

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JANUARY 17, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on January 17, 2023 at the Richland County Law Enforcement Center with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer; a Daily News Reporter and visitor Steve Dale.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve the Agenda. Vote was unanimous.

**JILL BREUER - AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

On October 13 Richland County 911 received a call of a woman in labor - the call came in at 1:03 a.m. at 1:13 a.m. a baby girl was born. Dispatcher Cassie Wasiloski was recognized with her very first "baby girl early bird award." Her partner, Dispatcher Sarah Hoops was also recognized for assisting and getting the ambulance dispatched to the scene.

On December 15 during a weather incident, Richland County 911 received a call of an 82-year-old female choking. Dispatcher Sarah Hoops was able to walk the patient's son through the Heimlich maneuver. Her partner, Dispatcher Sara Knutson was also recognized for assisting in getting responders going.

On December 31 Richland County 911 received a call of a woman in labor - the call came in at 2:41 a.m., at 2:47 a.m. a baby boy was born. Dispatcher Cassie Wasiloski was there to assist in the delivery of the baby boy and will be receiving a second stork pin. Her partner, Dispatcher Cassie Grenz was also recognized for assisting and getting responders to the scene.

**BRETT LAMBRECHT - EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

Lambrecht reported there is a state-funded snow removal bill that is currently being proposed through legislative session, he will update as soon as more information is available.

Lambrecht presented a County Emergency Declaration and requested Board approval so the County is prepared if it is needed for FEMA assistance. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to approve the Emergency Declaration as presented. Vote was unanimous.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve a 6-month (May 1- October 31) Beer and Liquor License for Lady on the Lake Bed & Breakfast, Hankinson. Vote was unanimous.

- Notice from the ND Public Service Commission re- SCS Carbon Transport LLC
- Fossum informed the Board a hearing on the County's request for an extension on the Grant for the HVAC Project is scheduled for January 20.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Sedler reported the Highway Crews are doing the best they can with the winter road conditions - the Highway Dept has 12 rigs for the entire County so the crews are putting in lots of overtime hours.

Progress continues on the new shop, there have been several random change orders but everything is on schedule.

## **YEAR-END BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS & TRANSFERS**

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Berseth to approve Year-end Budget Adjustments as presented. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve Year-end Budget Transfers as presented. Vote was unanimous.

## **AMBULANCE SERVICE INC**

A large group was in attendance including: Communications/911 Manager Jill Breuer; Ambulance Service Inc representatives Amy Jorgenson and Mike Goroski, and CFO Carl Langr; Sheriff Ruhl; Emergency Manager Lambrecht; Breckenridge Police Chief Kris Karlgaard; Wilkin County Commissioner Eric Klindt; Chad Schultz- Wyndmere/Barney Ambulance; and Evie Fox- Breckenridge resident.

Breuer reported an increased volume of complaints and concerns about Ambulance Service Inc as a result of delays in service, unstaffed rigs and both active rigs being in Fargo simultaneously.

Breuer stated Carl Langr, CFO of Vertin Inc, the company that owns Ambulance Service Inc. requested a meeting to address complaints and concerns.

Langr and other representatives from ASI spoke to address the reasons behind the delays; stating much of what caused the delays is out of their control, the call volume has increased and they cannot control the timing of calls. They are also dealing with staff shortages which they are trying to address. ASI has three rigs but only enough staff for two and at times they may both be transporting patients or responding to calls. They do have an agreement in place with the Wyndmere-Barney Ambulance to have support when additional coverage is needed. They have also had discussions with the hospital regarding non-emergency transfers to Fargo.

Following discussion, Chairman Ehlert thanked everyone for coming to the meeting to discuss concerns and Breuer was asked to return to a future meeting with updates on response times and communications.

### **ABERCROMBIE TOWNSHIP - SOLAR PROJECT**

Dallas Loff representing Abercrombie Township said the Township has held meetings with the Solar Project people and discussions are ongoing.

Loff asked that Abercrombie Township be given the same offer granted to Colfax Township at the March 14, 2022 Meeting - that 50% of the tax revenue due to the County and derived from the solar panels in the first five years would go back to the Township.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to provide Abercrombie Township with 50% of the tax revenue due to the County for the first five years of the project. Vote was unanimous.

### **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

Ehlert reported he was made aware that when the Board approved the 7% COLA increase to employees two employees only received a 6.67% due to their placement on the step & grade scale. After discussion a motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Miller to adjust those employees to the 7%. Voting NO was Campbell. The remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

Campbell voiced concerns with deviating from the pay scale.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to approve the payment of bills. Vote was unanimous.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

February

7 Commission Meeting

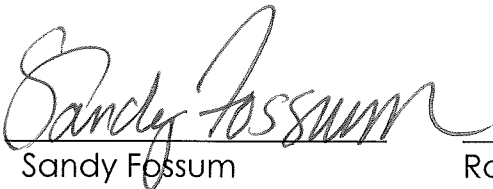
March

7 Commission Meeting

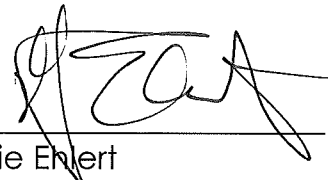
21 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:37 A.M.

ATTEST:



Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator



Rollie Ehler  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

CHAIRPERSON