

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 3, 2022**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 3, 2022 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Perry Miller. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer; a Daily News Reporter and Visitors Pastor Reagan and Wahpeton Mayor Steve Dale.

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 Berg to approve the Minutes of meetings April 5 and April 19. Vote was unanimous.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Campbell to approve the Treasurer's Report. Vote was unanimous.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Emergency Manager Lambrecht presented an Emergency Declaration and recommended it be approved and in place because of the potential for severe spring flooding. A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Richland County Emergency Declaration as presented. Vote was unanimous.

**KELLY LARSON - COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY**

Kelly Larson presented a renovation proposal for a County owned property at 205 N 8<sup>th</sup> St in Wahpeton. She toured the house last week with Commissioner Miller and Emergency Mngr Lambrecht. Larson explained her renovation plans to the Board as well as her immediate priorities and long term plans.

Larson was informed that the current minimum sale price of the property was \$50,000 and if the County were to change that amount, there is a "process" that is required per NDCC. Campbell suggested another option would be for the City of Wahpeton to purchase the property and Larson could work with the city directly and purchase it from them.

Berseth said the County will look into the process that would be required to change the minimum sale price and would have more information on that by the next Commission Meeting. Berseth recommended that Larson continue to work with Commissioner Miller and the City of Wahpeton.

## **ARIEL JOHNSON - COMMUNITY PREVENTION COORDINATOR REPORT**

Johnson distributed a report on the Tobacco Prevention & Control Grant Program and the Drug Free Communities Grant.

Ehlert reported that Johnson was recently recognized by the Fraternal Order of Police with the FOP's Associate of the Year Award, she works closely with the Police Department in a number of ways.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berg to award the Bituminous Overlay on CR 3 to Mark Sand & Gravel. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berg to award the Bituminous Chip Seal Bid opened at the April 19 meeting to Morris Seal Coat & Trucking. Vote was unanimous.

Berseth and Ehlert commented on an insert in the NACo newspaper about grants for infrastructure. The Highway Department was asked to look into further.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Campbell to approve a Petition for Annexation between the City of Lidgerwood and Richland County. Vote was unanimous.

## **JOEY BORRACCI and JAY VOLK - SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS**

Several visitors were also in attendance.

Volk distributed handouts and gave an overview of the project. He reported there are 32 plants under contract today with a five state footprint; ND will have 320 pipeline miles and negotiations are continuing with ethanol plants. Richland County will have approximately 65 miles of pipeline.

Discussion followed and included:

- the benefits, tax impact, jobs created to build the pipeline
- eminent domain concerns
- concerns if the company sells and/or other potential use for the lines
- drain tile repairs
- Twsp roads crossings
- pipeline leaks
- pipeline depth

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A) Social Services - Campbell gave a Zone Update. Two vacancies are coming in May, Case Loads are increasing in CPS, working on the 2023 budgets, exploring training and equipment needs.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - Cement was poured for the monument.
- C) Public Health - Rick Jacobson has stepped down from the Health Board. Campbell gave a Department Update on Programs; Staffing continues to be a concern and not all tasks are being completed with the current staffing levels.
- D) JDA - The Lake Agassiz Contract was discussed at the last meeting and some talk of working with SVEDA on JPA Funding. Berseth reported on several JPA Projects taking place.
- E) Weed Board - One bid has been received for spraying.
- F) Soils Committee - No Report.
- G) Park Board - Distributions will be discussed at the next meeting.
- H) Administration - The IT position is currently being advertised.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

- Budget Meetings will be held July 5 and July 7.
- Fossum reported that at a previous meeting the Board had approved Vote By Mail for the Primary Election. After discussing this process with the Service Provider this is not a viable option. We will have 7 Vote Centers and anyone still has the option to Absentee Vote beginning May 5 for the June Primary Election.

## **MELISSA NEITZKE - JAIL UPDATE**

Neitzke reported the following:

- Jail Inspection is scheduled for May 6 & May 7
- There are currently 8 Correctional Officers
- They have an average of 17-19 inmates (currently 5 federal)
- They are constantly busy with only two officers on duty during the day
- Neitzke has been working over 50 hours a week

Discussion followed and included:

- requirements to have female jailer on staff
- reconfigure the front area to make it more conducive for operation
- dual role position with jail/dispatch
- jail capacity

Neitzke requested authorization for OT and authorization to purchase a dish sanitizer machine for \$4900.

Fossum reported there was a motion made at a previous meeting by the Board allowing Neitzke OT during the staffing shortage. The Board had no objections to the OT request.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Campbell to approve the request to purchase a dish sanitizer machine contingent on checking into local availability. Vote was unanimous.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ehlert to adopt a Proclamation for Provider Appreciation Day May 6, 2022. Vote was unanimous.

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

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to approve a Beer License for Dakota Vines Vineyard & Winery. Vote was unanimous.

- Donation Request from Wilkin County 4-H

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Reports Filed: Tax & Property Department - Revenue Voucher for March 2022;  
Sheriff Department - Revenue and Expenses for February and March 2022.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

Nathan Berseth CHAIRPERSON  
Nathan Berseth  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for April 2022.

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	247,330.14
County Highway	\$	88,607.75
911 Communications	\$	42,946.88
County Agent	\$	6,425.13
Veterans Service	\$	8,188.28
Weed Officer	\$	500.00
Public Health Fund	\$	82,947.96
Income Maintenance	\$	46,205.78
Foster Care	\$	16,984.18
Child Protective Svc	\$	35,364.22
Parent Aid	\$	3,200.70
Family Soc Worker	\$	4,723.50
Social Services	\$	11,685.40
In-Home Care	\$	16,065.17
Admin Support	\$	11,435.63
HSZ Board	\$	500.00
JDA	\$	495.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	623,605.72

EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to resolution records

County General	\$	231,681.28
County Highway	\$	66,572.81
Bridge Replacement	\$	67.81
Road & Bridge	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	10,757.31
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	266.00
Emergency Fund	\$	1,110.08
911 Communications	\$	34,045.66
NDRIN	\$	-
Water Rescue	\$	-
County Agent	\$	16,270.30
Veterans Service	\$	3,862.28
Weed Control Levy	\$	26,376.74
Public Health	\$	44,583.67
Haz Chem Fund	\$	-
Income Maintenance	\$	21,144.91
Adult Services	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	3,853.54

Child Protective Svc	\$	12,751.38
Parent Aid	\$	2,016.79
Family Soc Worker	\$	3,126.16
Social Services	\$	2,054.41
In-Home Care	\$	9,574.62
Admin Support	\$	6,512.89
HSZ Board	\$	235.17
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	970.00
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	185.28
State Medical Levy	\$	5,056.10
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	5,056.10
Domestic Violence	\$	70.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	-
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	185,292.44
State Aid Distribution	\$	11,500.63
Jail Concession	\$	140.10
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	2,382.00
SEMCA	\$	1,186.99
JDA	\$	30.97
Diversion Settlement	\$	6,095.00
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	16,545.20
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	4,847.44
Historical Society	\$	1,210.12
Co Agent Special	\$	318.25
Soil Cons District	\$	4,486.02
Water Mngt Levy	\$	16,009.11
Joint Water Resource	\$	7,291.33
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	765,536.89

TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES \$ 1,389,142.61

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

Nathan Berseth CHAIRPERSON  
Nathan Berseth  
Board of Richland County Commissioners