

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

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on January 19, 2021 at the Richland County LEC with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Perry Miller. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer, a Daily News Reporter and Wahpeton Mayor Steve Dale.

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

**J-STARR OIL - BEER LICENSE**

The State's Attorney Office sent J-Starr Oil a letter on January 12<sup>th</sup> notifying them the Commission did not approve their 2021 Beer License and that it came to the Board's attention there was a period of time in 2020 that J-Starr was not licensed and continued to sell beer at their establishment; the letter also stated the Board would consider another Beer License application starting February 1, 2021.

J-Starr Oil representatives reported they were not aware that they did not have a Legal License in 2020 and requested the Commission reinstate their Beer License for 2021 immediately.

Following discussion a motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to reinstate a 2021 Beer License effective February 1, 2021. Vote was unanimous.

**TREASURER'S OFFICE**

Erickson requested a motion to approve the removal of Leslie Hage from the signature cards on all Bank/Investment accounts due to her retirement.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Berseth to remove Leslie Hage from the signature cards on all Bank/Investment accounts upon her retirement. Vote was unanimous.

Erickson requested a motion to update authorized signors on all Bank/Investment accounts handled through the Treasurer's Office to Sandy Fossum, Sarah Erickson, and Tricia Kriel once all signature cards have been signed/updated. A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Miller to update authorized signatures on all Bank/Investment accounts handled by the Treasurer's Office to Sandy Fossum, Sarah Erickson and Tricia Kriel. Vote was unanimous.

### **MAYOR STEVE DALE - CITY OF WAHPETON**

Mayor Dale reported he heard of the fire loss at the Highway Shop in Hankinson last night; he stated the City may have equipment available to send the County's way. The Board thanked the Mayor; Sedler will follow-up with the City.

### **JILL BREUER - DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Breuer reported the following:

- they are full staffed after 11 months, Jess Maher has been hired
- Breuer sent the Board information on legislation coming through this year:
  - HB 1146 addresses the \$1500 radio reimbursement for agencies left out previously
  - SB 2111 DOT radio tower bill
  - HB 1201 update language in current century code NDCC57-40.6-01
- the new state 9-1-1 phone system will be installed in February or March
- Working with Fire/EMS to discuss SIRN 20/20 project; ND DIT will be updating us on the project and time line to the SIRN 800 MHZ
- Will visit with Brian Mortensen and Highway Engineer Sedler regarding the tower at the Hankinson Shop damaged by the fire last night; Dispatch is currently using Everbridge which worked good last night.

Campbell commented he will visit with Commissioner Miller and Breuer regarding the NDSCS Contract which will be coming up for renewal.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Sedler gave a brief update on the fire at the Hankinson Shop last evening:

- eleven employees affected
- most likely all equipment stored inside will be lost including five plow trucks, three blades, tractors, skid steer, payloader, service truck, dump truck, etc.
- there are currently two plows and 3 blades available in other areas of the County
- the Fire Marshall will be coming today
- Wilkin County, Cass County, the City of Wahpeton, farmers, some Townships and individuals have been in contact with Sedler regarding equipment or space
- possibly the RDO Shop or the old ethanol shop could be a temporary location
- possibly the State Emergency Operations may have some resources available

County Rd 1E/Casino Road - Sedler was on a conference call with the NDDOT, Tribal Officials, State Emergency Management and Greendale Twsp. The Tribe is concerned with their gravel portion. Safety Funds are available if the County Sponsors. There would be no financial cost to the County for sponsoring. Campbell suggested the State's Attorney write up an Agreement. Discussion followed - The Board had no objections and would be willing to sponsor with no financial obligation to the County.

## **TODD CHRISTIE - DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Sheriff Leshovsky was also present.

- David Iverson will be retiring February 28<sup>th</sup>, will be requesting authorization fo fill this vacancy
- the Jail averaged 21 inmates through January and February of 2020; then the numbers decreased due to Covid. The ten year average is 16.2 inmates; last year the inmate population averaged 11.56 inmates.

- currently they are housing up to 15 inmates
- there is some Legislation regarding bonding that the Sheriff is following
- we are the only facility that had no inmate Covid

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Campbell to authorize advertising for the upcoming position, created with Dave Iverson's retirement. Discussion followed on whether this should be advertised as a Supervisory position or a Corrections Officer. A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Campbell to amend the previous motion to advertise a non-supervisory position. Vote on the amendment was unanimous. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

### **KAYLA CARLSON - COVID UPDATE**

Carlson reported the following:

- Transitioning into Phase 1B
- A vaccination clinic was held in Mooreton last week
- A vaccination clinic was held at the Faith Church for the 75 & older group
- 712 individuals have been vaccinated
- There are no allocations this week but are expecting 200 doses for next week
- On-line registration is open for those who currently have vaccine available
- Working on advertising for the 75 and older group
- Working with clinics on reaching out to clients

Carlson requested \$50,000 for Covid Expenses -  
\$10,000 for advertising (flyers, Channel 12, Radio & newspaper)  
\$30,000 for temporary staff to administer vaccine  
\$10,000 for a central location set-up (rental of a facility)

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the request for \$50,000 for Covid expenses. Vote was unanimous.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

Berseth reported he received a request from Steph Miranowksi for a letter of support from the Commission to continue with the Wilkin County Fair. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve a letter of Support for the Wilkin County Fair. Miller will follow-up with Miranowski on who the letter should be addressed to, etc.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to approve a Raffle Permit Application for the Galchutt American Legion. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to approve a Beer/Liquor License for Lake Elsie Wedding Barn/Lady on the Lake Bed & Breakfast for 2021. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Berg to authorize advertising and filling the vacant County Assessor position. Vote was unanimous.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

January

- 21 test equipment for virtual interviews for Extension 10AM
- 27 JDA Meeting
- 28 Bid Opening for new addition 2PM
- 29 5-County Legislative Zoom Meeting 3PM

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:15 A.M.

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