

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 18, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on July 18, 2023 with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehler, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and DelVal; State's Attorney Kummer; Assistant State's Attorney Rydell; and Daily News Reporter Frank Stanko. A large group of visitors also attended a portion of the meeting.

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

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to approve the Minutes of meetings June 6, June 20 and County Equalization June 6. Vote was unanimous.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

JASON FLACK - HVAC PROJECT

Flack distributed bid information for the HVAC Project which was bid out the end of June. Flack explained the base bid does include a new roof, a 6% contingency for unforeseen items, ceilings, and final cleaning. An alternate manufacturer for courthouse equipment was also presented.

Estimated construction costs are \$3,502,910 plus contingency, CM and design fees for a total of \$4,139,515. The alternate temperature control manufacture for Courthouse equipment would save \$100,704.

The Board discussed the results and how the project would be paid for. Fossum reported ARPA funds would cover some of the costs and the remainder would come from the Capital Outlay Fund and a transfer from the general fund.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to proceed with the project, using the alternate temperature control manufacturer. Vote was unanimous.

JILL BREUER - APCO CONSULTING SERVICES

Breuer was present to discuss the APCO proposal and continue discussions of merging Richland and Wilkin Dispatch Centers. Breuer has not heard anything further from Wilkin County after visiting the Red River Dispatch Center in Fargo and sending Wilkin County the Consolidation Feasibility Study proposal prepared by APCO consulting services.

Breuer reported in the Wilkin County Minutes approved May 9th it was reported by Commissioner Klindt that it does not seem that merging is a feasible option.

The proposal from APCO for preparing a feasibility study is \$49,805 - \$54,805. Breuer commented there would be no point in spending the money or moving forward unless Wilkin County sees this as an option.

The Board tabled this item and will follow-up with Wilkin County.

SHERIFF RUHL

Sheriff Ruhl asked for a moment of silence for Fargo Officer Jake Wallin who was killed in the line of duty. Ruhl reported the Sheriff Department has offered to help Cass County patrol the southern end of Cass County.

Sheriff Ruhl reported on the protest held in Wahpeton on June 29 at the Courthouse. It was a peaceful protest and there were no issues. The Wahpeton Police Chief has been in contact with the family and there will be another protest in August with a much larger group. 1,000 are expected with buses coming from Sioux Falls, Rochester and Minneapolis. Different entities are working together to prepare for the protest and help may be enabled from Cass County, ND Highway Patrol, Sargent and Ransom Counties and possibly more.

The Commission requested an update on the protest preparedness at their August 1 meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Bridge 39-124-15.1 - The bridge was repaired in 2021. Communications between the DOT and the County were lost and DOT never recognized the repairs. The bridge will remain closed until it can be inspected.

Wolf Crossing - E-mails were received with a monetary value. However, we need to have a conference call with FEMA for final direction. Sedler will contact Wolf's after the call.

Drain Tile - The project will take appx four more weeks.

Overlay Projects - A pre-construction conference is scheduled for July 20.

Gravel Crushing - Crushing is done as MSHA shut down the pit. Crushed appx 75,000 tons so we are about 50,000 short.

Clay - Good, heavy clay was located in the Fargo area for \$5/yard delivered. Sedler will check into what is available. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to authorize the purchase of up to 15,000/yards. Vote was unanimous.

Misc -

- will be advertising job openings
- the new road groomer is working good
- CR 81 pipes are pulling apart (options are to replace or line them)

LYNN FLIETH - RSR ZONE

Flieth requested the Commission take action on the following items:

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Berseth to approve the Social Service Zone Compensation calendar switch to July 1 of each year. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to expend funds in the 2024 budget. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to appoint Representative Alisa Mitskog to the RSR Human Service Zone. Vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) HSZ Board - Lynn Flieth met with the Commission earlier in the meeting.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - A patio area will be installed; some tuck pointing is needed on the Courthouse.
- C) Public Health - Angie Conzemius introduced herself to the Commission. She is the Community Resource Coordinator. She assists clients with Medicare and works with Social Services, the Veterans Service Office, clinics and pharmacies. Last year she served 506 clients and had 1156 visits.
- D) JDA/JPA - Have received several requests; the JPA is working on several projects.
- E) Weed Board - L & M Roadside Service is busy spraying and will try to coordinate with haying highway ditches next year. The Weed Board will put some excess equipment on the consignment auction in Hankinson.
- F) Soils Committee - No report.
- G) Park Board - The budget was approved at the July meeting. Garbage cans and holders have been replaced at Mooreton Pond.
- H) Administration - No report.

LEON HEYEN - COLFAX TWSP

Heyen informed Commissioner Miller he had an issue with the article Miller had in the newspaper and the comments made on the radio in regards to the Solar Panel Project.

Miller replied he signed the article personally, not as a Commissioner or the opinion of the Board; Miller also stated he had invited Heyen to join him on the radio program so Heyen could share his own opinion of the Solar Panel Project.

Chairman Ehlert stopped the discussion stating it did not pertain to the Board and was a personal issue that Heyen and Miller need to discuss.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rose Dotzenrod and a large group of visitors were present. Dotzenrod presented additional petitions to the Commission regarding an investigation into ownership of Midwest Carbon Express CO2 Pipeline Project proposed by SCS Carbon Transport, LLC.

Dotzenrod requested the Commission pass a motion pursuant to SB2371 - commencing in a timely manner after August 1, 2023 - to request and direct ND Attorney General to complete an investigation into owners and investors of Summit Carbon regarding ND PSC Case 22 391 and request a final report of the same.

Miller read a section of the minutes from the June 20 Commission meeting where Dotzenrod was informed the Commission would address again at their August 1 meeting after gathering additional information on costs and Verbage used by Burleigh and Emmons County in their requests to the Attorney General.

Discussion followed, at the conclusion Ehlert stated the Board would gather the information and review at the August 1 meeting.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Goerger and seconded by Miller to approve a Raffle Permit Application for BCTGM Local 167G Unit 405. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to approve the Payment of Bills. Vote was unanimous.

- Correspondence from ND Environmental Quality re - Lidgerwood Solid Waste Facility

Motion to adjourn by Goerger.
Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

Reports Filed: Richland County Recorder - Revenue Vouchers for June, 2023.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

Rollie Ehlert CHAIRPERSON
Rollie Ehlert
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for June 2023

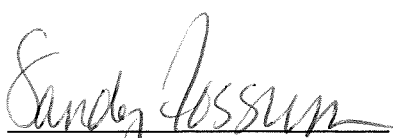
PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	270,343.95
County Highway	\$	109,966.59
911 Communications	\$	49,220.51
County Agent	\$	6,862.52
Veterans Service	\$	8,940.54
Weed Officer	\$	2,730.00
Public Health Fund	\$	93,220.19
Income Maintenance	\$	52,811.39
Foster Care	\$	17,642.20
Child Protective Svc	\$	30,932.45
Parent Aid	\$	3,500.00
Family Soc Worker	\$	4,743.00
Social Services	\$	60,733.36
In-Home Care	\$	19,382.33
Admin Support	\$	12,651.71
HSZ Board	\$	400.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	744,080.74

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General	\$	310,337.49
County Highway	\$	311,534.86
Bridge Replacement	\$	82,383.97
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	23,200.00
Prairie Dog Disbursements	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	60,217.97
NDRIN	\$	7,661.05
Capitol Improvement	\$	-
Water Rescue	\$	222.37
Special Response Team	\$	-
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	665.60
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	41,659.00
County Agent	\$	3,386.27
Veterans Service	\$	5,025.11
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	104,578.69
Public Health	\$	94,611.40
Haz Chem Fund	\$	783.45
Income Maintenance	\$	25,847.30

Adult Services	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	5,450.25
Child Protective Svc	\$	9,496.04
Parent Aid	\$	3,398.07
Family Soc Worker	\$	1,887.93
Social Services	\$	19,966.90
In-Home Care	\$	13,177.16
Admin Support	\$	6,773.43
HSZ Board	\$	144.71
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	4,312.31
Foster Care	\$	-
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	174.00
General Assistance	\$	2,499.45
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	631.96
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	2,925.00
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	1,938.86
Domestic Violence	\$	210.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	-
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	14,784.78
Jail Concession	\$	2,723.87
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	2,150.00
SEMCA	\$	2,296.45
County General Accounts	\$	35,000.00
Diversion Settlement	\$	13,085.50
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	2,424.50
Historical Society	\$	604.03
Co Agent Special	\$	392.05
Soil Cons District	\$	1,822.60
Water Mngt Levy	\$	7,041.44
Joint Water Resource	\$	2,908.30
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	1,230,334.12
TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	\$	1,974,414.86

ATTEST: 
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Rollie Ehlert
Board of Richland County Commissioners