

August 6th 2019
Finley ND

The Steele County Commissioner meeting was called to order at 8:37 am. Present were Chairman Randy Richards, Commissioners Brian Tuite, Russell Walcker, Richard Strand and Ted Johnson. Dennis Lindstrom was also present.

Agenda Additions were as follows: Kim Jacobsen – Agassiz Valley Social Services, vault painting quote, MOU – Public Health

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Strand to approve the July minutes and agenda as presented. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Veteran Service Officer, Dennis Lindstrom, met with the board to provide an office update, which included the potential for getting a second Veteran Service van. He also provided a 2018 and year to date total of veterans services with the van in Steele County, as well as Griggs County.

Karen Bergstrom and Holly Stromstad joined the meeting to provide a JDA coordinator update, which included a review of the financials. Bergstrom presented options for a new county website.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to sign a contract with GovOffice for the new county website. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

KLJ advised that it would be mid-September before the box culvert project would be started. They are estimating four weeks to complete the project. The completion date for the project is October 5th. Commissioner Strand urged them to try for an earlier start date.

North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund attorney, Joe Quinn, joined the meeting.

Road Superintendent Reed Oien provided an update on the Windloss bridge project and a utility permit. Oien was instructed to make sure all non- inspected bridges have signs posted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walcker and seconded by Commissioner Tuite to sign the NDDOT construction contract with Midwest Contracting LLC for project number BRO-0046(020) PNC 20923. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to sign the NDDOT Construction Engineering Services Agreement with Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson for project number BRO-0046(020) PNC 20923. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Bassingthwaite with Interstate Engineering joined the meeting. He discussed items pertaining to the Knife River dispute, including a July 11th, 2019 email. Bassingthwaite stated that quality assurance was the responsibility of Interstate Engineering and quality control was the responsibility of Knife River. He also stated that he was not sure why the county's attorney has not asked for any information or documents from Interstate Engineering. Bassingthwaite discussed the need for urgency to proceed with the seal coat and safety project. The commission asked Mr. Quinn to consult with his firm and get an answer on whether it is alright to proceed with both projects. The county will document the road by video before work begins. Central Specialties work was discussed down by Hope, that included dirt work and grading on the NW side of the road. The county will do some trenching to release some of

the standing water to finish the project. It was also discussed that the road by the elevator on the west side is in bad condition.

Sheriff Wayne Beckman introduced Drew Johnson as the new Griggs, Steele, Traill County Game Warden.

Amber Mertz, with Lake Agassiz, met with the board and provided an overview regarding the need for a budget request increase from \$2,000 to \$2,900 in 2020.

Travis Palm with TJ Electronics met with the board to discuss the three IT proposals. These updates include replacing the Windows 7 computers, replacing the server, cleaning up the wire racks, and an active directory system.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Tuite to approve the update of Windows 7 computers for this year. All members voted yes. Motion carried. Palm will put a 4 to 5 year plan together to update all items.

Kim Jacobsen with Agassiz Valley social services met with the board to provide an update on the State Social Service redesign. Steele and Traill County will remain as a zone and assist northern Cass County with services. Indirect costs listed by the state that will not be covered by state funding were discussed. A joint commission meeting was scheduled for September 10th 2019 at 9:00 am in Hillsboro.

Bobbi Hepper Olson provided an update on the bathroom restoration project. Olson estimated the project to be 95% complete. The final punch list has not been completed and the stall doors have not been ordered.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve pay estimate #4 in the amount of \$17637. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve building permits for Peter Ness and Russ Stensland which were submitted by Gates. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Gates presented quotes for generators from RS Electric and Precision. The commissioners requested Gates get new bids for the same size generators so they could be compared, as the current bids were for a 50 kw and a 90 kw generator. Gates also provided an update on state equalization, as well as the 2019 flood.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding between Steele County Public Health and Fargo Cass Public Health. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Strand to approve the 2019 Steele County Personnel policy. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

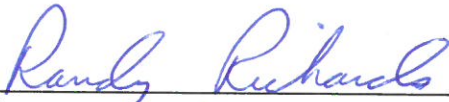
A motion was made by Commissioner Tuite and seconded by Commissioner Strand to approve and sign the contract with West Traill Ambulance for 2020 in the amount of \$90,000. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Registration and information for the 2019 NDACO conference in October was presented by Auditor Wigen. Commissioner Johnson will remain the county delegate for this year.

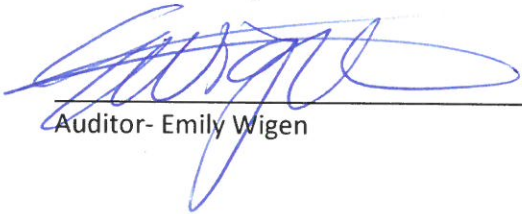
County Auditor, Emily Wigen, provided a brief office update which included HR, upcoming dates of importance, and a quote for automatic light switches in the restrooms. The 2020 department budgets were reviewed once again and a public budget meeting date was set for September 16th at 7:00 pm.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Walcker and seconded by Commissioner Strand to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm. All members voted yes. Meeting was adjourned.



Chairman- Randy Richards



Auditor- Emily Wigen