

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on September 5, 2023 with Commissioners Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehlert, Terry Goerger and Perry Miller. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer; Assistant State's Attorney Rydell. A large group of visitors also attended a portion of the meeting.

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

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve the Minutes of meetings August 1, August 15 and the Special Session August 23. Vote was unanimous.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

Erickson distributed Foreclosure Packets and informed the Commission the Minimum Sale Price Hearing is scheduled for October 17 and the Tax Sale will be held on November 21.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Kayla Carlson and Patty Lies were present along with HR Manager Mechelle Olsen.

- Patty Lies, Chairman of the Health Board introduced herself to the Commission.

Lies explained that the quality and programs in the Health Department have increased in her 20 plus years on the Health Board. She commented on the Nursing shortage dilemma with newly graduating nurses traveling; competitive salary is needed to hire experienced nurses and to retain them.

Discussion followed on starting salaries and the difficulty in filling some positions. Olsen commented on the Gallagher Study done and suggested implementing a policy County-wide. Following discussion it was the consensus of the Board to look at some verbage for experience for new hires.

Carlson reported the following:

- Current Health Officer Dr. Hasken is retiring and Sanford has recommended a replacement. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to fill the unexpired term. Vote was unanimous.
- A Grant was received from Rural Health North Dakota
- A Contract was started with NDSCS for medical services two days a week
- Looking into purchasing table/chairs for LEC/CH through grants
- Carlson requested authorization to advertise and fill a vacant RN position. A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Goerger to advertise the vacant RN position. Vote was unanimous.

Berseth suggested working with SVEDA on advertising.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Engineer Sedler and Donnie Witt were present.

Sedler updated the Board on the following:

- overlay, striping and chip seal projects have been completed
- drain tile is complete

Sedler asked for feedback on a draft letter he prepared to Township Supervisors regarding "B" Roads. The Board recommended several changes, Sedler will make the revisions and bring back to the Board for review.

FEMA/Wolf Crossing - Still waiting for FEMA to review, the pipes have been ordered. Also working with Emergency Management on grant funding for the County share of the project.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Goerger reported he has received numerous calls from cities asking what can be done regarding unkept properties. Goerger asked if there were any Ordinances or something the County could do to help these cities. Brief discussion followed. States's Attorney Kummer explained the process that cities could use by passing Ordinances and Contracting with the District Court.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence from Bob Wurl requesting a letter of support for extending Hankinson's Renaissance Zone. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to approve a letter of Support. Vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) HSZ Board - Continue to help Cass County with clients.
- B) Buildings & Grounds - The Planned Protest on August 24 was quiet; the patio area project is on-going; a pre-construction meeting was held on the HVAC Project last week.
- C) Public Health - A Department report was heard earlier in the meeting.
- D) JDA/JPA - No new applicants recently.
- E) Weed Board - L & M Roadside Service will be spraying ingress by fields toward the end of September.
- F) Soils Committee - No report.
- G) Park Board - The next meeting will be held in Barney on September 11.
- H) Administration - Fossum reported on correspondence received from the ND Association of Counties re- 911 fees; the state would like to collect and distribute starting January 1, they would like us to sign a JPA. Miller recommended Kummer review the JPA and Jill Breuer attend the next meeting to discuss.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE cont.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September

19 Commission Meeting/Final Budget Hearing

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

Reports Filed: Tax & Property Dept - Revenue Voucher for July and August.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

Rollie Ehlert CHAIRPERSON
 Rollie Ehlert
 Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for August 2023

PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	268,560.31
County Highway	\$	90,748.39
911 Communications	\$	54,570.06
County Agent	\$	6,897.50
Veterans Service	\$	8,940.54
Weed Officer	\$	1,764.50
Public Health Fund	\$	93,842.08
Income Maintenance	\$	63,541.51
Foster Care	\$	20,028.07
Child Protective Svc	\$	35,287.84
Parent Aid	\$	4,284.90
Family Soc Worker	\$	5,128.28
Social Services	\$	67,372.24
In-Home Care	\$	21,527.63
Admin Support	\$	13,643.93
HSZ Board	\$	300.00
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	756,437.78

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General	\$	228,892.63
County Highway	\$	1,051,205.54
Bridge Replacement	\$	97,041.41
Road & Bridge Equipment Fund	\$	300,545.04
Prairie Dog Disbursements	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	60,970.16
NDRIN	\$	158.90
Capitol Improvement	\$	-
Water Rescue	\$	-
Special Response Team	\$	-
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	-
K9 Dog Donations	\$	-
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	2,495.50
County Agent	\$	20,073.94
Veterans Service	\$	4,289.24
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	58,596.60
Public Health	\$	54,393.61

Haz Chem Fund	\$	970.00
Income Maintenance	\$	22,758.81
Adult Services	\$	-
Foster Care	\$	5,007.43
Child Protective Svc	\$	13,148.31
Parent Aid	\$	1,583.99
Family Soc Worker	\$	2,406.40
Social Services	\$	22,516.37
In-Home Care	\$	13,673.84
Admin Support	\$	5,758.84
HSZ Board	\$	104.20
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	1,312.79
Foster Care	\$	-
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	179.00
General Assistance	\$	3,500.00
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	128.88
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	975.00
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	218,704.36
Garrison Div	\$	128.88
Domestic Violence	\$	315.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	59,525.46
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	17,849.13
Jail Concession	\$	1,226.56
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	1,885.00
SEMCA	\$	1,249.65
County General Accounts	\$	-
Diversion Settlement	\$	98,247.23
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	715.18
Historical Society	\$	176.20
Co Agent Special	\$	166.00
Soil Cons District	\$	121.19
Water Mngt Levy	\$	2,418.75
Joint Water Resource	\$	193.34
Estimated Real Estate Tax	\$	-
Current Tax Holding Fund	\$	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	2,375,608.36

TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES \$ 3,132,046.14

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

Rollie Ehlert CHAIRPERSON
Rollie Ehlert
Board of Richland County Commissioners