

December 23rd, 2024, Steele County Special Commission Meeting

The Steele County Commission meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present were Commissioners Perry Brown, Brandon Krueger, Richard Strand, Brandon Oxtan and Chris Grandalen. Also present, Auditor Jana Flaten and Ben Gates.

Ben Gates discussed ARPA Funds, and the money will need to be allocated by the end of this year (2024). There is roughly \$214,000.00 in the account. A few ideas were given- Courthouse repairs to the exterior this is roughly \$400,000.00 we would also still be able to use the courthouse improvement fund along with the ARPA funds. Phone and Security was discussed and getting everyone an updated phone system and adding cameras to the county shop area estimated at around \$85,000.00.

Strand would like to get a few more quotes for the exterior of the courthouse as there is currently only one quote. He suggested looking at a contractor or architect for the job since it is a lot of money. Gates will reach out and ask them for quotes or places that do the masonry work.

Commissioner Strand made a motion to approve \$85,000, to the phone and security and the rest of the funds to the courthouse improvement fund. This was second by Commissioner Oxtan. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Gates will get all the paperwork ready and Brown and Flaten will sign them.

Gates discussed the historical grant, and that Steele County was approved for updating the lighting up to \$25,00.00 if we spend \$50,000.00. The contract will not be ready until early 2025. Gates will bring the paperwork when he gets it.

Commissioner Strand made a motion to approve Lakeview Catering liquor and beer license second by Commissioner Krueger. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

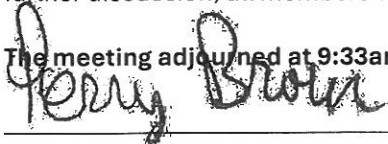
Flaten discussed the GDP bill and her concerns over GDP helping as Steele County will be 100% switched to Tyler Jan 1. Because of this fresh start to the year, she doesn't seem it would be worth paying the \$12,000 invoice that GDP sent. All 2024 will be kept in GDP in case we would ever need to look back at things- There will also be paper reports printed and kept on file. Commissioner Oxtan made a motion to not pay the GDP bill, second by Commissioner Grandalen. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Flaten discussed the Golden Lake roof bill and the material cost that will be submitted later today. Commissioner Oxtan made a motion to approve up to \$20,000.00 to Finley Lumber, second by Commissioner Strand. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Oxtan made a motion to approve the bills, second by Commissioner Grandalen. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Oxtan, second by Commissioner Krueger. No further discussion, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33am.



Chairman Perry Brown



Auditor Jana Flaten