

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 4, 2022**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on January 4, 2022 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert and Perry Miller. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; Assistant State's Attorney Moen; and a Daily News Reporter. Visitor Rich Slagle attended a portion of the meeting.

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

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Berg to approve the Minutes of meetings December 7 and December 21. Vote was unanimous.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Miller to approve the list of Depositories. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached to minutes).

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

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence from Interstate Engineering re- Wahpeton Downtown Side Streets

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Social Services - No Report.

B) Buildings & Grounds - The estimate for the HVAC System came in considerably higher than expected at \$2.9 million. A Courthouse Facilities grant has been submitted.

C) Public Health - Still working on the Director of Nursing Position but waiting for the Eide Bailly study. The new pickup has arrived.

D) JDA -A meeting was held last month- three loans were approved. The next meeting will be held in Lidgerwood.

WATER RESOURCE BOARD APPLICANTS

The following individuals have expressed interest in being appointed to the Water Board, they introduced themselves to the Commission: Warren C Anderson, Jim Dotzenrod, Tom Kubela and Craig Myhre.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to nominate Tom Kubela.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Berseth to nominate Warren C Anderson.

By a show of hands - Tom Kubela was appointed to the Water Resource Board.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

Sedler presented paperwork for signatures for the following:

- Bridge Inspection local match \$9,000
- CR1 Railroad Improvements \$12,859

Equipment Operator - One application was received for the vacant position.

Bid Opening - Will have a bid opening at the February 1 meeting for a Motor Grader.

COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

E) Weed Board - No Report.

F) Soils Committee - No report.

G) Park Board - The next meeting is scheduled for March.

H) Administration - Fossum reported the following:

- reminded the Commission they wanted to meet with the Water Board quarterly, she is waiting to hear back on their meeting dates/agendas.

- the City of Wahpeton has approved the 2022 - 911/Communications Contract, we are waiting on the signatures.

- still waiting to hear from Eide Bailly on when they will be providing our Efficiency Study.

- would like to request a Market Survey for Salaries from Gallagher so we have information for budgeting, this should be done every 3-4 years. The proposed cost is \$20,000.

- Year End Budget adjustments and transfers were presented. The general fund came in approximately \$600,000 under budget and larger state aid disbursements came in than anticipated. With the transfers as presented, we will be able to build the new Highway Shop without having to take out financing.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Miller to approve the Year-end Transfers as presented. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Miller to approve the Year-end Budget Adjustments as presented. Vote was unanimous.

The Board discussed the ARPA Funds Bonuses paid to state employees which created an issue to other Departments.

MELISSA NEITZKE and SHERIFF LESHOVSKY - JAIL

Neitzke and Leshovsky were present to answer questions that came up at a previous Commission meeting regarding the Jail, which included the following:

Ransom County Contract - Leshovsky reported negotiations with Ransom County for housing inmates is still ongoing - we have provided them a contract and are waiting on them.

Jail Capacity - There is bed space for 30 however the current limit is 19. We have to keep sentenced, un-sentenced, females, etc all in separate spaces. We keep our limit to 16, leaving space for Domestic Violence.

With covid protocols this is a moving target on a daily basis per Public Health Guidelines. The Health Department would like a Policy on when Jailers can test inmates.

Testing inmates for illness, pregnancy, Covid etc. has to do with Health Department Liability and the CLIA waiver and because we have no policy on binex, Jailers cannot test inmates.

Berseth recommended the State's Attorney Office look into the CLIA waiver/Policy. Sheriff Leshovsky stated he would address it with the Health Department.

Staffing - One more female jailer is needed and they will be fully staffed.

Contract Fees - Rates for federal inmates has not been changed for several years and should be reviewed.

The Commission requested Neitzke and Leshovsky come back to the February meeting with an update on the "Policy" and some "Contract Fee" suggestions.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Ehlert to approve the Sale of County property in Fairmount to the City of Fairmount. Vote was unanimous.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January

- 4 Department Head Meeting
- 5 Housing Authority 11:30
- 13 Christmas Party

March

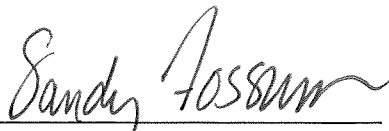
- 1 Commission Meeting
- 2-4 Election Trg in Bismarck
- 10 5-County Mtg in Wyndmere
- 15 Commission Meeting

February

- 1 Commission Meeting
- 15 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:46 A.M.

Reports Filed: Sheriff Department - Revenue and Expenses for November 2021.

ATTEST: 
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Nathan Berseth
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for December, 2021.

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	247,095.74
County Highway	85,543.99
911 Communications	52,504.01
County Agent	8,533.67
Veterans Service	7,858.94
Weed Officer	400.00
Public Health Fund	88,446.54
Income Maintenance	52,159.00
Foster Care	20,429.70
Child Protective Svc	40,122.21
Parent Aid	4,600.70
Family Soc Worker	12,030.72
Social Services	11,918.00
In-Home Care	23,500.17
Admin Support	12,426.94
HSZ Board	400.00
JDA	270.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	668,240.33

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General	187,138.09
County Highway	265,090.14
Bridge Replacement	52,112.27
Road & Bridge	50,666.50
15 Mill Rd Fund	35,226.45
911 Communications	36,217.59
NDDRIN	701.55
Cap Improvement Fd	-1,848.00
Spec Response Team	967.80
County Agent	4,132.72
Veterans Service	3,707.93
Weed Control Levy	24,395.97
Public Health	93,887.77
Income Maintenance	17,851.11
Foster Care	8,106.41
Child Protective Svc	14,949.14
Parent Aid	2,277.48
Family Soc Worker	4,947.72
Social Services	5,031.28
In-Home Care	13,553.86
Admin Support	5,379.87
HSZ Board	311.11

Safety Permanency Fd	614.84
Unallow Fed Costs	11.00
General Assistance	2,473.00
State Medical Levy	239.61
3 Rivers Crisis Center	975.00
FEMA	6,815.26
Garrison Div	239.61
Domestic Violence	245.00
State Aid Distribution	13,062.10
Jail Concession	134.65
Sobriety Test Fd	6,924.00
SEMCA	754.68
JDA	159,586.85
Diversion Settlement	28,400.00
Sr Citizen Fund	668.66
Historical Society	165.26
Co Agent Special	480.56
Soil Cons District	228.18
Water Mngt Levy	2,241.47
Joint Water Resource	359.52
Est Real Estate Tax	31,955.37
EXPENSE TOTAL	

TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES **1,749,619.71**

ATTEST: *Sandy Fossum*
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

Nathan Berseth CHAIRPERSON
 Nathan Berseth
 Board of Richland County Commissioners