

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 19, 2021**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on October 19, 2021 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Perry Miller; Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer, and Daily News Reporter Tris Anderson.

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

**RED RIVER COMMUNICATIONS - RURAL BROADBAND**

Tom Steinolfson displayed a Map and reported on Red River Communications rural Wahpeton and Dwight exchanges. Steinolfson informed the Commission that there are approximately 73,000 locations in the state unable to get "good broadband" and approximately 450 of those locations are in Richland County. To provide good broadband to the under served in Richland County would be an approximate \$5 million construction project; funding and the American Rescue Plan Act are being discussed at the State. When more information becomes available Steinolfson may come back to update the Board or to request a letter of support.

In other business, Steinolfson voiced concerns regarding the FM Diversion project. He stated that all of Red River Communications goes through the building in Abercrombie which is the connectivity to all of Richland County and Wilkin County and if the FM Diversion Project doesn't work properly that is a huge concern and something the County needs to be aware of.

Ehlert suggested Steinolfson contact the JPA regarding the Settlement Funds received for the Diversion Project to see if there would be any assistance available; Berg asked if a ring dike around the City would help.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

- Notice from ND Water Commission of Annual Convention December 7-10
- Notice from NDACo of County Tour October 27
- Notice from WBI Energy Transmission of Open House November 16 & 17

Fossum reported she received a Progress Report from Eide Bailly on the Efficiency Study - interviews have been ongoing, there are five left to complete.

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Bridge Ratings/Load Limits - Sedler has sent several e-mails to the state asking why some bridge rating/load limits in the County have been lowered; he is waiting for a response from the state.

There is also a location the State said we need to close or come up with a permanent solution. Sedler is exploring options and will meet with State's Attorney Kummer.

Misc - Sedler updated the Board on the following:

- trucks and blades
- ad for new equipment operator
- lift station & utilities for new shop
- mowing

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Campbell reported on a meeting with Ransom County for housing inmates, they are willing to lease three beds - details are being worked out.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:10 A.M.


## UPCOMING MEETINGS

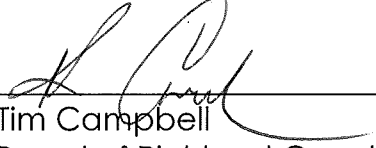
### October

- 27 NDACo Tour 9:00 AM
- 28 Redistricting Meeting 7:30 PM

### November

- 2 Commission Meeting
- 4 Redistricting Meeting
- 16 Commission Meeting
- 16 County Tax Sale
- 23 Township Officers Meeting
- 29 Redistricting Meeting

ATTEST:   
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

  
Tim Campbell  
CHAIRPERSON  
Board of Richland County Commissioners