the ND Highway Patrol regarding truck enforcement. They have state-wide jurisdiction and they can enforce any time if they see something.

Sheriff Leshovsky has concerns with private security for events at the Bagg Farm. They are required to have "licensed" Private Security. Sheriff Leshovsky will follow-up.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:55 A.M.

ATTEST:


Harris Bailey
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Tim Campbell
Board of Richland County Commissioners