

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 20, 2013**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 20, 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.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Fires - Lambrecht reported briefly on recent fires.

- \_\_\_\_\_ - machine shop by Galchutt
- \_\_\_\_\_ - railroad ties on rail line by Fairmount
- \_\_\_\_\_ - bridge 15 miles west of Hankinson
- \_\_\_\_\_ - house fire in Wahpeton

Grants for SEMCA - Two grants have been received for SEMCA, they are 100% funded and there is no match.

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$19,144.80 for mobile radios
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$18,080.00 for portable radios

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.

FEMA Post Disaster Assessment for 2013 - PDA s are complete. We met our threshold but will have to wait to see if the state qualifies.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Heitkamp to approve a Raffle Permit Application for the Galchutt American Legion; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

- letter from City of Barney - plugged culvert and water backing up on the west side of town
- letter from NDRIN - refund in the amount of \$3,565
- letter from City of Fairmount requesting the purchase of six county properties in the City of Fairmount. A motion was made by Berg to approve the Sale of six County properties in Fairmount to the city of Fairmount; motion seconded by Campbell.

Discussion followed - Several of the properties have houses, the city will be removing one and possibly two houses from the properties and the Highway Department will remove a trailer house.

A motion was made by Miller to table the vote on the current motion until this can be discussed further when the Highway Department meets with the Board later in the meeting; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

### **ASSESSORS OFFICE - ABATEMENTS/EXEMPTIONS**

Leslie Rieger - Colfax Twsp - applicant requests the land and structure valued at \$29,800 be exempted from 2012 taxes. The house has not been lived in for appx 3 years; due to wet conditions there is a severe mold problem.

A motion was made by Campbell to approve the application; motion seconded by Miller. Vote was unanimous.

### **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

Berg updated on the meeting with Helendale Township -

- the block has settled and needs to be tweaked
- what is to stop them from removing the block
- is there a natural drain on the north end of the block

Health Insurance - Bailey distributed a spreadsheet of Health Insurance costs and asked the Board to determine if they wanted to remain as a Grand-fathered Plan. This will need to be determined today because the Annual Enrollment Meetings are scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made by Miller to maintain the Grand-fathered Status for Health Insurance; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Tim Schulte and Lowell Bladow.

Legislative Matters -

- HB1358 will bring us an estimated \$2,491,874 in 2014
- \$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; Local Government will have meetings across the state in the near future to establish the criteria

- for projects
- once the project is completed it will have to be signed for 105,500 GVW
- Funds can only be spent on the County Major Collection (CMC) System
- Maintenance projects such as chip seals and micro-surfacing will not be eligible projects

SC-3924(057) Bituminous Overlay on CH#16 - Project was bid last Friday with the following results:

Mark Sand & Gravel	\$1,207,184.28
Central Specialties	\$1,443,019.25
Knife River Corporation	\$1,452,478.25
Engineer s Estimate	\$1,313,909.00

Schulte recommends awarding to Mark Sand & Gravel contingent upon the NDDOT approval of bids and also requests that the Chairman and Auditor be authorized to sign contracts and agreements when received from the State.

A motion was made by Berg to award the bid to Mark Sand & Gravel, contingent upon NDDOT approval, and to authorize the required county signatures on the contracts; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

Award of the 2013 Construction Projects -

- SB 2176 brought in an additional \$1,449,000 through the Highway Distribution Funds and the projected growth of our normal Highway Distribution is projected to bring in an additional \$100,758 over our budgeted amount. With the budgeted maintenance activities and the pavement preservation line item in the 15 mill fund, we have an estimated \$2,503,000 available for the projects we have bid. Total amount of all projects bid is \$2,848,972.

- We were planning on receiving about \$800,000 additional dollars in July with the original language in HB1358. This will not happen now that the funds will be dispersed by the DOT in 2014.

- Schulte has looked at reducing projects to get them within our budgeted amount. He recommends removing the chip seal on CH#16 from CH#1 to Mantador; reducing the micro-surfacing project by removing the portion from I-29 to CH#1 and reducing the patching on CH#19. Total savings would be approximately \$358,000. This would bring us within our budgeted amounts.

- Schulte recommends awarding the following:
  - Central Specialties for the overlay and patching
  - Mayo Construction for the micro-surfacing

Morris Seal Coat for the chip seals

A motion was made by Heitkamp to award overlay and patching to Central Specialties, micro-surfacing to Mayo Construction and chip seal to Morris Seal coat, with the exception of the CR16 project; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

State s Attorney McBeth left the meeting at this time to attend Court.

FEMA 2013 - A FEMA preliminary damage team was in two weeks ago. It appears we will have enough damage county-wide to be eligible if the rest of the Counties bring the total over a million dollars.

Trailer House in Fairmount - The Board informed Schulte they did have some concerns with the Highway Department removing the trailer house from County property in Fairmount. They asked if the trailer had axles or tires and what costs would be involved. Schulte replied he was hoping that Gutzmers s would take it for us. (Discussion continued again later in the meeting)

Used Motor Grader Bid Opening - The buy-out for the 140M is \$114,240 and the buy-out for the 140H is \$4,200. Depending on the bids received, Schulte requested authorization to sell the 140H and pay-off the outstanding balance of \$4,200. With the remaining proceeds of the sale, Schulte requested authorization to purchase the Cat140M at the buyout price of \$114,240. Bids were opened at this time - only one bid was received for \$96,000 from Abraham Balrta of Hercules, California.

A motion was made by Miller to reject the bid; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous.

Re-advertising was discussed. Some on-line options for advertising will be looked into as well as advertising in a Construction Equipment magazine.

Trailer House in Fairmount/continued - Schulte will contact Gutzmers s and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Miller to remove from the Table the motion by Berg and seconded by Campbell to approve the sale of six County properties to the city of Fairmount; motion seconded by Heitkamp. Vote was unanimous and the motion was removed from the Table.

A motion was made by Berg to amend the motion by adding at no Cost to the

County ; motion seconded by Miller. Voting NO was Heitkamp. The remainder voted Yes and the motion carried as amended.

CH#22 Reconstruction Project to Lamar s Elevator - A petition was received from area farmers that use the elevator. They are concerned that the quality and capacity of roads (Co Rd 22) has deteriorated to the point where the grain facility can no longer operate effectively. Their cooperative is considering the future of the facility at its current location and is conducting a study to determine whether or not it should build a new facility at this site. Unfortunately without good road access, the cooperative is also considering closing the facility.

Schulte reported the estimated project cost is \$2,200,000; this is up from our original estimate of \$1,800,000 because of the need to build it to 105,500 GVW. This is a significant commitment with over \$220,000 being funded locally.

Discussion followed -

- Heitkamp asked if the costs could be Special Assessed
- possible elevator participation in cost of project
- will they apply for a tax exemption

Campbell will follow-up with the elevator and Schulte will try to schedule them on his Agenda for the next Commission meeting for further discussion.

Other Departmental Matters -

- Bridge 124-38 over Drain 65 was destroyed by Fire last week. We will need to have a discussion with the Water Board because they will be a 60% partner in the cost to replace this structure. This may be a location for the box culvert sitting in Great Bend.
- Taking applications for the equipment operator position in Hankinson until May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming Highway Meetings

May 30      Advisory Meeting  
June 3      Board Meeting

## **WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

Hearing on Helendale Situation - A new order will be coming out. Mike will talk with Schulte.

-Berg asked if there was a permit for North on 2? Schulte said he would have to look back in the records.

- Berg asked if the block will come out and if there was a natural drain on the north side of the block. Burvee replied the Block wouldn't serve a purpose if a new route is established.

Drain 65 Bridge - Responsibility of how it started on fire?

WRB Minutes - Monica asked the Commission if they would like to continue receiving copies of the WRB Minutes now that they are posted on the County Web Site. Miller requested his via e-mail. Thompson and Berg requested paper copies.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

State's Attorney McBeth re-joined the meeting at this time.

Thompson informed McBeth of the discussion held earlier in the meeting on the Motor Grader Bid and the action the Board would like to take with re-advertising. McBeth agreed the Board could handle by rejecting the bid received and re-advertising.

Legislative Wrap-up Session - Campbell and Bailey attended. Several of the topics covered at the session were PT employees and insurances.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

June

- 3 Board Meeting
- 3 Equalization Meetings
- 17 Board Meeting
- 17 Dept Head Brainstorming Session with Re-dedication Committee

July

- 1 Board Meeting
- 11 5-County Meeting
- 15 Board Meeting

Being there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

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