

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on September 3, 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. Sheriff Leshovsky attended a portion of the meeting.

The Agenda was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the minutes of meetings August 6 and August 20. Vote was unanimous.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

Fairmount Property - A letter was received from the City of Fairmount requesting the purchase of a Tax Sale property (W 160 ft of Lot 2, except S 115 ft, Blk 3, of the Fairmount Resurvey Plat Addn) for \$1 and also a contribution from the County of \$2,000 to be used for the demolition of the existing structure located on the property. Discussion followed and included:

- limiting demolition funds to \$2,000 a year/not per project
- setting a precedent by allocating funds for demolition
- considering projects individually, rather than a blanket policy

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Berseth to sell the property to the City of Fairmount for \$1 and provide \$2,000 for the disposal once the demolition is complete. Voting NO was Berg, the remainder Voted Yes and the motion carried.

**KRISTEN HASBARGEN - HUMAN SERVICE ZONES**

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Berg to approve Richland County as the Host County for the Ransom, Richland and Sargent Zone. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Berg to approve that the Zone Board consist of 11 members: three members from Ransom County, three members from Sargent County, four members from Richland County, and the Zone Director. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to appoint Kristen Hasbargen as the Interim Zone Director. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to appoint Commissioner Campbell, Mary Schradick, Wayne Ulven and Becky DeVries as the Zone Board Members for Richland County. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Minutes of the Ransom, Richland, and Sargent County Commissioners, Social Service Directors and Auditors Meeting on August 6, 2019. Vote was unanimous.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Bridge 39-116-34.1 - The North span of beams is in place and the South and middle spans will be placed tomorrow.

Railroad Work on County Roads - Surface upgrades will be done at the following crossings by Red River Valley and Western Railroad. Each project will require a minimum two-day shut down of the Railroad Crossings, detours will be posted for drivers.

- crossing on CR 81 east of Dwight, 3/4 of a mile south of CR 10 intersection scheduled for September 16-17
- crossing on 78<sup>th</sup> St SE or 16<sup>th</sup> Ave N (Walmart Crossing), east of 181<sup>st</sup> Ave scheduled for September 18-19
- crossing on CR10, east of 181<sup>st</sup> Ave SE intersection scheduled for September 23-24

Drain Tile - The project was completed last week; crews are working on spreading fresh gravel.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A) Social Services - Campbell thanked Hasbargen and Hage for being well prepared for the Zone Meeting held on August 6<sup>th</sup>; Several staff members will be relocated to the lower level of the LEC in the Juvenile Services area.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - The landscaping project is underway; there was some water in the basement of the LEC last night due to heavy rain.
- C) Public Health - No Report.
- D) JDA - The last meeting was held at Terrace Lanes and Alley Cat Lounge, there were no new applications.
- E) Weed Board - No Report.
- F) Soils Committee - No Report.
- G) Park Board - There is an issue with a pipe that drains the lake and the water continues to rise, the Dive Team has taken a look at it - will be meeting with Josh Beto and Damon from Interstate Engineering to discuss.

State's Attorney Kummer has been asked to draft an Ordinance for Glass Bottles.

- H) Administration - The walk-through with the Dept of Emergency Services and Homeland Security went well for the Court Facilities Grant.

Hage reminded the Commissioners of the October 17<sup>th</sup> 5-County Meeting. The Board discussed holding the meeting at the Lake Elsie Legion Shelter and catering from Hot Cakes - Berseth will follow-up.

Hage reported at a previous meeting the Board had discussed decreasing mill levy's for Job Development Authority and Water Resource. Water Resource will be meeting with the Commissioners later in today's meeting to review their budget. Berseth recommended not decreasing JDA because of SVEDA and the Housing Initiative. Hage reported the proposed budget is at 102.75 mills or 1.35 mills over last year.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

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

**WATER RESOURCE BOARD - BUDGET**

Those in attendance were Monica Zentgraf, Justin Johnson and WRB Members Arv Burvee and Gary Friskop.

The Water Resource Board 2020 proposed Budget was distributed for review.

**CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE LAW CHANGES**

Sheriff Leshovsky was present. State's Attorney Kummer reported the actual process of who and how forfeited assets get distributed was not completely spelled out in the statute.

Kummer presented an example "Asset Forfeiture Fund and Procedure Policy" from Williams County - it establishes an Asset Forfeiture Board to make recommendations to the Commission for authorization of all expenditures or disbursement of property with contingencies. The Williams County Board is comprised of the Sheriff, State's Attorney and Finance Director.

Following discussion of what process to use, it was the consensus of the Commission that every request come to the Commission and there be no Asset Forfeiture Board (one will be adopted later if needed). Kummer was directed to Draft an Asset Forfeiture Fund and Procedure Policy to present to the Commission.

**MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

Hage commented on the Fairmount Foreclosure Property acted on earlier in the meeting. Hage requested the Board approve an Affidavit of Possession for Real Estate to show that the County has had the property in possession for over 90 days prior to selling it. State's Attorney Kummer has reviewed the Affidavit. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to complete an Affidavit of Possession for the Fairmount Property. Vote was unanimous.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### September

- 3 Department Head Meeting
- 16 Park Board Meeting
- 17 Commission Meeting
- 18 JDA Meeting

### October

- 2 Commission Meeting
- 6-8 NDACo Annual Meeting
- 15 Commission Meeting
- 17 5-County Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:45 A.M.

Reports Filed: Sheriff's Department - Revenue and Expenses for July 2019.

ATTEST:   CHAIRPERSON  
Leslie Hage  
Auditor/Administrator  
Danny D. Thompson  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for August, 2019.

PAYROLL (inclusive)	
General	239,742.10
County Highway	97,753.56
Social Services	103,268.30
911 Communications	44,590.44
County Agent	5,357.10
Veterans Service	6,916.01
Weed Officer	3,712.00
Public Health Fund	73,213.13
<b>PAYROLL TOTAL</b>	<b>574,552.64</b>

EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to resolution records

County General	216,027.76
County Highway	63,504.01
Bridge Repl Fund	18,586.84
Road & Bridge Eqpt	1,550.00
15 Mill	364,189.10
Social Service	47,237.18
911 Communications	26,879.73
County Agent	18,639.11
Veterans Service	3,134.10
Weed Control Levy	12,350.10
Public Health	46,241.97
Haz Chem Fund	1,499.99
State Medical Levy	200.07
Garrison Div	1,114.86
Domestic Violence	175.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	72,739.27
State Aid Distribution	39,645.42
Jail Concession	13,684.00
Sobriety Test Fund	1,940.00
SEMCA	243.43
Sr Citizens Fund	2,417.10
Historical Society Fund	598.54
County Agent Special	441.59
Soil Cons District	1,114.86
Water Mngt Levy	9,028.67
Joint Water Resource	1,704.52
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>964,887.22</b>

**TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES** **1,539,439.86**

ATTEST:

  
Leslie Hage  
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON  
Danny D. Thompson  
Board of Richland County Commissioners