

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 19, 2016**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on July 19, 2016 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Bailey and DeVal; States Attorney McBeth and a Daily News Reporter.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Haz Mat Training on Common Spills/Farm Accidents - Training is scheduled in Christine for July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center.

FY2016-2019 Training & Exercise Plan - Received notice from ND Dept of Emergency Services that they have approved the Plan. A motion was made by Ehlert to approve the 2016-2019 Training & Exercise Plan; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

FEMA Projects - Still waiting on Closeout Requests.

FEMA Flood Plain Management Team - The Richland/Wilkin Emergency Preparedness Group will be meeting today with the Flood Plain Management Team from Region VIII Denver Office.

**ROGER JENSEN - HISTORIC PAINTING IN COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

Jensen approached the Commission about having restoration work done to the historic painting hanging in the Commission Chambers; he has seen similar paintings that have quite a significant value. He has contacted someone that does restoration work who roughly estimated no more than \$900 to restore the painting. The Board will consider the request at Budget Time.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

Ehlert reported that meetings were held with Extension Staff Personnel to try to determine a direction for the office. The intent after those meetings was to meet with Ron Wiederholt from NDSU again. Last Friday, County Agent Brock Shouldis resigned effective immediately. A meeting was held with Wiederholt Monday (yesterday) and it was decided by those at the meeting (County Personnel Campbell, Ehlert, Bailey and Mechelle Olsen, HR) that the vacancies should be advertised by NDSU and then we can determine which position to hire first or second.

A motion was made by Ehler to have NDSU advertise vacancies for both the FCS Position (Family Consumer Sciences/4-H) and the ANR Position (Ag & Natural Resources); motion seconded by Berg.

Berseth voiced several concerns -

- has the communication issue with NDSU been resolved
- he has received feedback asking if we need all those people in Extension, it is hard to believe the farmers need an Agent - they are well informed.

Campbell replied that the Ag Agent answers Horticulture questions, administers Pesticide Training and does Farm Bill Education as well.

Campbell recommended that Thompson be on the panel for hiring, along with the Chairman of the Board, Olsen from HR and several community people.

Thompson voiced concerns about Wiederholt's involvement in the hiring process.

Campbell recommended that Thompson and Wiederholdt sit down and discuss.

Voting NO on the motion was Berseth, the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Lowell Bladow, Ron Hohenstern and Moriah Herding; Interstate Engineering Personnel Damon DeVillers and Jesse Sedler.

Pre-Construction Meeting Co Rd #1 and Maintenance Overlays - Meeting with Interstate Engineering today at 11:00 for a pre-construction meeting.

HB 1176 Projects - Project costs are on target. Waiting on Mark Sand & Gravel to produce chips for seal coat CH#3, CH#21, & CH#19.

Other Department Matters -

- Will be replacing culvert through CH# 21 before they overlay
- working on budget items for next year

Brief discussion was held on Permitting issues, hydraulic studies and fees. Berseth suggested a committee of two Commissioners and Highway Personnel research and come back to the full board with a recommendation.

CR #8 Bid Opening - The following bids were received:

Astech Asphalt Surface Technologies, St Cloud	\$241,737.50
Morris Sealcoat & Trucking, Morris	\$271,473.07

A motion was made by Ehlert to accept all bids received for tabulation; motion seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous. (Bid awarded later in meeting).

### **WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

Expenses for Diversion Opposition - The Water Board requested assurance that expenses they incur will be covered for their opposition to the diversion - they have hired Attorney Dave Bliss to challenge the State Engineering Permit as well as the quick take issue and there will also be some Engineering expenses. A bill in the amount of \$6761.15 was submitted to the Richland County Administration Office for costs incurred to date for these expenses.

Berseth reported this was discussed at the JPA meeting last week; it was the recommendation of the JPA that these expenses be paid through Richland County and Wilkin County will reimburse for their portion.

A motion was made by Berseth to authorize payment to the Water Resource Board in the amount of \$6761.15; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

Zentgraf asked what the billing preference was in the future for these expenses. Berseth recommended the Water Board continue to pay the bills directly and the County will reimburse the Water Board.

### **SHERIFF LESHOVSKY - AWARD PRESENTATION**

Leshovsky presented the following individuals the Life Saver Award from the ND Peace Officers Assn for their response and assistance with evacuations of residents from an apartment building fire on March 6.

Wahpeton Police Officer - Sherri Vettel  
NDSCS Campus Police Officer - Jordan Buffet  
Richland County Sheriff's Deputy - Steve Gjerdevig  
Citizen - Alex Gjerdevig

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT continued**

CR #8 Bid - Bids were opened earlier in the meeting for bituminous seal coat on CR 8 from I-29 to Brushvale. Bladow reported the bids have been tabulated and Astech Asphalt Surface Technologies, St Cloud was the low bidder.

A motion was made by Berseth to award the bid to Astech Asphalt Surface Technologies, St Cloud; motion seconded by Thompson. Vote was unanimous.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

July

- 20 JDA Meeting
- 20 SE Human Services Advisory Board
- 20 JPA Meeting

August


- 2 Commission Meeting
- 16 Commission Meeting

September

- 7 Commission Meeting (\*Wednesday)
- 20 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

ATTEST:   
Harris Bailey  
Auditor/Administrator

  
Tim Campbell  
CHAIRPERSON  
Board of Richland County Commissioners