

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 16, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on May 16, 2023 with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer; Assistant State's Attorney Rydell; Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko and Visitor Dan Ystervo.

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

EXTENSION AGENT PROGRAM REPORT

Extension Staff gave updates on programs and activities in their office.

Agent Lacy Christopher reported on Ag & Natural Resources; Agent Ronda Gripenrog reported on Family & Community Wellness and Heidi Loll reported on the Family Nutrition Program.

LYNN FLIETH - RSR HUMAN SERVICE ZONE INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

Flieth explained the current allocation of Indirect Expenses the counties each receive to support Human Service Zone offices. It is currently at 50/25/25 which was a "best Guess" upon the zone formation - (50 allocated to Richland and 25 to each Sargent and Ransom Counties). The RSR Zone Board is recommending altering the current disbursement agreement between the three counties to 60/20/20. Changing the allocation requires County Commission approval of all three counties.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to change the indirect cost allocation to 60/20/20 as recommended by the RSR Zone Board. Vote was unanimous.

Flieth also reported on several legislative changes -

- for 2024 if we can demonstrate items are "solely" for Social Services it will become a direct cost to Social Services

- Zone Board Membership will include one Legislator

SHERIFF RUHL - STATISTICS REVIEW/DEPARTMENT REPORT

A print-out of March/April calls was distributed to the Commission.

Ruhl reported on several recommendations from the recent State inspection of the Jail:

- need to work on some policies
- currently not able to take female inmates due to staffing (will be fully staffed June 1 with a new female hire)

Ruhl invited the Commission to a Demonstration of the Drone Program scheduled for June 19.

Commissioner Campbell exited the meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Jesse Sedler and Donnie Witt.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to advertise for LP Bids. Vote was unanimous.

Project BRJ039(048) - Sedler reported bids were opened May 12 and Industrial Builders was the low bid in the amount of \$2,069,719.10. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve a Resolution awarding the contract for Project BRJ039(048) to Industrial Builders. Vote was unanimous.

Misc

- Crews are busy spot graveling
- Mark Sand & Gravel is crushing
- Shop Update

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to approve an expenditure up to \$17,000 for a parking pad at the new Hankinson Shop. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence from Rose Dotzenrod requesting the Commission draft a letter to the PSC
- Correspondence from ND Environmental Quality re- Lidgerwood Landfill
- Correspondence from ND Water Resource Districts Assn re-2023 Meeting

A motion was made by Miler and seconded by Berseth to approve a Raffle Permit Application for the Richland County Wildlife Club. Vote was unanimous.

Fossum reported she received information on the Township Software Accounting Program ATR from Peak Yield LLC - she will be providing the Townships with this information.

Fossum reported that Foreclosure Notices will be mailed out this week and the Sheriff Dept will start serving papers.

Miller reported that he, Commissioner Goerger, two Wilkin County Commissioners, along with Jill Breuer and Tracy Hansen from Dispatch toured the Red River Dispatch Center. Breuer will be putting out a RFP for combining the Wilkin and Richland Dispatch Centers and by June the Commission should have some RFP's to look at.

Fossum presented information on the projected increase to Health Insurance Rates for the next two years and reported Departments are working on budget sheets.

Visitor Dan Ystervo addressed the Commission - he asked the Status of the Hemnes Cemetery, he is the owner of the property. Ystervo was informed that State's Attorney Kummer is working on the Deed language and the Corp is doing a study on the Bank Stabilization. Ystervo voiced concerns over maintenance of the property while the details are being worked out.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May

- 18 5 County Meeting
- 31 Veterans Expo

June

- 6 Commission Meeting/Equalization Meetings
- 20 Commission Meeting

July

- 10 Park Board
- 18 Commission Meeting/Budget Meetings
- 19 Budget Meetings
- 20 Geology Tour

Motion to adjourn by Goerger.
Meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum Rolle Ehler CHAIRPERSON
Sandy Fossum Rolle Ehler
Auditor/Administrator Board of Richland County Commissioners