

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 6, 2013**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 6, 2013 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Tim Campbell, Jason Heitkamp, Perry Miller and Dan Thompson. Also present were Administration Personnel Bailey and DeVal; State s Attorney McBeth and a Daily News Reporter.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Miller to approve the minutes of meetings April 1 and April 15; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

House Fire in Lidgerwood- One person was killed in a house fire in Lidgerwood on Sunday, May 5. American Red Cross Assistance was offered to the other fire victim of the home.

Flood Items- The Red River crested at 14.39; and the Wild Rice crested at 24.0; the Sheyenne should be cresting today at 11.52. In the process of doing damage assessment to see if we qualify for FEMA on Category B and Category C with Townships/Cities.

Skywarn Training - Training for First Responders and the Public will be held on May 23 in the LEC Basement from 6:30-8:30 PM.

HazMat Operations Training - A full-scale drill is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup> at Cargill.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Campbell to approve the Treasurer s Report; motion seconded by Miller. Vote was unanimous.

Foreclosure Notices will be mailed today for 197 properties and the Sheriff Department will be Serving Properties that have occupants or businesses.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES JPA ADDENDUM**

Jill Breuer and Sheriff Leshovsky were present.

Breuer requested the Board approve an Addendum to a Joint Powers Agreement regarding Emergency Services Communications Systems. Barnes County would like to join in with Stutsman and Richland Counties on equipment costs. This would allow them to use our equipment.

A motion was made by Berg to approve the Joint Powers Agreement Addendum with Stutsman County; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached to minutes)

### **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

- Notice of Application for Appropriation of Water from Lynnes Farms Inc
- Correspondence from MN Dept of Natural Resources re- Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet for Fargo-Moorhead Flood Risk Management Project

A motion was made by Berg to approve a Special Event Liquor Permit for Michael Vogeler; motion seconded by Miller. Vote was unanimous.

Bailey distributed the 2012 State Audit Report. A motion was made by Berg to accept the 2012 Audit Report; motion seconded by Miller. Vote was unanimous.

Miller reported that the Diversion Authority has sent letters to individuals along the Wild Rice River requesting meetings with the individuals to discuss ring dikes, buy-outs etc. The JPA sent a letter to the Diversion Authority requesting a meeting as a group rather than individual meetings; and also to get more information on changes made to the plan creating impacts further into Richland County than was previously described.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Tim Schulte and Harlan Bladow.

Legislative Matters - HB1358 finally made it through the process in the final week of the session. The bill has some different language and it may take a little while to sort out but it does include the following:

- \$120 Million for roads in non-oil producing counties
- these funds will be administrated and distributed by the NDDOT
- we will have to have an approved project, once we award a contract

- the money will be sent to the County to pay the contractor
- 90% of all costs including engineering are eligible
- once the project is completed it must be signed for 105,500 GVW
- funds will not be available until February 2014

Our rough estimate is \$4.3 million available to us; our share will be 10% and will come from the 15 mill fund.

Motor Grader Sale Advertisement - We have been advertising for the sale of our 140H Motor Grader the past two weeks; bids will be received until May 20<sup>th</sup>. Schulte added the paragraph to the notice stating the County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept any bid deemed to be most favorable to the interests of Richland County. Discussion at the advisory meeting brought up the question if we could allow a Township to match the high bid in order to help them secure a motor grader and if this would be allowed under the current notice. Schulte asked if we should change the ad for the last two weeks to further clarify. Discussion followed.

McBeth questioned adjusting the ad - what if a buyer read the first advertisement and doesn't see the revised advertisement; you would need to explain to the public why you did it. However, it is your property and you can sell it to whoever you want.

FEMA 2013 - A FEMA team will be here next week to assess the preliminary damage in the County. The most severe damage is in the Antelope Creek drainage east of Drain 95. We have several crossings that we will need to repair but it probably won't exceed \$25,000 total. Lambrecht has sent out notices to Townships to report any damage to us.

2013 Construction Bid Opening - Bids were opened for 2013 Construction Projects. (Bid sheet attached to minutes). A motion was made by Heitkamp to accept all bids received for tabulation; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

Legislative Wrap-up - Will be held in Bismarck on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M.

Agreement for Construction of Federal Aid Project RPS-9-999(297) - (Safety Program) for the proposed crossing signal work near Colfax on CR-1. A motion was made by Campbell to enter into the Agreement; motion seconded by Miller. Vote was unanimous.

Upcoming Highway Meetings

5/13 Legislative Wrap-up  
5/14 NDACo Board Meeting  
5/16 Road Advisory Meeting  
5/20 Board Meeting

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A) Social Service -The Department received high honors on a State Report. A bill passed that will affect Foster Care and Adoption Services.
- B) Buildings & Grounds Committee - The State s Attorney office had a buzzer system installed and will be getting a window system installed.
- C) Public Health Report - They will be getting a new copy machine,
- D) Job Development Board - Will be meeting quarterly instead of monthly.
- E) Weed Board - Withheld some funds until the GPS records are provided.
- F) Soils Committee - No Report.
- G) Park Board - No Report.

### **ASSESSOR S REPORT - COUNTY EQUALIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Fossum reported the City Equalization Meeting was held in Wyndmere a week ago; she has met with several people since, for individual assessments. The Equalization Meeting will re-convene tonight.

Fossum reported a mass reappraisal was done by her office however if the city does not accept/approve it tonite, it will come to the County Equalization Meeting for the Board s consideration. It is also a State Requirement that her office send out letters to property owners if denied by the City Council tonite. Fossum requested that the Board authorize her to send letters to citizens that the Board of County Equalization will Consider a Notice of Increase at the County Equalization Meeting, if it does not pass tonite. A motion was made by Heitkamp authorizing Fossum to send the Notice of Increase letters to citizens if it does not pass tonite; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote as unanimous.

Fossum also asked for clarification on how her office should handle the balance of unpaid specials. The Board agreed to support Fossum - to continue to

include Unpaid Special Assessments to Sale Prices.

Fossum reported issues with several local township assessors. Her office provides them a listing of items to look at and some of the local assessors have not done that. Should her office let it slide, or go out and appraise and then bill them.

Discussion followed -

- Campbell suggested notifying the Township Board.
- Bailey reported he has authority to remove a Township Assessor if they don't do their job.
- Fossum commented that time was a concern, especially for those that may have taxes in escrow and will not have sufficient escrow funds when the taxes are due.

Following discussion - the Board directed Bailey to send a letter to the Township Assessor, Chairman and Clerk directing them to get the list done or they will be required to contract with someone else and the Township Assessor will be removed.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

A request has been received from the City of Lidgerwood to purchase County property to build a dike. Bailey reported this is not tax sale property, according to our records the County purchased this property from the Novetzke Family in November of 1981. Currently the property is being farmed by Spellerberg s. Following discussion a motion was made by Berg to authorize the Auditor to send a letter to the City, requesting they provide the County an Agreement between them and Spellerberg s and the Board will consider the sale of the property to Lidgerwood; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Miller to approve the payment of bills; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

Bailey received a Dues Statement from the ND School Board Association; as the County Superintendent of Schools he will not be joining.

Heitkamp presented a Resolution authorizing the rededication of the Richland County Courthouse. The Resolution will allow the committee to move forward in their planning, and solicit funds for the celebration festivities. Discussion followed on the Committee soliciting funds, Board members were opposed to this. Following discussion a motion was made by Heitkamp to approve the Resolution as written, without soliciting money; motion seconded by Berg.

Voting NO was Miller. The remainder voted Yes and the motion carried. Miller noted the reason he voted NO was that he felt a Resolution is Unnecessary.

Bailey reported he sent the advancement of FEMA funds to two townships as directed by the Commission at a previous meeting; however he sent the money from the general fund as a temporary loan instead of the FEMA account which would cause auditing concerns.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

#### May

8 DNR Meeting  
13 Legislative Wrap-up  
20 Board Meeting

#### June

3 Board Meeting  
17 Board Meeting

Being there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Reports Filed: Tax & Property Revenue Voucher for March 1-31, 2013; and Sheriff Department Revenue & Expenses and Civil Balance Sheet for March, 2013.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIRPERSON  
Harris Bailey Dan Thompson  
Auditor/Administrator Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for April, 2013.

PAYROLL (inclusive)	
General	186,643.14
County Highway	67,729.05
Social Services	77,950.22
911 Communications	39,769.26
County Agent	4,127.63
Veterans Service	3,813.34
Weed Officer	784.80
County Park	160.00
Public Health Fund	66,081.67
SEMCA	<u>7,676.01</u>
<b>PAYROLL TOTAL</b>	<b>454,735.12</b>

EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to resolution records

County General	464,746.41
County Highway	102,030.99
Bridge Repl Fund	34,843.10
Road & Bridge Eqpt	71,398.00
15 Mill	382,821.25
Social Service	52,590.66
Emergency Assist	162.04
911 Communications	19,126.48
911 Wireless	2,439.17
Water Rescue Team	204.37
County Agent	3,311.88
Veterans Service	1,491.79
Weed Control Levy	47,921.88
Public Health	23,070.01
State Medical Levy	2,508.91
Game & Fish	18,663.00
Overload Fines	650.00
Garrison Cons.	2,508.91
Domestic Violence	210.00
TeleComm Tax Fund	185,292.44
Jail Concession	1,093.20
Sobriety Test Fund	65.00
County Park	55,512.24
SEMCA	2,016.22
Job Dev Authority	8,740.53
ND Income Tax W/H	13,770.73
Sr Citizens Fund	1,922.49
Sheriff Counter Act	29.28
Historical Society	480.56
Co Agt Special	643.21
Soil Conservation	2,203.97
Water Mngt Levy	10,035.38
Joint Water Resource	4,431.36

**EXPENSE TOTAL 1,516,935.46**

**TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES 1,971,670.58**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Harris Bailey  
Auditor/Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIRPERSON  
Dan Thompson  
Board of Richland County Commissioners