

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
VIDEO CONFERENCE  
AUGUST 18, 2020**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on August 18, 2020 by Video Conference with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson all joining the meeting by Videoconference or Teleconference. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel DelVal and Oland; State's Attorney Kummer (via video conference) and Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko (via videoconference).

Other County Personnel joining the meeting via videoconference or teleconference included: Jill Breuer, Michelle Eberhardt, Pat Giese, Kristen Hasbargen, Brett Lambrecht, Jesse Sedler, and Mary Vetter.

Visitor Bonnie Kretchman, Clerk of District Court joined the meeting by speakerphone.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M.

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

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the participating jurisdictions in the update of the Richland County multi hazard mitigation plan. Vote was unanimous.

**SMART RESTART COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Committee Member Jill Breuer reported the proposed Richland County Pandemic Guidance Plan which was e-mailed to the Commissioners for review.

Lengthy discussion of the proposed plan followed.

Visitor Bonnie Kretchman, District Clerk of Court joined the meeting at this time and voiced concerns with the Courthouse Lockdown and the difficulties of her office to function with only two staff people. She asked if the Board would consider having a "soft-opening" for Monday's when her office is extremely busy.

Several ideas were discussed, including:

- having a volunteer or someone to be at the door on Monday's for Court
- because this is a state office and not County, the state should be responsible for staffing needs
- having law enforcement staff or Public Health assist with Screenings
- transferring the Clerks phone to a headset so staff can be at the door when necessary
- having the court security officer screen temperatures at the Court Room Door

Several members of the smart restart committee expressed concerns with allowing guests/customers into the buildings without following guidelines and the screening process. Currently each department does the screening of their own guests/customers before they are allowed into the buildings with the idea of a safe environment for employees and the public.

Following discussion it was the consensus of the Board that Kretchman work with the Administration Office on a Screening Process.

Vetter suggested the "Lock-Down verbage" be changed on current signage and the County website. Services are being delivered, we are not closed or turning anyone away. Breuer said she and Lambrecht will work on updating the signage for the doors and website and will also work on an article for the Daily News.

Following discussion a motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Thompson to approve the Richland County Pandemic Guidance Plan as presented. Voting NO were Campbell and Berseth. The remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

#### **KRISTEN HASBARGEN - TELE-COMMUTE POLICY AND PLAN**

Hasbargen reported a copy of the proposed Tele-commute plan was e-mailed to the Commissioners along with a Tele-commute agreement that employees would be required to sign. Hasbargen briefly went through the proposed plan and reported the RSR Zonal Board has approved it. Highlights included:

- city of home base
- inclement weather
- risk management
- travel time and reimbursement
- dependent care
- responsibilities

A motion was made by Campbell to approve the Tele-Commute Policy and Plan as presented. Motion Failed due to lack of a second.

In other business with the Board, Hasbargen announced she is resigning her position at the County, she has accepted the position of Director of Zone Operations for the ND Dept of Human Services which will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Sedler reported the following:

- crews are busy hauling gravel
- should be done with paving on Co Rd 10 this week
- beets started on Monday

A portfolio meeting will be scheduled for August 26 at 7:30 AM in Hankinson.

## NDSU DISTRICT DIRECTOR LUBENOW - ANR EXTENSION AGENT POSITION

Lubenow requested the Board consider partnering with NDSU to hire a person to fill the ANR Extension Agent position following Chandra Langseth's resignation.

Thompson replied that he carries the Extension Office portfolio and asked that Lubenow coordinate with him to lay out the process and time frame for filling the vacancy.

## MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve an Emergency Mitigation Plan as requested by Lambrecht. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Thompson to approve the sale of County property in Hankinson (parcel 48-0805-04084.000) to the City of Hankinson for \$1.00. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Berseth to approve Temporary Liquor Licenses for the Black Pelican for events at the Bagg Farm September 12-13 and September 19 and at the Red Barn September 19. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve (4) vote Centers for the November 3 General Election - at the Wyndmere Fire Hall, the Hankinson Community Center, NDSCS Blikre Activity Center and in Colfax (location to be determined). Voting NO was Campbell, the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Ehlert to hold the General Election November 3, 2020 as a Vote By Mail election, with the addition of the (4) vote centers. Vote was unanimous.

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:41 A.M.

ATTEST:



Leslie Hage  
Auditor/Administrator



Sid Berg  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

CHAIRPERSON