

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 6, 2021**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on October 6, 2021 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Perry Miller, Commissioner Sid Berg joined the meeting in progress; Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer, and Daily News Reporter Tris Anderson. Others attending portions of the meeting included Mechelle Olsen, County Human Resources.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Agenda as amended. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to approve the minutes of meetings September 7 and September 21. Vote was unanimous.

**MINIMUM SALE PRICE HEARING & TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve the Minimum Sale prices as presented. (Copy attached to minutes). Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Berseth to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Berg entered the meeting at this time. 8:10 A.M.

**RONDA GRIPENTROG - NATIONAL 4-H WEEK/INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXTENSION AGENT WULFEKUHLE**

Gripentrog reported on National 4H Week activities and events which included:  
- Awards Program, Displays, Scavenger Hunt, Posters, Calendars, Bags of Popcorn and Social Media Posts.

Gripentrog introduced new Extension Agent Lacy Wulfekuhle, her first day was on October 1.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to appoint Commissioner Berg and Lacy Wulfekuhle as delegates to the North Dakota State Fair. Voting NO was Berg, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

## **JOHN ANDERSON - AUTHORIZATION TO FILL VACANCY**

Anderson requested authorization to hire a custodian/maintenance worker to fill an upcoming vacancy. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to authorize advertising/hiring a custodian/maintenance worker. Vote was unanimous.

## **WATER RESOURCE REPORT**

WRB Member Burvee gave a report on Water Resource Activities.

- will meet with the Commission on a more regular basis
- Federal Government Funds have been allocated for water projects
- next year reconstructing a portion of Drain 31 in DeVillo Twsp
- drain maintenance and culvert projects as needed
- bridge replacement on Drain 3
- interviewing applicants for the Secretary/Treasurer position

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Sedler met with the DOT at Annual Conferences earlier this week - waiting on the Highway Trust Bill, possibility of additional funds for federal aid allotments and getting more projects through faster

- Wrapping up on County Projects
- Beet Harvest will begin soon/policy is in place for mud on the roadways

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to advertise for an Equipment Operator position when a vacancy notice is received. Vote was unanimous.

## **ATTORNEY TAMI NORGDARD - HELENDALE PRIVATE DRAIN**

Norgard reported she has worked with State's Attorney Kummer to put together an Agreement which includes the additional concerns addressed at the September 21 Commission Meeting.

Kummer reported the Agreement has incorporated all of the items the Board wanted included; she has asked Attorney Shawn Fredrickson to review the Agreement and he is comfortable with it.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Richland County Permit to Work Within County Road Right of Way as presented. Voting NO was Berg, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

Berg expressed concerns with the project as well as how it could potentially hinder the sell of property in the future.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

- correspondence from Court Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee

Fossum reported the following:

- the State Equalization Board met and recommended No Change to the appeal from Mr Hendrickson.
- going through the formality process of redistricting
- election precincts need to be set by December 31, the Voting Center at NDSCS worked well last election

## **JILL BREUER - SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL**

Dispatch is down to one vacancy; two employees are in training. Breuer presented information on shift differential. Discussion followed and included:

- how shift differential would affect other Departments
- moving dispatch to the same floor as the jail and dual roles
- forming a task committee to do some research

No action was taken by the Board.

The Board discussed overtime of Exempt Employees - the Emergency Declaration was lifted at the September 21 meeting. Fossum will remind Department Heads that No Overtime is allowed unless a motion comes from the Board.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A) Social Services - Fossum reported that Cass County is currently without a Zonal Director so Flieth has been taking time to assist; Fossum questioned how Richland County is getting reimbursed from Cass.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - The construction of the Monument project is delayed until next spring.
- C) Public Health - Interviews were held for the Director of Nursing Position.
- D) JDA - Several projects were approved at the last meeting.  
JPA - Applications were approved, houses are under construction

E) Weed Board - L & M is spraying the South half of the County. Townships will be reminded at the Fall Township Officers Meeting to turn in maps.

F) Soils Committee - No report.

G) Park Board - Two Board members have sent in letters requesting appointment to new terms on the Board.

H) Administration - No Report

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

- Engineer Sedler reported the DOT rejected the curb and gutter on the CR 16 overpass so it will need to be redone.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Berg to approve the payment of Bills. Vote was unanimous.

State's Attorney Kummer reported that she contacted Legislator's in regard to SE Human Services pulling out of the Drug Court; several days later it was back in place and the Drug Court is still funded through the Supreme Court.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

October

6 Department Head Meeting

14 Summit Carbon Meeting

November

23 Township Officers Meeting

Reports Filed: Tax & Property Department Revenue Voucher August 1-31, 2021.  
Sheriff Department - Revenue and Expenses for August 2021.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum Tim Campbell CHAIRPERSON  
Sandy Fossum Tim Campbell  
Auditor/Administrator Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for September, 2021.

PAYROLL (inclusive)	
General	241,113.75
County Highway	89,673.02
911 Communications	48,893.54
County Agent	6,292.46
Veterans Service	7,858.94
Weed Officer	904.00
Public Health Fund	85,757.06
Income Maintenance	44,227.46
Foster Care	16,679.70
Child Protective Svc	33,289.68
Parent Aid	3,100.70
Family Soc Worker	9,280.72
Social Services	10,668.00
In-Home Care	15,322.92
Admin Support	11,176.94
HSZ Board	400.00
<b>PAYROLL TOTAL</b>	<b>624,638.89</b>

EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to  
resolution records

County General	189,203.45
County Highway	159,315.36
Bridge Repl Fund	127,434.99
Road & Bridge	44,699.00
Emergency Assistance	86.40
911 Communications	33,656.35
Cap Improvement Fd	17,418.54
Water Rescue	250.00
K9 Dog Donations	930.00
County Agent	1,707.76
Veterans Service	4,789.94
Weed Control Levy	26,414.88
Public Health	63,061.35
Income Maintenance	15,833.82
Foster Care	3,522.57
Child Protective Svc	10,769.06
Parent Aid	1,830.14
Family Soc Worker	4,354.68
Social Services	3,341.04
In-Home Care	13,878.58
Admin Support	5,223.10
HSZ Board	115.11
Safety Permanency Fd	1,731.56
Unallow Fed Costs	4,438.22

General Assistance	2,500.00
State Medical Levy	201.29
Garrison Div	201.29
Domestic Violence	350.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	666,453.88
State Aid Distribution	15,313.07
Jail Concession	26,047.57
Sobriety Test Fund	5,710.00
SEMCA	860.65
Diversion Settlement	5,000.00
ND Income Tax W/H	15,550.87
Sr Citizen Fund	704.28
Historical Society	173.87
Co Agent Special	275.00
Soil Cons District	192.56
Water Mngt Levy	2,401.92
Joint Water Resource	301.94
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>1,476,244.09</b>

**TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES** **2,100,882.98**

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

Tim Campbell CHAIRPERSON  
Tim Campbell  
Board of Richland County Commissioners