

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 3, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on January 3, 2023 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; State's Attorney Kummer; a large group of visitors was also in attendance including: Sheriff Ruhl, Jesse Sedler, Pat Lettow, Josh Beto, Kristin Thorsteinson, Teri Bontjes, Darlene Lee, Sara Erickson, Melissa Brown, Kayla Carlson, Lindsey Bommersbach, Steve Nelk, Justin Johnson, Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko, Judge Cruff, Larry Leshovsky, Clint Arndt, Susan Ruhl, Brandon Ward, and Agent Frank Mendez.

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

Judge Cruff administered the oath of office to Sheriff Ruhl. Larry Leshovsky pinned the badge that has been worn by the Richland County Sheriff since the 1960's on Ruhl's shirt. Ruhl made comments thanking Leshovsky for the great job that he has done as Sheriff.

Judge Cruff administered the oath of office to State's Attorney Kummer.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

Erickson addressed issues with the company that printed and mailed tax statements.

No Resolution Report is available as the number's hadn't been updated due to the 31st being on Saturday and Monday being a holiday; the report will be available for the second meeting in January.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sedler reported the following:

- 2023 paving plan was discussed: Co 8 N of Co 10 to Brushvale (3 miles); Co 8 East past Cargill Employee entrance (6 miles)
- Chip Seal: Co 16 from Co 1 to west of ND state 18
- New bridge funding available, if awarded plans to use for "Darren Prochnow Bridge" on Co 16
- Staffing: Ron's last day is January 16; Donny Witt is doing a good job in his new position
- Shop update: Completion still shooting for beginning of March, so far only 1 change order

AGENT MENDEZ - CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS

Agent Mendez addressed the Commission in regard to the \$5,500 out of Civil asset forfeiture for computers that was previously approved. The computers are coming in higher than anticipated with cost of \$1,400 per computer and \$225 per docking station. Mendez requested that SEMCA be able to use up to \$7,500 for the purchase instead of the \$5,500 previously approved.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to allow up to \$7,500 for purchase. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to approve the minutes from meetings December 6 and December 20. Vote was unanimous.

Water Board Appointments - Brandon Ward introduced himself to Commission and said he would like to see better technology brought to the board.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Campbell to appoint Arv Burvee to Water Board. Voting No was Berseth, the remainder voted yes and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to appoint Brandon Ward to the Water Board. Vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) HSZ Board - Tim had Lynn Flieth provide written update and Lynn will be at the next meeting to give an update on the indirect cost reimbursement.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - Monument dedication still scheduled for Spring 2023
- C) Public Health - Carlson updated that they have hired a DON, Susie Ouradnik, she will start Feb 1. Currently Immunization Coordinator at Cass Public Health.
Lindsey Bommersbach addressed the Commission and gave a brief overview of what she is currently doing with her position. Working on expanding tobacco cessation, Essentia and Sanford refer patients to her. She is going into the Wahpeton School system 2 times a month under the drug free community grant that only covers the City of Wahpeton.
- D) Met a week ago, SVEDA met 2 weeks ago. They have changed the applications for funding for the JPA, there are 2 openings on the SVEDA Board for the representation from the City of Wahpeton. The City of Wahpeton will find and appoint. There is a joint meeting being planned with JPA, SVEDA and Local Development Corps. Housing is still strong with Mooreton looking into the possibility of having one built there.
- E) Weed Board - Goerger has visited with Chairman Thompson and they are planning a meeting in February to determine where they go from here.
- F) Soils Committee - No report. The portfolio will meet with Melissa Brown to determine who needs to be reappointed to the board and will try to resume having meetings.
- G) Park Board - The next meeting will be held in March.
- H) Administration - Fossum addressed the Commission regarding the IT position that is open. Job descriptions were given to Gallagher and they have provided us with recommendations. The IT Manager would be in charge of IT and would directly supervise the GIS-IT Tech Position that was created. The IT Manager position is coming in at a C43 and the GIS-IT Tech Position is coming in as a B23. Previously GIS Coordinator and the It Manager were both at a C42. Fossum requested the authority to reorganize the administration staff and appoint Matt Syvertson to the IT Manager and to be able to advertise for a GIS-IT tech. This would save the County approximately \$16,300 the first year, would eliminate a lot of training for the new IT person and this would provide a backup for each

position. Discussion was held how Matt has been doing IT and GIS Coordinator since Brandon left.

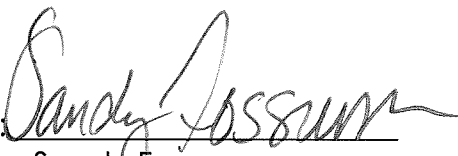
A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to appoint Matt Syvertson IT Manager effective December 1, 2022 and have wage move to C43 step 7 for December 2022 and go to C43 step 8 for 2023 and advertise and fill GIS-IT Tech position at a B23 step 1. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

Goerger indicated that he has been approached by residents around Lake Elsie requesting that the County plow West Ridge Road on the west side of the lake. Berseth asked Kummer to look into how the County can deem that some County roads no longer be County roads.

Motion to adjourn by Goerger.
Meeting adjourned at 9:40

Reports Filed: Tax & Property Dept - Revenue Voucher for October and November 2022; Sheriff Department - Revenue and Expenses for October 2022.

ATTEST: 
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator


Rollie Ehler
CHAIRPERSON
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for December 2022

PAYROLL (inclusive)

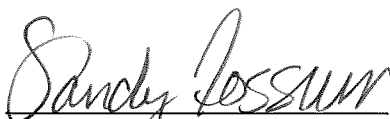
General	\$	253,900.06
County Highway	\$	91,298.39
911 Communications	\$	49,244.37
County Agent	\$	6,416.66
Veterans Service	\$	8,188.28
Weed Officer	\$	980.00
Public Health Fund	\$	75,970.94
Income Maintenance	\$	83,779.48
Foster Care	\$	22,253.86
Child Protective Svc	\$	53,397.73
Parent Aid	\$	3,200.70
Family Soc Worker	\$	4,650.00
Social Services	\$	57,800.45
In-Home Care	\$	18,341.47
Admin Support	\$	18,371.97
HSZ Board	\$	400.00
County General	\$	450.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	748,644.36

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General	\$	332,010.64
County Highway	\$	154,454.73
Bridge Replacement	\$	97,536.20
Road & Bridge	\$	18,850.00
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	698.26
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	40,358.11
NDRIN	\$	153.41
Capitol Improvement	\$	2,256.50
Water Rescue	\$	-
Special Response Team	\$	-
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	(966.00)
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	45,300.00
County Agent	\$	4,891.37
Veterans Service	\$	3,829.12
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	44,536.35
Public Health	\$	60,422.22
Haz Chem Fund	\$	1,442.99
Income Maintenance	\$	21,562.17

Adult Services	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	6,602.82
Child Protective Svc	\$	11,904.35
Parent Aid	\$	1,766.87
Family Soc Worker	\$	1,915.53
Social Services	\$	20,107.56
In-Home Care	\$	14,258.52
Admin Support	\$	7,715.77
HSZ Board	\$	299.31
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	1,813.06
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	3,180.86
General Assistance	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	254.68
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	-
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	254.68
Domestic Violence	\$	105.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	-
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	16,681.83
Jail Concession	\$	11,765.63
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	1,805.00
SEMCA	\$	601.51
County General Accounts	\$	35,862.62
JDA	\$	-
Diversion Settlement	\$	730,400.00
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	802.63
Historical Society	\$	198.29
Co Agent Special	\$	64.30
Soil Cons District	\$	239.94
Water Mngt Levy	\$	2,631.74
Joint Water Resource	\$	382.04
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	45,109.91
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	1,744,060.52
TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	\$	2,492,704.88

ATTEST:


 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator


 Rollie Ehlert
 Board of Richland County Commissioners

CHAIRPERSON