

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 17, 2015

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on March 17, 2015 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, and Dan Thompson. Also present were Administration Personnel Bailey and DelVal; and Assistant States Attorney Kummer. Visitor DelWayne Hoefts attended a portion of the meeting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Court House Security Grant for cameras/security door etc. - We received \$42,438 so we can move forward; we also received \$7,000 for a school shooting full scale exercise.

SkyWarn Training - Classes are being set up for April 6 in Colfax and April 21 in Wahpeton.

FEMA Projects - Projects are still in the works for Moran, Elma, Homestead, Liberty Grove and Duerr Townships.

Grass Fires - There have been several grass fires recently - Lambrecht is not looking at a burning ban at this time.

Upcoming Meetings

March 18 Red Cross Meeting in Fargo
March 19 Salvation Army Meeting

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Breuer reported she has been advertising for a Dispatcher, there will also be another opening this summer so she would like to hire two dispatchers now and get the training done. Campbell reported that he and Berg have the Portfolio and have given Breuer authorization to proceed with hiring two dispatchers.

ND SIRN 20/20 - Is a Statewide integrated radio network vision for North Dakota. The legislative assembly formed a statewide committee to prepare recommendations on how to move our state forward with an emergency response radio system. Breuer has the study available if anyone is interested in reading it.

ASSESSORS OFFICE - BUSINESS EXEMPTION

Wheaton-Dumont Coop Elevator - LaMars Twsp - Application for a 5 year 100% property tax exemption for expansion of an existing business. A motion was made by Berseht to approve the application for a 5 year, 100% property tax exemption; motion seconded by Campbell. Vote was unanimous.

Thompson asked about parcels that we are not aware of that are tiled and are receiving a modifier for being wet - we were going to be removing a 10% modifier each year for farmland that is tiled. Fossum replied she received an extensive list from the Water Board and has asked the Townships to help us identify projects.

Also discussed were soil salinity and the possibility of creating a listing of parcels with modifiers, and having them certify to us that the parcels are not tiled.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Lowell Bladow and Damon DeVillers from Interstate Engineering.

Assessor Fossum reported she received a call last week from Gordy Luick regarding some ROW for CR22 in LaMars Twsp and the elevator wanting a 55 ft encroachment; Luick also spoke with State's Attorney McBeth last week.

Bladow replied that setbacks are up to the local jurisdiction not the County, if they are outside of our right-of-way.

Discussion followed and included -

- Can we issue a waiver for County ROW so Townships can measure from somewhere else
- We can suggest or recommend but the County has nothing in writing
- Should the State's Attorney prepare a resolution for setbacks

At the conclusion of discussion it was the consensus of the Board that the State's Attorney Office should send a reply letter to Mr Luick informing him, they would need a variance from the Township because it was outside of the County right-of-way.

Correspondence from Helendale Township re- Co Rd 23 & CR 2 - The Township inquired about future repair and maintenance and if the County plans to turn the blacktop road portions of CR 23 and CR 2 back to gravel. Bladow reported there are no plans to turn these roads back to gravel this year.

State Funding SB 2103 - Richland County received \$2,539,179.77

a) CH #1 from CH#15 to CH#16 (5 miles)	\$1,280,650
b) CH #3 from Mantador to SH#13 (6.5 miles)	<u>\$1,512,132</u>
	\$2,792,782

Bladow reported CH #1 North of Hankinson is our number one project, but if gravel truck routes do not qualify, then CH#3.

DeVillers commented that the DOT suggested from Hankinson to 21E to SH#11 (3-1/2 miles) to provide connectivity. Also suggested - was the County adding routes to CMC Routes.

A meeting is scheduled for March 25 in Cass County to approve projects and discuss funding.

Bladow reported he has drafted a letter to the DOT to add to the CMC Routes and requested authorization to send the letter.

The Board Tabled discussion and moved onto a Scheduled Bid Opening.

Culvert Bids - Only one bid was received from Tru North Steel.

A motion was made by Thompson to accept the bid from Tru North Steel for culverts; motion seconded by Ehlert. Vote was unanimous.

State Funding SB 2103 - continued

Bladow requested authorization to proceed with early bidding even though the funding won't be approved until after the meeting on March 25.

A motion was made by Thompson to proceed with bidding CH #1 and CH #21E; motion seconded by Berseth.

Bailey asked what would happen to funds that are not used - DeVillers said he was unsure but will follow-up. DeVillers made the suggestion that the County consider bidding all three projects rather than two and then pick the projects to do after the funding details are worked out.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to Amend the Previous Motion - and to advertise all three projects. Vote was unanimous to amend the motion.

Vote was taken on the Motion As Amended - Vote was unanimous.
The bid opening will be April 21 at 9:00 AM.

Wahpeton Shop - Bladow reported the following:

Proposal for Braun to do soil testing - \$4,761

Proposal for Interstate Engineering for Engineering - \$39,500

A motion was made by Ehlert to accept the proposal from Braun for Soil Testing; motion seconded by Thompson. Vote was unanimous.

Lengthy discussion followed about the costs for Engineering - including whether or not it could be done in house or if State Statue would require it to be bid.

Bladow also reported on the boiler recommendations from Ottertail Power -
40 & 44KW FTOD w/12" fill and Natural Gas Backup
ceiling fans, T-8 lighting w/LED option
Estimated annual heating is \$3,000

CR 15, 3-1/2 miles north of Great Bend - Last fall the Water Board had Interstate Engineering prepare two proposals; the Water Board recommended proposal 2 and a motion was passed to exercise Proposal 2.

Proposal 1 - Replace two large culverts under CR 15

Proposal 2 - Clean ½ mile N to intersection and lower culvert 1 ft.

Bladow reported there is currently an issue with water hold-up and some upstream concerns. If we proceed with Proposal 1 instead of Proposal 2, it would satisfy the group that was at a meeting. The Water Board has now Voted Proposal 1 instead of Proposal 2. Bladow asked the Board if they would want to reconsider the motion they made last fall as Option 1 now appears a better choice.

A motion was made by Berseth to accept the Drain Board recommendation and Change to Proposal 1; motion seconded by Thompson. Voting NO were Campbell and Berg; the remainder Voted Yes and the Motion carried.

CH#15 Extend Culvert and move pole and guide wire - 2½ miles north a Township ditch was cleaned and the county culvert lowered. There is now a steep 8 ft drop-off. The estimated cost to move the pole is \$3200 and we can extend the culvert under CH#15 and fix the slope.

Berg asked who approved the permit or signed off on the project.

The Board requested further information before taking any action.

Request to add routes to CMC System - Bladow will send a letter to Bismarck about adding routes to the CMC System if the Board has no objections.

Spring Road Restrictions - Restrictions went into effect on March 11.

John Deere Motor Grader - The new motor grader was delivered March 16 to the Hankinson Shop; will discuss at the Advisory Meeting how we want to sale the 2009 140M.

Road Tour - Thompson suggested the Commissioners get together next week to take a tour of County roads - he asked Bladow to check on transportation.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Berg reported a Park Board Meeting was held last evening. The Park Board has been short a member since Linda Stone resigned. DelWayne Hoefs has expressed interest in serving on the Park Board. A motion was made by Ehlert to appoint DelWayne Hoefs to the Park Board to fill the unexpired term of Linda Stone; motion seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous.

Bailey distributed a spreadsheet of Senate Bill 2103 Township Distributions. The funds have been received and distributed.

Bailey distributed copies of the 2014 Audit Report - The only concern was bidding for a bridge project. A motion was made by Campbell to approve the Audit Report as presented; motion seconded by Thompson. Vote was unanimous.

Tabled from the March 3 Commission Meeting was a request from the City of Wahpeton to purchase four parcels of property from the County - The Board had requested time to review tax information on the properties prior to taking Board action. Bailey distributed the information for each property. No motions were offered by the Board and no action was taken.

Berg reported on the JPA - \$2500 was received from the Upstream Coalition - they will be having another (mail-out) fundraiser on the 28th.

Berseth reported that he, Deputy Ruhl and the State's Attorney had a meeting with Tribal Officials regarding the Dakota Magic Contract another meeting will be scheduled prior to September.

Berg reported on the Park Board - They are working on getting a clear document that we own the property; they are also working on a signage issue regarding the 10 PM Rule - the Game Warden, County Deputies and Game & Fish don't all agree.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

- 17 JPA Meeting
- 18 JDA Meeting in Abercrombie

April

- 7 Commission Meeting
- 21 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further Business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

ATTEST: Harris Bailey
Harris Bailey
Auditor/Administrator

Sid Berg CHAIRPERSON
Sid Berg
Board of Richland County Commissioners