

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VIDEO CONFERENCE
MAY 19, 2020**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 19, 2020 by Video Conference with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson all joining the meeting by Videoconference. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Hage and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer (via video conference) and Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko (via videoconference).

Other County Personnel joining the meeting via video conference included: Jill Breuer and Sheriff Leshovsky.

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

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

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Sheriff Leshovsky received notification from Roberts County Sheriff's Office that the contract for Juvenile holding will increase to \$195/day effective June 1, 2020 due to increased costs in operation. Non-contracted costs are increasing to \$210/day for juvenile holding. A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Berseth to enter into the amended contract with Roberts County for Juvenile holding. Campbell was absent from the Vote, the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

Jill Breuer reported contracts with the City of Wahpeton and NDSCS will expire December 31, 2021 and they should be given six months notice of any changes. We will need to renegotiate NDSCS's contract before August 1. The existing contract with the City of Wahpeton increases \$5,000 each year and is currently at \$115,000; NDSCS is currently at \$12,000. It was the consensus of the Board that Breuer set up a Teams Call with Portfolio Commissioners Berg and Campbell to discuss further.

Hage reported on the following -

Vote By Mail Election

- as of 5 PM yesterday 2,889 applications have been processed and 650 ballots have been returned
- Jackie and Deb from the Recorder's Office; Millie and Deb from the Extension Office and Barb from the State's Attorney's Office have all been assisting the Administration Office with this process
- The Canvas Board will meet June 15 at 9 AM - members of this Board are the Auditor, State's Attorney, County Recorder, Chairman of the Board, and a Representative appointed by the District Party Chairs
- The Absentee Board for processing ballots will consist of 6 members - four county employees have agreed to serve as well as two others

Covid 19

- Earlier in May Counties were notified that funding may be available through the Cares Act, this will be discussed again by the Governor's Office at their June meeting. 43% of the Cares Act Funding has already been allocated
- The mass testing in Richland County has been cancelled for the second time

Financial Update -

- the Assn of Counties has asked, with the Revenue Shortfalls, what are Counties planning to do for salary increases. Hage suggested the Board start thinking about this for the next meeting
- Budgets have been distributed to Departments and should be turned back in by June 15th
- Berseth commented on budget decreases and recommended that all Departments look at their YTD actuals and what can be cut from the 2020 actuals in addition to budgets for 2021

Thompson reported that a FNP Agent has been hired in the Extension Office - Tia Schmitz has accepted this position.

Hage reported that Lambrecht has been finishing up with Townships and FEMA Claims, he is also working with the Cares Act.

Thompson inquired about the Lockdown and when the Courthouse would be opening up - Hage replied she has had no negative feedback on the Lock Down and Services are being provided, everything is going well with appointments. There will be another Governor's call this Thursday so we may learn more, most County Offices are following the State. Hage has spoken with Michelle Eberhardt, Judge Cruff and other County Auditors - their consensus is to remain on lockdown at this time.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June

- 2 Commission Meeting
- 2 County Equalization Meeting 10:00 & 11:00 AM
- 2 Department Head Meeting 2:00 PM
- 9 Election Day
- 15 Canvassing Board 9:00 AM
- 16 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:40 A.M.

ATTEST: 
Leslie Hage
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Sid Berg
Board of Richland County Commissioners