

February 5th 2019
Finley ND

The Steele County Commission meeting was called to order at 8:00 am. Present were Chairman Randy Richards, Commissioners Brian Tuite, Russell Walcker, Richard Strand, and Ted Johnson. Also present were Reed Oien, and Sheriff Wayne Beckman.

Agenda Additions: Agassiz Valley Social Service, Complaint filed -Nelson County Water Board, SC Water Resource District minutes, JDA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve the January minutes. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent Reed Oien met with the board and presented the gravel estimates for 2019. Oien estimated 43.5 total miles of graveling.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to request bids for the graveling, with a bonus if work is completed by July 15th 2019. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding reopening the Sharon shop and keeping a blade up there. Oien will get quotes for propane heat, as well as a new door. The board discussed looking at the blue print of the Finley shop in the future, and discussed a recent site visit to the shop. The board also reviewed the culvert bid price increases from 2018 to 2019.

Mike Bassingthwaite of Interstate Engineering was not able to attend the meeting, but provided a written update which included the Windloss bridge, County Road 7 Bridge options, and a Central Specialties pay estimate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve and pay Central Specialties Inc. \$21,568.66, the amount of Pay Estimate #3. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Job Development Coordinator Karen Bergstrom and Treasurer Holly Stromsodt met with the board to provide a quarterly update on her office, per the board's request. The county website was discussed and Bergstrom will get quotes on the cost of a new website.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Tuite to approve and sign the Construction Maintenance Agreement from the ND DOT for the safety striping project. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Walcker to approve the ND DOT load limit postings. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Auditor Wigen informed the board that Knife River has requested to be on the agenda for the March meeting.

A written department update was presented on behalf of Ben Gates for the Emergency Manager's office, as well as the Tax Directors office.

Discussion was held on the County Park Board grant for the campground, and the March Park Board meeting. Gates provided an estimate of \$7,200 for four cameras at the county shop. The panic buttons were also discussed and codes will now be kept by the alarm panel. A grant for new radios was discussed. The grant did not cover the installation of the radios which is estimated at \$7,500.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Strand to approve Ben Gates, Wayne Beckman and Emily Wigen to have live and recorded access to the cameras, and the sheriff's deputies will have live access. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve the Severe Weather Declaration to remain in effect until March 5th 2019. All member voted yes. Motion carried.

2019 state agland values were reviewed and discussed. Gates will work on final numbers for next month's meeting. The Vanguard reappraisal project numbers were reviewed by township. Individual parcels were also noted. The board will meet with Gates on February 27th to review the information further. Gates was also instructed to make one final attempt to reach the farm exempt properties that have not responded to his correspondence.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Tuite to enter into executive session at 10:32am. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to close executive session at 10:57am. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Dave Frye joined the meeting to review the Courthouse bathroom remodel project. The project will be advertised for bid this month, with a pre-bid walk through on February 14th and bid opening on February 26th. The removal of asbestos found in the basement is estimated to be under \$5,000 and will be billed direct, not as part of the project.

Sheriff Wayne Beckman advised the board of needed repair to the county ranger. An estimate of \$1400 was given to replace the differential. Beckman was given approval to repair. It was also discussed that the sheriff's office will need to relocate during the bathroom project. Options were discussed, but not finalized.

A 2018 year in review update was provided in writing by 911 coordinator Don Huso.

Auditor Emily Wigen provided the board with a 2018 year in review including expense, revenue and fund balances. Wigen also provided an overview of the upcoming Steele County School reorganization meeting being held this month.


Commissioner Richards provided an update on the Agassiz Valley Social Service district. The Steele County weather policy was also reviewed and it was decided to leave as is. The recent complaint file by the board with the Nelson County Water Resource district was briefly discussed. No update has been received. The SC water resource district meeting minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Richards

advised the board he has not had a chance to speak with the SC Water board chairman about an end of year bonus for the secretary that was discussed and approved.

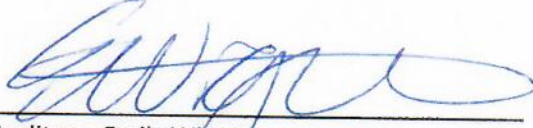
Auditor Wigen reviewed the 2017 Audit findings with the board and provided them with copies. An office update including human resources and work force safety was given by Wigen, followed by a brief discussion about the Sheriff's office hiring a Full Time deputy.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve all bills as presented. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to adjourn the meeting. All members voted yes. Meeting was adjourned.



Chairman – Randy Richards



Auditor – Emily Wigen