

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 21, 2019**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 21, 2019 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Dan Thompson. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Hage and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer and a Daily News Reporter. Visitors Sheriff Leshovsky and Kristen Hasbargen attended a portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Berg to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Notice of State Engineer Decision on Helendale Private Drain Project
- Thank you from the Family of Sue Caspers

Sheriff Leshovsky reported the Sadek Case was dismissed on all charges by the Judge yesterday.

OPIOID LITIGATION PRESENTATION

Curtis Olafson, National Field Director Aronnax Public Strategies introduced himself. He is working with a consortium of legal firms that are pursuing opioid litigation in several states. The litigation will target manufactures and distributors of opioids. The litigation will not target medical professionals or institutions that provide medical services. Attorneys Matt Daniel and Jonathan Novak, from Dallas, TX were introduced - they gave a presentation and informed the Board of the opportunities available by joining the national multi-district opioid litigation.

A motion was made by Berseth to enter into the Attorney's Retainer Contract as presented, pending State's Attorney Kummer's review; motion seconded by Ehlert. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Jesse Sedler, Ron Hohenstern and Moriah Herding.

Part-Time Summer Employees - Sedler requested authorization to hire (7) part-time summer employees. A motion was made by Campbell authorizing the Highway Department to hire (7) part-time summer employees; motion seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous.

Bid Opening for Drain Tile Project - Co Rd 10 (4.5 miles) from 81 to Interstate. The following bid was received:

Traxler Construction Unit Price 3.75 Total Base Bid \$91,275.00
LeCenter, MN

A motion was made by Campbell to accept all bids received; motion seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous.

BRO-0039(046) - The project was Bid May 10th, low bid received was Industrial Builders at \$1,206,692.55. A motion was made by Campbell to execute the Resolution to award the bid to Industrial Builders; motion seconded by Berseth.

Ehlert voiced concerns with expending funds for access to a recreational area when there are several other entry points relatively close.

Further discussion was held and included -

- the funds already expended on the project
- the 80/20 funding from the state along with the state stipulations
- delaying projects and falling further behind on Code 3 bridges
- looking at a strong 5-yr plan for Roads and Bridges

Voting NO on the motion were Ehlert and Berg, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

MISC -

- Krause Bros have appx 60,000 tons crushed
- Hauling gravel to Colfax
- start shouldering next week

SHERIFF LSHOVSKY - POSITION VACANCY/HIRING

Leshovsky reported that Support Specialist Assistant Michelle Gjerdevig has resigned and he requested authorization to advertise and fill the position. A motion was made by Berseth authorizing the Sheriff Dept to advertise and fill the Support Specialist Position; motion seconded by Berg. Vote was unanimous.

Leshovsky requested authorization to hire temporary part-time help in the summer to cover vacations and reduce over-time in the jail; the two part-time temporary employees have recently resigned. A motion was made by Campbell to authorize the Sheriff to hire a part-time temporary employee in the jail; motion seconded by Berseth. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

Thompson reported that with the resignation of County Agent Kayla Carlson, NDSU has suggested Rhonda Gripenrog fill in for Carlson's duties until someone is hired. Thompson will get more information before the Board takes any action.

Berseth requested at the June 18th meeting the Board discuss the Diversion effects to the Tax Base in Richland County.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June

- 4 Commission Meeting
- 4 County Equalization Meeting
- 18 Commission Meeting
- 24-28 Auditors/Treasurers Convention

July

- 2 Commission Meeting
- 11 5-County Meeting
- 16 Commission Meeting
- 16-17 Budget Meetings

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:42 A.M.

ATTEST: 
 Leslie Hage
 Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
 Danny D. Thompson
 Board of Richland County Commissioners