

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 20, 2022**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on December 20, 2022 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer, a Daily News Reporter and visitor Steve Dale.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve the Agenda. Vote was unanimous.

SHERIFF RUHL - OPEN DEPUTY POSITIONS

Ruhl requested authorization to advertise two deputy positions that will be open at the beginning of the new year.

Ruhl also informed the Commission of concerns getting qualified applicants for Corrections. Several potential solutions were briefly discussed including: dual-role positions with Dispatch; cost-share training; tuition reimbursement; career fairs. Campbell recommended a Task Force discussion with the Portfolio Commissioners to discuss options.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Miller to authorize advertising two Deputy Positions. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sedler reported he appreciated the hard work from Highway staff during the recent snowstorms. Eight rigs ended up in the ditch due to the conditions and poor visibility. Crews plow appx 650 miles one way or 1300 miles round trip so it takes time. For the conditions the roads are in pretty good shape.

Sedler gave a brief update on activities that have been completed or are being worked on including the following:

- shop progress
- FEMA projects

LEGISLATORS

Representative Alisa Mitskog and Senator Larry Luick were present.

Ehlert thanked Mitskog and Luick for coming to the meeting to have interactive discussion on their priorities in Bismarck and what local leaders would like to see addressed. Discussion followed and included:

- Prairie Dog Future Funding - with a number of new legislators they may see a different prioritization
- Corrections - more needs to be done at the County level for substance abuse and mental health
- Social Service - Zonal Concept has been positive but many indirect costs are not covered
- Public Health - is there an initiative going forward to move to a Zonal Concept
- Federal Funding - restrictions and federal mandates with federal funding
- Funding to cities for demolition of foreclosed properties and dilapidated properties

BRETT LAMBRECHT - HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN & VEHICLE PURCHASE

Lambrecht reported the State has approved our Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Lambrecht reported his truck was purchased in 2011 with grant funds and presented bids for a new vehicle. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to authorize a purchase up to \$45,300 for the purchase of a new pickup. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- correspondence re- feasibility study near Hemnes Cemetery
- Water Resource Board appointments - tabled until the January 3 meeting

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to appoint Perry Miller to the Richland County JPA Board. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Goerger to approve the 2023 Portfolio assignments. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached).

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum Rollie Enlert CHAIRPERSON
Sandy Fossum Rollie Enlert
Auditor/Administrator Board of Richland County Commissioners