# RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 15, 2024

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on October 15, 2024 with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and South, State's Attorney Kummer, Jesse Sedler, Donny Witt, Sarah Erickson, John Anderson, Steve Gjerdevig, Sheriff Ruhl, Tracy Hansen, Matt Syvertson, David Reid, and visitors Jason Flack, and Tyler Kellen.

A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Campbell to approve the agenda. Vote was unanimous.

# MINIMUM SALE PRICE HEARING

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Cambell to approve the minimum sale prices as adjusted for foreclosure properties. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached to minutes).

#### MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Matt Syvertson introduced new GIS Technician David Reid to the Board of Commissioners. Reid started September 16, 2024.

#### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sedler gave the following updates on Highway activities:

Co Rd 16 – Change order will be submitted to Flex Funding for reimbursement. Phase 1 is complete, currently working on phase II to Greatbend. Phase III will be the portion west of interstate. Rumble strips will be placed, seeding and permanent sign work should be completed next week.

Co Rd 8, 3, 26, & 2N – Roads are complete.

Sedler reported that Mark Vetter's last day is today.

### MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to appoint Terry Goerger and Rhonda Gripentrog as delegates to the ND State Fair. Vote was unanimous.

Fossum informed the Commission that Brian Fuder with Red River Retention Authority invited them on a tour of Fairview Dairy in Campbell, MN on October 24 at 10:00 A.M.

Fossum informed the Commission that Corteva is having an Open House Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 A.M.

# **JAIL STUDY**

Chris Sailors and Jill Breuer joined the meeting via Teams. Jason Flack and Tyler Kellan of Comstock Construction were present. Sailors asked the Board what questions they had for him. It was the consensus of the Board that if the project was to be considered, a strategic plan needs to be developed with a way to pay for the new facility.

Flack distributed a Conceptual Estimate Summary for the proposed correctional facility to the Board while Sailors read the estimate. Sailors stated that the budget for the proposed facility will depend on staffing. Other factors include utilities, gas, sewer, electric, etc. Sailors stated projected revenue should also be considered. Sailors recommended reaching out to a municipal advisor or someone in the area that could help with bonding. Commissioner Berseth asked Sailors how many employees it would take to run a 200-bed facility. Sailors estimated about 26.

Sheriff Ruhl distributed an Operational Cost Summary for the current Jail and an Estimated Operational Cost Summary for a 200-bed facility; estimated revenues were also projected. Berseth asked Gjerdevig if we are breaking even in the current situation. Gjerdevig stated that some months we break even and others we come out a little bit ahead. Berseth stated that with the estimated projections, the proposed facility would net 1.8 million annually. The Board of Commissioners discussed the estimated operational costs and projected revenues as well as next steps. The future of LEC needs to be considered; demolition costs will likely be involved. An estimate should also be prepared for the existing LEC to be expanded vs building new.

Sailors stated he would nail down a budget, get a staffing analysis, and work with Dave Sholl on a conceptual design for the existing LEC to be expanded.

Flack stated he would work on an estimate for demolition/preservation of existing structure.

Commissioner Miller asked Gjerdevig to check with the DOCR to see if they have a consultant who can help.

Sheriff Ruhl distributed a YTD Call for Service Report to the Board of Commissioners.

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS** <u>October</u> 20-22 NDACo Annual Conference <u>November</u> **Commission Meeting** 12 18 **Canvass Board County Tax Sale** 19 **December** 3 **Commission Meeting** 17 **Commission Meeting** Meeting adjourned at 9:51 A.M.

Perry Miller

\_\_\_\_CHAIRPERSON

Board of Richland County Commissioners

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Sandy Fossum

Auditor/Administrator

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