

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 18, 2021**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 18, 2021 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, and Rollie Ehler; Commissioner Perry Miller joined the meeting by Phone. Others present were Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal and State's Attorney Kummer. Guests included Daily News Reporter Tris Anderson, and Rich Slagle of Moore Engineering.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Erickson informed the Commission she and Auditor Fossum met with Bremer Bank and Bell Bank to review proposals for consolidating bank accounts to one banking institution; currently there are three accounts at Bank of the West and three accounts at Wells Fargo and the banking fees are appx \$8200 a year - by consolidating to one banking institution the County could save approximately \$2100 in banking fees.

Erickson is recommending the proposal from Bell Bank, there would still be multiple accounts, but they would all be at one Banking institution.

The Board voiced no objections to the recommendation and thanked Erickson for keeping them informed.

KAYLA CARLSON - COVID UPDATE

- there are currently 7 active cases in Richland County
- there are many variances across the state
- 54.9% of those over 18 have received their first dose
- 51.4% of those over 18 are up to date
- Pfizer has now been authorized for those 12 and older
- 59 doses were administered at the Downtown Alive Event held in Wahpeton

Following discussion a motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Berg to follow the CDC Guidelines and to remove the Mask Requirement in the Courthouse and LEC Building if individuals have been fully vaccinated. Vote was unanimous.

SHERIFF LSHOVSKY - FILLING VACANT POSITION

Leshovsky requested authorization to advertise and fill the Chief Corrections Position due to a retirement coming up the end of June. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berg to authorize advertising and filling the Chief Corrections Position. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Bridge Location Issues - Sedler reported issues with a box culvert and two other locations; the estimated cost to repair is \$110,000.

Water Board Applications - Two applications were received from the Water Board involving County Road 8 and County Road 6. The Highway Department will be participating in both projects. Our estimated cost share is \$13,000 for the County Rd 8 project and \$18,000 for the County Rd 6 project.

LP Bids - A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to advertise for LP bids with a bid opening in June. Vote was unanimous.

County Rd 2 Federal Aid Project - Bids were opened last Friday; the Engineers estimate is \$2,924,232.90. Knife River was the low bidder at \$2,675,441.30. Requesting authorization to advertise for RFP for Engineering. A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to advertise RFP for Engineering. Vote was unanimous.

Co Rd 1 - North of Mooreton, the road cracked open wide so we will need to cut it open to determine how to repair.

Drain Tile Projects - 9 miles on CR 25 and 15 miles on CR 15. Projects will begin next Monday.

Bridges - Sedler received notification from the DOT that two bridges were inspected and will need to be repaired or closed (Drain 31 and Antelope Creek). Sedler is working on cost estimates.

Legislative Wrap-up - Berseth reported he learned of the potential of available funding at the Legislature Wrap-Up and recommended Fossum set up a meeting with the DOT.

Miller exited the meeting at this time. 8:42 A.M.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Fossum reported on information received at the meeting in Bismarck last week -
- there will be changes in the foreclosure process/adjusting prices
- Health Insurance will be increasing .14% which is much less than anticipated
 Fossum recommended the County absorb the increase so employees will not see a change in their current premium. The Board voiced no objections.
- Correspondence from ND Water Education Foundation - re upcoming tours
- Correspondence from Edge Consulting - re public notice for tower

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May

19 JPA Meeting 4:00 PM

June

- 1 Commission Meeting
- 1 Equalization Meeting
- 15 Commission Meeting
- 8 Housing Authority
- 29-30 Auditor/Treasurers Convention

July

- 1 Auditors/Treasurers Convention
- 8 5-County Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:56 A.M.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

Tim Campbell CHAIRPERSON
 Tim Campbell
 Board of Richland County Commissioners