

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

At 3:30pm, Chairman Scanson called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, and Commissioner David Utke. Also, present were Interim Auditor Ellen Roundy, State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Foster County Independent Reporter Leasa Lura, Deputy Auditor Hailey Bachmeier and Road Superintendent Nate Monson.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, regular meeting and February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, special meeting. Commissioner Hagel made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Copenhaver made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

35053	AVID HAWK, LLC	35.00
35054	BERTS TRUCK EQUIPMENT OF MHD INC	27,663.00
35055	BRISS OIL COMPANY	224.00
35056	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	125.00
35057	CENTRAL CITY LUMBER INC.	2,482.79
35058	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,939.00
35059	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,903.00
35060	COREAN SWART	207.45
35061	DARLENE THOMAS	10.50
35062	DR. MICHAEL PAGE	1,850.00
35063	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	1,263.45
35064	MAERTENS WELDING AND MACHINE COMPANY	9,305.40
35065	MATTHEW BENDER & CO., INC.	47.43
35066	ND DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	330.00
35067	ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATION	16,743.28
35068	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	1,222.30
35069	NORTH DAKOTA WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION	210.00
35070	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	58.06
35071	SOFTWARE INNOVATIONS	750.00
35072	TRACEY ADKINS	13.94

Commissioner Utke asked to add tablets under commissioner discussion. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

No new business reported for the gravel pit.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, approached the BOCC with an update from the Road Department. There has been minimal snowfall of around 3.0" since February 7<sup>th</sup>. The winds have made travel and road conditions unfavorable. The boiler was inspected in the shop and there is potential for repairs. Commissioner Utke made a motion to approve Monson to line up the necessary work to repair the boiler, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson – aye
- Commissioner Copenhaver – aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed. Monson provided the BOCC with information on renting a crack sealer for fifty-five hours the cost would be \$1,950.00. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve Monson to rent the crack sealer seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson – aye
- Commissioner Copenhaver – aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed. Discussion was had on the open equipment operator position. Commissioner Utke also updated the BOCC on the call routing for the road department. He has been working with the deputy auditor to get it up and rolling.

Darlene Thomas, Emergency Manager, joined the meeting via phone. She discussed the EMPG grant. Money can be used on preparedness programs. Commissioner Hagel asked that Thomas reach out to Joe Lies to see what we've used it on in the past. Commissioner Utke spoke on the early warning siren grants. He has sent the application out to the mayors, fire departments and ambulance departments. DES will help with the process, but the local agencies must complete the site work.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, approached the BOCC with a floodplain permit. Steve Kessler with the NDDOT has reached out for a new application on Hwy 9. Commissioner Utke motioned to appoint Darlene Thomas, EM, as the floodplain administrator, approve and sign the flood plain application seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. Discussion was had on the project and how to help Thomas in the process. Commissioner Hagel provided Stutsman County's EM contact information to Thomas for reference. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Kara Brinster, Foster County State's Attorney, updated the BOCC on the opioid settlement agreement with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart required 70% of the funds to go to future opioid mediation, 30% could be kept for past mediation.

Commissioner Utke spoke to the BOCC regarding tablets for county use. He reached out to the county's IT for quotes. Commissioner Hagel has been in contact with NDACo GIS services about re-drawing the lines for ambulance districts. The line must follow geographical lines. Commissioner Utke and Commissioner Scanson will plan to set up a meeting with all parties involved to review boundaries. Commissioner Hagel also spoke on the parcel mapping project. Commissioner Hagel motioned to designate Karen Evans, Tax Director, the authority to work with NDACo GIS Division on the parcel mapping project, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Lastly, Commissioner Hagel updated the BOCC on some 9-1-1 addressing that will need to be updated. Interim Auditor Roundy will contact previous EM, Aaron Devereaux, on the addresses in question. Commissioner Hagel would like the BOCC to send the letter to the residents as it could be controversial, however, the next generation 9-1-1 is requiring this. The BOCC discussed legislative topics. They are appreciative of the work and receptiveness received by Senator Terry Wanzek. Nothing new to report for the door security system. Commissioner Utke updated the BOCC on the building projects. No bids were received for the basement project. In speaking with EAPC this is not uncommon, and they referenced manpower as a main factor. Chris Thomas, Project Manager recommended to Commissioner Utke to extend the bid opening by two weeks. Commissioner Utke motioned to extend the bid opening to March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the courthouse, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Utke also stated that EAPC will look at the Public Health building and old county shop and provide proposals for the BOCC to review. No update on the ambulance building. Commissioner Scanson will have a planning and zoning meeting and NDSU meeting before the next regularly scheduled commissioner meeting. Commissioner Hagel has a Human Service Zone meeting in the morning. She plans to speak with the director on temporary relocation of staff if the basement project moves forward. Commissioner Utke stated that they are hoping to have an LEPC meeting in March. The main agenda item will be SIRN radio program. Discussion was had on items for the BOCC to look at in February and March.

With no further business, Chairman Scanson adjourned the meeting at 5:28pm.

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Ellen Roundy  
Foster County Interim Auditor

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Alan Scanson, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners