

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 6, 2022**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on December 6, 2022 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 and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer, a Daily News Reporter and visitor Steve Dale.

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

A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Campbell to approve the Minutes of Meetings November 1 and November 15. Vote was unanimous.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Berseth opened nominations for Chairman. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Berseth to nominate Ehlert as Chairman. No other nominations were received - Vote was taken and Ehlert was elected as Chairman.

Berseth turned the meeting over to Ehlert.

Ehlert opened nominations for Vice Chairman. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Campbell to nominate Miller as Vice Chairman. No other nominations were received - Vote was taken and Miller was elected as Vice Chairman.

Auditor Fossum gave the Oath of Office to newly elected Commissioners Berseth, Ehlert and Goerger.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

SHERIFF LESHOVSKY

Sheriff Leshovsky who is retiring at the end of the year thanked the Commission for their support; he has worked for the County since 1981 and has enjoyed his years working for the County.

The Commissioners thanked Leshovsky for his Service to the County.

JILL BREUER - TOWERS

Breuer explained the State would like to rent tower space in Colfax and Hankinson for the Statewide Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN 20/20) Project. Breuer explained how the SIRN Project would improve County coverage and presented a draft Contract with the State for the Tower Lease. She requested authorization to negotiate the contract details, fees, etc. with the state and would then bring a final contract to the Board for approval.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to authorize Breuer and the Portfolio Commissioner to negotiate the contract details. Vote was unanimous.

BRAD PAULY/WAHPETON CDC - HOMESTEAD DEVELOPMENT

Others in attendance were Dale Rubish and Chris DeVries.

Pauly presented information on the Homestead Development which included:

- map of the infrastructure plan
- Engineers cost estimate
- city of Wahpeton TIF commitment
- state fund possibilities
- the proposed housing units and types
- estimate of tax valuation and annual real estate taxes

Pauly said the Wahpeton Community Development Corporation would like to request financial assistance from Richland County for 19th Street and 14th Avenue estimated at \$1.1 million.

Following discussion a motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to commit up to \$1.1 million with the details of a payment plan to be finalized at a future meeting. Vote was unanimous.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to approve the sale of three tax foreclosure properties in Lidgerwood to the City of Lidgerwood.

Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve up to \$2,000 in demolition costs to the City of Lidgerwood for Parcel No. 47-0001-02905.000 and \$2,000 for Parcel No. 47-001-02935.000 once the demolition is complete.

Vote was unanimous.

JASON WEBER - PURCHASE REQUEST

Weber introduced Frank Mendez who will be the new contact for the Task Force when Weber retires at the end of the year and BCI takes over SEMCA.

Weber requested authorization to use Asset Forfeiture Funds for the purchase of four new laptops for the Department, the cost is not expected to exceed \$5,500. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to authorize the purchase of (4) new laptops using Asset Forfeiture Funds. Vote was unanimous.

Weber requested he be allowed to purchase his Badge, Name Tag & Collar Brass when he retires. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to authorize Weber to purchase the requested items for \$1.00. Vote was unanimous.

The Commissioners thanked Weber for his service to the County.

KAYLA CARLSON - DIRECTOR OF NURSING POSITION

Carlson reported the Director of Nursing Position is vacant and requested authorization to advertise and refill the Director of Nursing Position. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to advertise the Director of Nursing position. Vote was unanimous.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Sedler, and Highway Personnel Ron Hohenstern and Donnie Witt were present along with visitor Damon DeVillers.

Sedler introduced Donnie Witt to the Commission; Witt recently took on the Assistant Highway Maintenance Superintendent position.

Sedler requested authorization to purchase an Air Compressor which is estimated to cost appx \$22,400 with a trade in of \$6,000. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Berseth to authorize the purchase of an Air Compressor. Vote was unanimous.

Sedler requested authorization to advertise for an Equipment Operator. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to Advertise for an Equipment Operator. Vote was unanimous.

Sedler gave a brief update on activities that have been completed or are being worked on including the following:

- shop progress
- FEMA projects
- Interstate Engineering is surveying CR 16

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

- Correspondence from Lies, Bullis & Hatting - notice of annexation hearing

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Goerger to appoint Don Lingen to another term on the Richland County Park Board. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Berseth to appoint Nola Miksche to another term on the Richland County Park Board. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Goerger to appoint Rebecca DeVries to another term on the RSR Zonal Board. Vote was unanimous.

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

A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to approve all 2023 Liquor and Beer Licence Applications contingent upon satisfaction of all licensing requirements. Vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Social Services - The RSR Board met last week.

B) Buildings & Grounds - A sewer line in the LEC had to be repaired.

C) Public Health - Will work at filling the Director of Nursing Position.

D) JPA - working on several grants
JDA - will be meeting in January

E) Weed Board - No Report.

F) Soils Committee - No report.

G) Park Board - The next meeting will be held in March.

H) Administration - Will look into options to haul/move election equipment. The IT person has resigned, working on the job description for Gallagher to review. The Board recommended also looking into costs to contract the services compared to creating a new position.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

Miller suggested after the first of the year the Board receive a monthly report from the Sheriff Dept (including Dispatch and the Jail); similar to what other Departments provide.

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

Miller asked State's Attorney Kummer for guidance on building Inspectors for smaller communities. Kummer replied the cities need Code to follow and consequences, she recommended the communities that have concerns look at what other cities have in place.

The Board recommended Fossum invite Legislators to the December 20 meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December

- 8 5 County Meeting
- 20 Commission Meeting

January

- 3 Commission Meeting
- 17 Commission Meeting

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

ATTEST: Sandy Fossum
Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

Rollie Ehlert CHAIRPERSON
Rollie Ehlert
Board of Richland County Commissioners

The following claims were approved for November 2022

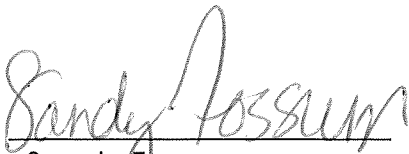
PAYROLL (inclusive)

General	\$	246,242.49
County Highway	\$	85,319.94
911 Communications	\$	46,077.29
County Agent	\$	6,171.86
Veterans Service	\$	8,188.28
Weed Officer	\$	500.00
Public Health Fund	\$	83,104.10
Income Maintenance	\$	47,671.22
Foster Care	\$	17,302.68
Child Protective Svc	\$	30,774.10
Parent Aid	\$	3,200.70
Family Soc Worker	\$	4,650.00
Social Services	\$	54,889.52
In-Home Care	\$	22,397.70
Admin Support	\$	11,898.40
HSZ Board	\$	350.00
JDA	\$	-
PAYROLL TOTAL	\$	668,738.28

EXPENSES: ** Refer to resolution records

County General	\$	201,501.68
County Highway	\$	635,140.49
Bridge Replacement	\$	20,168.23
Road & Bridge	\$	-
15 Mill Road	\$	-
Emergency Assistance Donation	\$	-
Emergency Fund	\$	-
911 Communications	\$	36,343.25
NDRIN	\$	306.82
Capitol Improvement	\$	-
Water Rescue	\$	255.50
Special Response Team		
Civil Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$	6,500.00
K9 Dog Donations	\$	-
County Agent	\$	2,788.87
Veterans Service	\$	5,053.35
Veteran Assistance Donation	\$	-
Weed Control Levy	\$	1,087.77
Public Health	\$	79,078.37
Haz Chem Fund	\$	-
Income Maintenance	\$	18,359.67
Adult Services	\$	-

Foster Care	\$	5,308.81
Child Protective Svc	\$	9,709.88
Parent Aid	\$	2,059.02
Family Soc Worker	\$	2,012.64
Social Services	\$	17,480.02
In-Home Care	\$	12,687.83
Admin Support	\$	6,345.61
HSZ Board	\$	142.50
Safety Permanency Fd	\$	1,165.57
Unallow Fed Costs	\$	2,406.00
General Assistance	\$	-
State Medical Levy	\$	1,600.60
Three Rivers Crisis Center	\$	-
FEMA Disaster Reimbursement	\$	-
Garrison Div	\$	1,600.60
Domestic Violence	\$	210.00
Twsp Share Gas & Oil	\$	56,135.31
TeleComm Tax Fund	\$	-
State Aid Distribution	\$	18,215.19
Jail Concession	\$	1,255.84
Sobriety Test Fund	\$	1,885.00
SEMCA	\$	7,643.77
County General Accounts	\$	164,938.02
JDA	\$	-
Diversion Settlement	\$	7,586.00
ND Income Tax W/H	\$	-
Sr Citizen Fund	\$	2,198.92
Historical Society	\$	547.13
Co Agent Special	\$	333.25
Soil Cons District	\$	1,505.37
Water Mngt Levy	\$	6,520.92
Joint Water Resource	\$	2,401.05
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$	1,340,478.85
TOTAL PAYROLL & EXPENSES	\$	2,009,217.13

ATTEST: 
 Sandy Fossum
 Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
 Rolie Ehlert
 Board of Richland County Commissioners