RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 19, 2013

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on March 19, 2013 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Tim Campbell, Jason Heitkamp, Dan Thompson and Perry Miller. Also present were Administration Personnel Bailey and DelVal; State s Attorney McBeth and a Daily News Reporter.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Blizzard Rescues - Rescues began at 5 PM last night. There were 20-25 vehicles plus two semi s, with one blocking the passing lane, stranded on Hwy#13. The Richland County Sheriff Dept, ND Highway Patrol and ND DOT worked together. A few folks left their vehicles in the road and got a ride back to Wahpeton, many were still in their vehicles. Richland County Sheriff advised No Travel for all of Richland County; however, the call to close the gates on Highway 13 is up to the Highway Patrol. Will be meeting with the DOT and Highway Patrol to discuss minimizing impacts and avoiding blizzard rescues.

Dryer Fire at the Hankinson Ethanol Plant at 5:30 this morning - Fire Departments from Hankinson and Lidgerwood responded.

Flood Items - Met with the National Guard last week and have equipment and resources on hand if necessary.

- Will set up flood meetings for Mayors, Townships and the Public.

- Will send out temporary emergency levee permits to avoid any delay with the Corp of Engineers.

Dive Team Training - An Ice Dive Exercise was held on March 9th at Mooreton Lake.

KYLE DEVRIES - NDIRF INSURANCE POLICY

Visitor Jeff Kleven was in attendance.

Miller reported he spoke with DeVries yesterday and DeVries was not able to be

at the meeting today. DeVries visited with Miller about the timing of the policy for switching agents and duplication of coverage on property through NDIRF and State Fire & Tornado.

DelVal briefly explained to the Board the difference between the NDIRF itemized policy and the State Fire & Tornado Blanket coverage.

Jeff Kleven also commented on the differences between the NDIRF Policy and the State Fire & Tornado coverages. Kleven stated that in the past, it took approximately 15 days to switch a NDIRF policy from one agency to another.

Miller asked DelVal or Bailey to contact NDIRF to get clarification on any deadline for switching agencies.

Heitkamp commented this is the third meeting the Board has discussed insurance; he thought the Board had decided to stay with BW Insurance. The Board could possibly look at it every three years but not yearly. Heitkamp suggested a Request for Proposals be done next year.

Miller stated there are three qualified agents in town, trying to get business. He would like DelVal or Bailey to contact NDIRF because DeVries was getting conflicting information from NDIRF. Miller also asked DelVal to follow-up with DeVries about the duplication of coverage.

Campbell asked Kleven if he would like to see the Agent for the policy changing every one or three years. Kleven replied three at least.

Thompson commented that unless there is a motion to change we will leave it where it is.

Berg suggested an Audit of the Policy to see if we have any duplication of coverage.

Bailey replied it was looked at closely after the fire loss and he was satisfied with our coverage.

Commissioner Miller left the meeting at this time. 8:30 A.M.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Tim Schulte and Lowell Bladow.

Legislative Matters - Last week was the County Officials Academy in Bismarck; along with the general sessions was an opportunity to meet with our Legislators.

HB1358 is still in the mix with most of the discussion surrounding the potential extraction tax cut. Road funding remains intact with both sides still willing to provide the extra revenue for infrastructure.

The CAPS discussion was also brought up last week with the Republication leaders telling us we will have to have some caps and the Democratic leadership saying they are opposing caps. This could be a real sticking point as we move forward.

2013 Tandem Axle Plow Truck - In February the Highway Dept received Board authorization to advertise for a new plow truck; they have been working on specifications and our specs mirror those of the State bids just awarded to Nelson International. We have the opportunity to purchase basically the truck we have specified, from the State bid. This would allow us to order a truck without the Diesel Exhaust Fluid engine. Schulte requested authorization to purchase the truck (option 1) through the State bid. (Option 1 is a 2013 Truck, Tandem Axle under body plow with right wing for $106,450 - we would need to purchase a truck box). A motion was made by Heitkamp authorizing the Highway Department to purchase the 2013 Tandem Axle Plow Truck through the State Bid; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

FEMA Large Project Closeouts - We are working with Townships on the closeouts of their large projects. This has been a slow process and could take several more months. The contractors have not received full payment for work that was completed over a year ago, and longer in some cases. Schulte requested authorization to pay off the Contractors from the County FEMA account and then the County would be reimbursed whenever the FEMA closeout process is completed. Discussion followed:

Bailey questioned what FEMA account - the money the County receives is designated for a particular township so there is some risk involved.

Heitkamp asked if there was anything stipulated in the contracts on when the contractors will receive payment.

Campbell asked what would happen if FEMA pays less than the County pays the Contractors; will we have to ask for money back from the Townships?

The Board Tabled Discussion until later in the meeting to move on to a Scheduled Bid Opening.

Aggregate Crushing Bids - The following bids were received

_____- Central Specialties $1.415/ton
- Krause Bros $1.299/ton
- Mark Sand & Gravel $1.263/ton

A motion was made by Heitkamp to accept all bids received; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

Culvert Bids - Numerous bids were received from Cretex and Tru North Steel. A motion was made by Berg to accept all bids received; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

FEMA Large Project Closeouts - Discussion from earlier in the meeting continued. Campbell asked how much money would be paid out. Schulte replied approximately $140,000. The two most outstanding are Duerr Township owing $75,000 to Riley s and Liberty Grove Township owing $68,000 to Krause Bros.

Following discussion a motion was made by Campbell to dispense the funds on a case to case basis and to pay Riley s bill for Duerr Township and Krause Bros. bill for Liberty Grove Township with a cap of $150,000; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

Other Departmental Matters -

- Final plans for the CH#16 project have been sent to the NDDOT. Bid Letting is set for May 17th.

- Depending on the temperatures, we could place the road restrictions on at the end of this week or early next week.

- Taking applications for the Road Foreman position until April 5th.

- Berg inquired about the County Ditching Permit. Schulte replied he has a draft he will present on the 28th to the Advisory Board.

- Berg commented on a driveway issue on Co Rd 8 when the County plow passes by. He has spoken with the individuals and advised them of their options.

Upcoming Highway Meetings

3/21 NDSCS Civil Tech Advisory Meeting
3/25 Township Officers Meeting

3/28 Road Advisory Meeting
4/01 Board Meeting

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Resolution relating to State s Attorney Engaging in Private Law Practice - Bailey presented a Resolution to the Board making the State s Attorney a full time position. Bailey explained that Stokes had several clients he wanted to keep so the Board passed a Resolution allowing him to be part-time; this will return the position to full-time and the position shall not be an attorney or counsel for any party except the state or county.

A motion was made by Berg to approve the Resolution relating to the State s Attorney Engaging in Private Law Practice as presented; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached to minutes.)

Wahpeton/Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce Application - Heitkamp followed up with the Chamber as discussed at a previous Commission Meeting. One membership application can be completed for Richland County rather than membership applications by individual County Departments.

- Meeting Notice for 5-County Meeting, April 4th at 2:30 P.M.
- Meeting Notice for Richland County Park Board, March 25th at 5:30 P.M.
- Invitation to Retirement Open House for Jack Lalor, May 1st 2:00-4:30
- Correspondence from Ken Salazar re: PILOT payments

Campbell reported he received a call from Chris DeVries re- Library Funding and when the funds get dispersed. Bailey replied when we receive a request from them.

Bailey reported he received a bill from the City of Wahpeton in the amount of $1600 for the Civil Defense Truck. Bailey questioned whether or not the truck still exists. Campbell thought it may be included in the County Emergency Management Budget, he will follow-up with Lambrecht.

Heitkamp reported he is on the NACo Transportation Steering Committee; and they are asking NACo members to adopt a Resolution by their County supporting the Nomination of James Healy to the National Freight Advisory Committee. The US Dept of Transportation is establishing a National Freight Advisory Committee and soliciting nominations for membership. Heitkamp said

there would be no cost to the County. McBeth reviewed the proposed Resolution and saw no problem with it. A motion was made by Berg to approve the Resolution of Support for James Healy to the National Freight Advisory Committee; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

Berg asked if there should be some sort of set up for Conference Calling so that the Board could still conduct a meeting if there is a Storm or No Travel Advised. as well as for emergencies. Campbell commented he would rather see a Policy of No Meeting if No Travel is advised. Thompson commented that if someone is gone for an emergency there is a means to Conference Call in.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

20 JDA Meeting

April

1 Commission Meeting
4 5-County Meeting
15 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

ATTEST: _____ _____ CHAIRPERSON

Harris Bailey Dan Thompson

Auditor/Administrator Board of Richland County Commissioners