

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 5, 2024

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on March 5, 2024 with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal; and State's Attorney Kummer.

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

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

TREASURERS REPORT

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

MELISSA BROWN - PIONEER HI-BRED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EXEMPTION

Joel Hermes from Pioneer and Mark Johnson from Center Twsp were also present.

Brown presented an application from Pioneer for a 5 year 100% property tax exemption for expansion of an existing business.

Hermes reported Pioneer will be adding six bulk seed bins, head house, conveyors and legs for handling finished clean seed.

Johnson commented on the discrepancy in the numbers on the building permit and the exemption application. Johnson and Hermes will discuss further.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the application as presented. Voting NO was Campbell the remainder voted Yes and the motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

FEMA Flood 2023 - Funding has been received for three townships for completed work; working on direct deposit. There are four or five Townships left to complete.

House Fire near Kindred - The Red Cross and Salvation Army are working with the family.

Canadian Pacific Railroad Haz Mat Training & NIMS ICS100 -

May - County Employee Training - NIMS 700 & 100 classes

June - Table Top training - bus, train accident with Haz-Mat

September - Full scale live drill with bus train accident

Homeland Security Grants -

The 2021 grant has been closed out; it included Courthouse and LEC outside lighting, Assessors Panic Button, securing door/hallway in LEC and security of the Barney Tower with chain link fence and barbwire.

The 2022 grant - Changed all door fobs in Courthouse & LEC, added security access entrance to the LEC and added two gates between buildings.

Summit Carbon Solutions Pipeline Training - Dispersion model presentations scheduled for March 5 at the Bagg Bonanza Farm in Mooreton, appx 40 individuals have signed up.

WBI Energy Pipeline - Two permits are done, will break ground on June 5.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Sedler joined the meeting by speaker phone and gave a brief update on Highway activities:

- Road Restrictions will begin Monday, March 11
- CR 16 update - will begin ROW talks with landowners
- B Roads - there will be a sign up sheet at the Township Officers meeting for affected Townships to set up a time to meet with the Commissioners and Highway personnel

KAYLA CARLSON - OPIOID LITIGATION FUNDS

Carlson introduced Amanda Tuura who was recently hired as the Public Health Coordinator.

Carlson requested authorization to spend approximately \$7,000 of Opioid Litigation Funds for a Life Skills Program in schools. It has been offered to all the schools in the County, so far Wahpeton and Wyndmere are interested. If more schools participate there will be some additional costs. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Goerger to approve an expenditure of \$7,000 of opioid litigation funds as requested. Vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) HSZ Board - A Zone meeting was held last week, a complaint was heard from an individual, the concerns were not a Board issue to handle and a follow-up letter will be sent. Interviews were done last week for several positions.

B) Buildings & Grounds - John Anderson is working with Departments on relocating offices during the HVAC Project; the project is ahead of schedule.

John Anderson will be picking up the historical painting that was in the Commission Room and taken to Fargo for an appraisal, the individual was unable to appraise the painting.

C) Public Health - Heard a report from Kayla Carlson earlier in the meeting.

D) JDA/JPA - Berseth gave a brief overview of on-going projects and the housing program.

E) Weed Board - Having discussions on the LAP Program and new chemicals.

F) Soils Committee - No report.

G) Park Board - A meeting will be held March 11.

H) Administration - Miller reported the Title for the Barrie Township Property is a mess, the property will be sold by quit claim deed. Attorney Fred Strege has prepared covenants for Tract 1 or the trail piece. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to approve the Covenants as presented. Vote was unanimous. The auction is scheduled for March 19 at 11:00 A.M.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you from Wahpeton FFA
- Notice of SE Water Users Annual Meeting, March 13
- Notice of Wahpeton CDC Annual Meeting, March 11

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

- 5 Drug Court Graduation 4:00 P.M.
- 11 Park Board Meeting
- 19 Commission Meeting
- 26 Township Officers Meeting

April

- 2 Commission Meeting
- 2 Housing Authority 11:30 A.M.
- 16 Commission Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

Reports Filed: Sheriff Department - Revenue & Expenses for November and December 2023 and January 2024; Tax & Property Department- Revenue Vouchers for January 2024.

ATTEST: _____
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

_____ CHAIRPERSON
 Perry Miller
 Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for February, 2024

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	279,055.74
County Highway	\$	95,736.41
911 Communications	\$	50,978.61
County Agent	\$	7,590.34
Veterans Service	\$	10,278.67
Weed Officer	\$	500.00
Public Health Fund	\$	88,384.17
Income Maintenance	\$	55,483.16
Foster Care	\$	20,031.57
Child Protective Svc	\$	38,406.68
Parent Aid	\$	4,603.90
Family Soc Worker	\$	5,128.28
Social Services	\$	67,593.22
In-Home Care	\$	22,027.17
Admin Support	\$	13,962.87
JDA	\$	990.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	760,750.79

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General Accounts	\$	258,113.27
County Highway	\$	93,677.27
Bridge Replacement	\$	7,566.98
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	-
Prairie Dog Disbursements		
15 Mill Road		
Emergency Assistance Donation		
Emergency Fund		
911 Communications	\$	42,434.07
NDRIN	\$	1,672.78
Capitol Improvement		
Water Rescue		
Special Response Team		
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund		
K9 Dog Donations		
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	2,230.00
County Agent	\$	3,338.94
Veterans Service	\$	5,179.56
Veteran Assistance Donation		
Weed Control Levy	\$	1,203.51
Public Health	\$	63,121.28
Haz Chem Fund	\$	657.64
Income Maintenance	\$	22,367.28

Foster Care	\$	6,090.29
Child Protective Svc	\$	13,342.37
Parent Aid	\$	1,359.53
Family Soc Worker	\$	2,069.96
Social Services	\$	23,446.72
In-Home Care	\$	12,234.60
Admin Support	\$	16,706.85
HSZ Board		
Safety Permanency Fd		
Foster Care		
Unallow Fed Costs		
General Assistance		
American Rescue Plan Funds		
State Medical Levy	\$	43,939.14
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	975.00
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	43,939.14
Domestic Violence	\$	175.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	68,155.42
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	14,450.73
Jail Concession	\$	-
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	2,475.39
SEMCA	\$	7,709.61
County General Accounts	\$	105,392.87
Diversion Settlement	\$	1,047,902.27
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	44,413.81
Historical Society	\$	11,101.33
Co Agent Special	\$	380.00
Soil Cons District	\$	37,366.10
Water Mngt Levy	\$	122,498.82
Joint Water Resource	\$	65,908.82
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	2,193,596.35
TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	\$	2,954,347.14

ATTEST: _____

Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

_____ CHAIRPERSON

Perry Miller
Board of Richland County Commissioners