

**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 20, 2015**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on October 6, 2015 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. Visitor DelWayne Hoefts attended a portion of the meeting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Fires - Along Interstate 29 by the Mooreton Scale - Nine Fire Departments, the ND Highway Patrol and Richland County Sheriff Department responded.

Field Fire near Fairmount on October 28 - Fairmount, Hankinson and Great Bend Fire Departments responded; an older garage was destroyed.

Lambrecht will be meeting with the Sheriff to discuss City Ordinances and County involvement; and also recreational fires/burning leaves/burning garbage, etc.

The forecast is for rain this week, so will hold off on a County Burn Ban.

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan - Updating the plan for FEMA approval; this needs to be done by the end of October.

FEMA Projects - Submitted closeout requests on County projects; finishing up on Elma, Grant, Duerr, Homestead, Moran and Liberty Grove Townships.

Options for Flood Water Storage - Lambrecht is working with Senator Luick on impacts to Richland County from the proposed Fargo Diversion Project. The Public Comment Period ends October 28th.

ASSESSORS OFFICE

Jay Schuler and Lucy Spiekermeier from Giant Snacks were in attendance.

Giant Snacks Inc, Application for Property Tax Incentive - Giant Snacks has applied for a payment in lieu of taxes, they have asked for a 20 year payment plan.

Fossum explained that generally a 20 year payment is granted for initial construction or startup of a very large project; she and Bailey have prepared an

alternate payment option - a five year plan that would basically result in a 50% tax break over the five years. (Copy attached).

Schuler and Spiekermeier explained why the business is expanding.

Following discussion a motion was made by Thompson to approve a Payment in Lieu of Taxes with the five year payment plan as proposed by Fossum; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Lowell Bladow, Ron Hohenstern and Moriah Herding.

Bridge 133-46 - Swingen Construction has set the bridge and is working on abutments and wings; we will start hauling in backfill material, rip rap has been placed.

CH#1 & #3 Paving Projects - Mark Sand & Gravel has the leveling course complete and started on final lift. They plan to complete CH#1 and may move to Sargent County before CH#3.

Wahpeton Shop Building - The interior walls are framed and ready for rough-in; the plumber and electricians are working on rough-in.

MG-2 Motor Grader Replacement - Bladow requested authorization to advertise for bids for leasing a new motor grader. A motion was made by Campbell to authorize Bladow to advertise for bids; motion seconded by Thompson. Vote was unanimous.

Other Department Matters -

- Meeting with Local Government October 26 at 4:40

- Bailey reported he received an e-mail from NDDOT Local Government Division. They are required by Federal Highway Administration to perform Project Management Reviews on County Federal Aid Projects. They will be in Richland County on November 12th to review projects.

- Berg reported he spoke with Larry Moe last night, he was scheduled to meet with the Commission today but will not be in. He has gotten the petition to move the road in Eagle Township but needs to present it to the Township.

- Bailey received Cost Participation Agreements from the City of Wahpeton for 16th Avenue (\$338,583.71) and the 11th Street (\$25,249.78) Seal Coat Projects. Funds were included in the Budget, but the Agreements should be approved by the Commission. A motion was made by Thompson to enter into the Cost Participation Agreements with the City of Wahpeton for the 16th Avenue and 11th Street Seal Coat Projects; motion seconded by Ehlert. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Thompson to grant the Day after Thanksgiving as a Holiday to County Employees; motion seconded by Campbell. Voting NO was Berseith; the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

Bailey distributed a list of Resolutions he will be voting on at the Association of Counties Annual Meeting as the County Delegate.

Bailey reported when Townships Pass an Excess Levy, he provides them a worksheet of information; one Township has changed the schedule so Bailey will be discussing this with the State while in Bismarck for Annual Conferences.

Berg reported approximately 50 visitors from Norway came to our part of the County. Berg purchased them a remembrance from Richland County (a tree ornament), the total was \$219 - he asked if the County would reimburse this expense. Campbell recommended Berg turn in a Voucher for the cost of the ornaments.

Being there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 A.M.

ATTEST: Harris Bailey
Harris Bailey
Auditor/Administrator

Sid Berg CHAIRPERSON
Sid Berg
Board of Richland County Commissioners

