

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on February 2, 2021 at the Richland County LEC 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 and a Daily News Reporter.

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

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Berg to approve the minutes of meetings January 5, January 19 and the Special Meeting January 22. Vote was unanimous.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Vote was unanimous.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Lambrecht reported that FEMA has acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Interstate Engineering on behalf of Richland County, Wilkin County and the cities of Breckenridge and Wahpeton regarding the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map. FEMA is now requesting additional information; Interstate Engineering estimates the commitment to provide the data FEMA requested at a cost of approximately \$6,000 or \$1,500 for each entity. Lambrecht requested the Board approve payment of \$1,500 to Interstate Engineering.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Berseth to approve the expenditure of \$1,500 as requested by Lambrecht. Vote was unanimous.

## **WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Monica Zentgraf gave the Commission an update on the Water Resource Office. Highlights included:

- Arv Burvee was appointed as Chairman and Gary Friskop as Vice Chairman
- Clint Arndt was appointed by the Commission and has been attending meetings
- Two Legislative Bills are being watched closely SB2208 and HB1437
- Two snag and clearing projects are being done on the Wild Rice this year and one on the Sheyenne
- Working on cost share assistance for projects with the state

The Commission would like to hold a joint meeting with the Water Board after the Legislative Session.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE**

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to approve the sale of County Property in Hankinson to the City of Hankinson. Vote was unanimous.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler, Ron Hohenstern and Troy Dickerman. Several visitors were in attendance for the bid openings.

Bid Opening - Gravel Crushing - The following bids were received:

Central Specialties Alexandria MN	\$2.14	Krause Brothers Wahpeton ND	\$1.595
Fisher Sand & Gravel Dickinson ND	\$3.53	Mark Sand & Gravel Fergus Falls MN	\$1.79

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to accept all bids for tabulation. Vote was unanimous.

## **MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued**

Campbell reported he spoke with Leslie Hage before she retired to discuss if she would be available to consult with new Auditor Fossum if needed, since she was not available to train with Fossum prior to her retirement. Campbell has also spoken with Fossum. The Board had no objections. Campbell will discuss compensation with Hage and bring a proposal back to the Board.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT continued**

Bid Opening - Rock Crushing - The following bids were received:

Fisher Sand & Gravel      \$6.56  
Dickinson, ND

Krause Brother's              \$7.295  
Wahpeton ND

Mark Sand & Gravel        \$21.00  
Fergus Falls MN

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to accept all bids for tabulation. Vote was unanimous.

Cares Funding - DOT has received 4.8 million in Cares Funding; our allotment is \$132,000. Will plan to use these funds for the County Road 2 Project.

Drain Tile Project - Requesting authorization to advertise for bids for drain tile on Co Rd 15 with a bid opening on March 2. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to advertise for bids for the drain tile project on Co Rd 15. Vote was unanimous.

### Shop Fire Update -

- A quote was received for a Bobcat from Lillegards for \$61,700. Will get \$58,000 in insurance for the Bobcat lost in the fire. A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Ehlert to approve the purchase of the Bobcat from Lillegards. Vote was unanimous.
- Everything on the East side of the shop was totaled. Still waiting to hear on the blades and plow trucks. So far 10 units have been totaled.
- NDIRF will be back again later in the week and we hope to have some answers by the end of the week.
- Currently we have three blades and four plow trucks on loan so we have equipment where it needs to be.
- Five employees were out last week due to Covid.
- An asbestos test was done on the building, still waiting on results.

## **EXTENSION OFFICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Ronda Gripentrog gave the Board an update on the County Extension Office. Highlights included the following:

- the ANR position is on hold until funding is finalized
- Pesticide Trainings are scheduled, Cass County will assist
- the Commodity Election will be held February 23 through Zoom
- the Township Officers Meeting has not yet been scheduled
- ANR Calls - Ransom, Sargent, Barnes and Cass are assisting us
- 4H - not currently hosting events but trying different things such as Winter Wellness Bingo, Escape Room, Videos, Incentive Programs
- FNP Position - interviewing this week
- FCW Program - completed a Diabetes Program in December, working with Head Start, Life Skills in Hankinson, reaching out to schools

## **KAYLA CARLSON - COVID UPDATE**

Carlson reported the following:

- officially in Phase 1B and still continuing Phase 1A
- estimate 38.1% of those 75 and older have been vaccinated
- the Health Dept has administered 1173 total doses
- administered 170 first doses to residents 75 and older on January 29 at the Wahpeton Event Center
- this week will be doing 2<sup>nd</sup> doses, we did not receive any 1<sup>st</sup> dose vaccine
- our next 1<sup>st</sup> doses are expected Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - 100 doses, and Feb 14 - 260 doses
- the state notified us that state staff would be available at no cost to help with vaccinations, we have utilized and will continue to use that service before using funds allocated by the Commission
- working on the distribution of flyers and updating the Web Site

Commissioners Berseth and Ehlert asked about flexibility in getting the Highway Staff moved into a priority group for the vaccine; as first responders are only as good as open roads.

Carlson replied the state has clear guidelines with the allocations; until the state changes we can't go outside those guidelines or we could be docked future allocations.

Ehlert suggested the State be contacted about changing the system. Campbell stated he would follow-up with Carlson after the meeting.

Carlson will continue to keep the Commission informed through e-mail.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) Social Services - A meeting is scheduled for February 23 with Sargent and Ransom Counties to discuss indirect costs.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - Bids for the Courthouse Addition came in higher than expected. Miller or Berseth will report on the Boiler Grant at the next meeting.
- C) Public Health - Heard a report earlier in the meeting from Kayla Carlson on Covid.
- D) JDA - Several new loans were approved at the last meeting. JDA is moving forward with 3 spec homes.
- E) Weed Board - No Report.
- F) Soils Committee - Due to Covid no meetings scheduled.
- G) Park Board - A meeting is schedule for March 15.
- H) Administration - The Assessor's position closes on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Campbell reported he is following up on Holiday Closures as discussed at a previous meeting, and HR is checking with other Counties on policies.

## MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

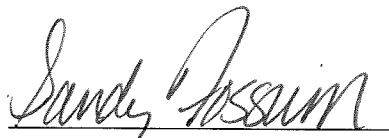
- correspondence from NDRIN re- refund reserves

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

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

Reports Filed: Sheriff Department Revenue and Expenses for December 2020.

ATTEST:

  
Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

  
Tim Campbell  
CHAIRPERSON  
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for January 2021.

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	272,918.67
County Highway	91,201.35
911 Communications	45,471.83
County Agent	5,537.57
Veterans Service	7,858.94
Weed Officer	400.00
Public Health Fund	81,374.26
Income Maintenance	44,478.62
Foster Care	16,311.57
Child Protective Svc	31,298.09
Parent Aid	3,100.70
Family Soc Worker	9,280.72
Social Services	10,668.00
In-Home Care	17,955.27
Admin Support	11,176.94
HSZ Board	450.00
<b>PAYROLL TOTAL</b>	<b>649,482.53</b>

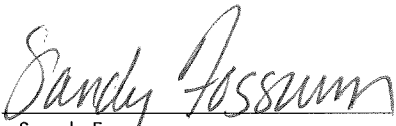
EXPENSES: \*\* Refer to resolution records

County General	457,766.42
County Highway	130,680.67
911 Communications	51,165.90
County Agent	10,506.13
Veterans Service	4,674.96
Weed Control Levy	867.57
Public Health	54,014.93
Haz Chem Fund	20.88
Income Maintenance	17,921.09
Foster Care	3,806.60
Child Protective Svc	10,772.47
Parent Aid	1,872.73
Family Soc Worker	3,593.07
Social Services	5,417.79
In-Home Care	13,332.18
Admin Support	4,867.37
HSZ Board	178.12
Safety Permanency Fd	624.32
Unallow Fed Costs	18.00
General Assistance	2,661.45
State Medical Levy	22,228.35
Garrison Div	22,228.35
Domestic Violence	280.00
Jail Concession	594.56
Sobriety Test Fund	360.00
SEMCA	3,555.00
ND State W/H	16,229.99

Sr Citizens Fund	22,228.35
Historical Society Fund	5,557.07
County Agent Special	80.00
Soil Cons District	20,912.20
Water Mngt Levy	66,761.74
Joint Water Resource	33,342.52
Est Real Estate Tax	27.70
Current Tax Holding	6,500,077.05
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>7,489,225.53</b>

<b>TOTAL PAYROLL &amp; EXPENSES</b>	<b>8,138,708.06</b>
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Sandy Fossum  
Auditor/Administrator

  
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Board of Richland County Commissioners

CHAIRPERSON