

September 17th 2018
Finley, ND

The Steele County Park Board special meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. Present were Chairman Russell Walcker, Commissioners Richard Strand, Ted Johnson, Randy Richards, Brian Tuite, board members Matt Roller, Paul Kroeplin and Brandon Krueger. Also present were Ben Gates, Pam Amundson, Karen Bergstrom, Wayne Beckman and Bryce Haugen.

Chairman Walcker opened the discussion regarding obstacles with the North Dakota Parks and Recreation grant. Chairman Walcker turned the discussion over to Ben Gates, who recently took over the paperwork for the grant. JDA Coordinator Karen Bergstrom had previously handled the grant, including the application. Gates stated that after reviewing the procurement rules of the grant, there are issues that would affect the start of the project.

It was revealed that the park board does not have the final approval letter from Parks and Recreation for the project at this time. After follow up from Bergstrom, they are anticipating getting the approval around September 25th 2018.

The board discussed asking for additional funding from JDA due to initial grant oversights. They also discussed the possibility of getting the original additional funding from Garrison Diversion or the possibility of reapplying for Garrison Diversion funds in 2019.

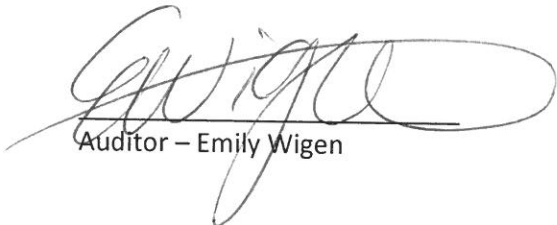
A motion was made by Roller and seconded by Kroeplin to move forward with the campground project this year, and not use the Parks and Recreation grant. More discussion was held regarding funding. Roll call vote: Randy Richards – yes, Ted Johnson – yes, Matt Roller – yes, Paul Kroeplin – yes, Brandon Krueger – yes, Brian Tuite – yes, Russell Walcker – no, Strand – abstained. Motion passed.

The board asked Gates to draft a letter declining the Parks and Recreation grant for Chairman Walcker to sign. Gates will also review the project and statutory requirements with Steele County States Attorney Stock. Karen Bergstrom will follow up with Garrison Diversion regarding additional funding as well.

A motion was made by Strand and seconded by Krueger to adjourn the meeting at 6:34pm.



Chairman – Russell Walcker



Auditor – Emily Wigen

September 4th 2018
Finley ND

The Steele County Park Board meeting was called to order at 8:02 am. Present were Chairman Russell Walcker, Commissioners Richard Strand, Ted Johnson, Randy Richards, Brian Tuite, board members Matt Roller, Paul Kroeplin and Brandon Krueger. Also present was Steele County States Attorney Charlie Stock.

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

A motion was made by Richards and seconded by Roller to approve the minutes as presented. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Park Board member Paul Kroeplin joined the meeting.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the campground project. An estimate of \$10,875 to hydro seed, instead of laying sodding was discussed. The board believes this is a better option and more cost effective for the project.


A motion was made by Roller and seconded by Strand to approve and allow Commission Chairman, Brian Tuite, to sign the contract with Mean & Hunt retroactive to August 21st 2018. All members voted yes. Motion carried.


The 2018 winter campground deposit was discussed. The county will not charge the full amount for 2018 due to the campground project. The remaining \$200 will still be due from the campers and will hold their spot in the new campground. Fees will be paid to the county and forwarded to Dickson as previously done.

There was discussion held regarding a request to extend the length of the leases on the lease lots. Auditor Wigen advised the board that the lease in question is due to be renewed in 2028. Current leases are 15 years in length and the party is requesting a lease to extend out 35 years to secure a loan. Wigen stated that Steele County's lease with ND Game and Fish currently runs until 2033 and would be subject to renewal at that time. After further discussion and review the current lease it was decided that Wigen will reach out to Game and Fish to inquire on the possibilities of renewing the lease with them in order to accommodate the request of a longer county lease with tenants.

Jake Dickson joined the meeting and provided an update regarding the campground cleanup. Dickson stated he would like to potentially be open occasionally during the winter months. Dickson also discussed maintenance priority items that included the water heater, hood cleaning and a push door for the front. Chairman Walcker thanked Dickson for doing a great job over the summer. The discussion continued into extending the length of the lease term from one year to three or more with an annual review. Steele County States Attorney Stock will draft a new contract to be signed at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Roller and seconded by Krueger to adjourn the meeting at 8:58am.


Chairman – Walcker


Auditor - Wigen

September 4th 2018
Finley ND

The Steele County Commission meeting was called to order at 8:00am. Present were Chairman Brian Tuite, Commissioners Russell Walcker, Richard Strand, Ted Johnson and Randy Richards. Also present were Matt Roller and Brandon Krueger.

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

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

The Steele County Commission meeting was recessed for the Steele County Park Board meeting at 8:02am. The Steele County Commissioner meeting reconvened at 8:58am.

Mike Bassingthwaite of Interstate Engineering met with the board. He provided an update on the County Road 23, 5 and 6 projects. There is concern that this project is behind schedule.

A motion was made by Commissioner Richards and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve a draft letter to be sent to Central Specialties regarding the boards concerns. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

The board discussed upcoming repairs done by Knife River that are scheduled for County Road 23 East of County Road 8. Bassingthwaite also provided an update regarding the county bridge project south of Sharon, which is currently scheduled for the February 2019 bid letting.

Westfield township is requesting permission to replace bridge 108.01.0 with a culvert. Bassingthwaite will take a look at the water flow and see if this is feasible.

Steele County Road Superintendent, Reed Oien, provided an office update, which included the new full time employee, Razor tracking reports, completion of the cost share culvert project in Broadlawn township, and replacing a culvert on County Road 8A. Commissioner Strand advised the board that the ½ mile road used for the County Road 23 detour was still in need of gravel. Oien will work on graveling that portion to finish up the detour. Road Department Office Manager Ben Gates advised the board he will send out his monthly update on road department billings, culvert sales and blading hours as he did not have them available for the meeting.

Tax Director Ben Gates met with the board to request sending out a letter regarding the Farm Exemption. The board gave permission to send out the Farm Exemption letter and divide the county in to three sections, allowing the letter to be sent to one section each year. Gates presented building permits from TransCanada and Brad Vigen for approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walcker and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the building permit for TransCanada. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Richards and seconded by Commissioner Strand to approve the building permit for Brad Vigen. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Gates updated the board that all of the townships have paid their 2018 bill for Vanguard reassessment except Golden Lake Township. Vanguard is projected to have the project complete by January 15th 2019. Gates provided an estimate of an additional \$1,000 from Midwest Communications for work to meet electrical standards for the tower grounding. Gates will have Jamestown Communications sign off that they have grounded the new tower to proper standards. Gates also discussed the courthouse cameras, the courthouse generator and additional upcoming grant opportunities.

Bobbi Hepper Olson met with the board to present a proposal and cost estimate to repair the courthouse bathrooms. The estimate for the project is \$202,345, Olson does not foresee any issues with getting approval from the Historical Society for the project. Olson will look into the possibility of any grants to help fund the process.

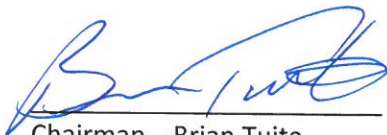
Steele County Auditor Emily Wigen updated the board on the balance for the Social Service fund and asked to clarify the process for financials, leave balances, and employees with the social service district to ensure understanding.

The Auditor's office received quotes from LTN Construction and Eric Nesheim to remove the chimney on the courthouse. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Strand to accept the quote from LTN construction in the amount of \$2840.00 to remove the courthouse chimney. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

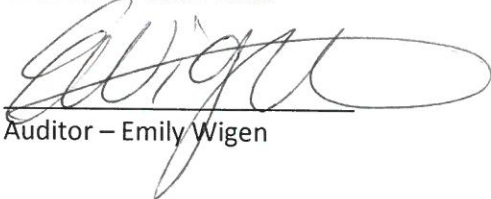
The Steele County Policy Manual was tabled until the October meeting.

Auditor Wigen provided the board with an update regarding the Estimated Tax notices that went out and discussion was held.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strand and seconded by Commissioner Walcker to adjourn the meeting at 12:29p. All members voted yes. Meeting was adjourned.



Chairman – Brian Tuite



Auditor – Emily Wigen