

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 6th, 2023

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

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the May 16th, 2023, regular meeting. Commissioner Beumer made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Hailey Bachmeier, Deputy Auditor provided the BOCC with a check and invoice for Tom Gilbertson & Sons that was paid May 22, 2023, to show proof of payment for Snow Removal Assistance Program that had a deadline of May 31st, 2023. Commissioner Beumer made a motion to approve the bills including the check for Tom Gilbertson & Sons, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

35606	701 WASH	180.00
35607	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	65.72
35608	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	1,013.03
35609	BECKY HAGEL	45.00
35610	BESSETTE MOTORS, INC.	82.06
35611	BLM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	76.00
35612	BOOTE SEPTIC SOLUTIONS	250.00
35613	BRAGER DISPOSAL SERVICE	349.00
35614	BRINSTER LAW, P.C.	279.53
35615	BRISS OIL COMPANY	356.39
35616	C & J OIL COMPANY	9,758.99
35617	C & J OIL COMPANY	63.96
35618	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	42.57
35619	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	125.00
35620	CENTRAL CITY H2O+	22.50
35621	COMPUTER EXPRESS	3,145.00
35622	CRAIG WIESZ	49.13
35623	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	78.90
35624	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	49.28
35625	DAKOTA DUST-TEX INC	104.20
35626	DIANNE HERTEL	133.62
35627	DR. JAY BAUER	180.00
35628	DR. MICHAEL PAGE	22.50
35629	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	276.00
35630	FARMERS UNION INSURANCE	3,676.00
35631	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	837.03
35632	FOSTER COUNTY TREASURER	73.45
35633	HOLCIM - MWR, INC.	2,615.80
35634	HOLLY N. ZIEMAN	292.50
35635	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	364.10
35636	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	39.47
35637	JUSTIN JOHNSON	55.87
35638	KOLLMAN ENTERPRISE'S	266.00
35639	MAERTENS WELDING AND MACHINE COMPANY	55.20
35640	MIDSTATES EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY	10,677.37
35641	ND COUNTY RECORDERS ASSOCIATION	200.00
35642	NORMONT EQUIPMENT CO.	1,315.00
35643	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	173.05
35644	OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL- 1250	310.00
35645	QUALITY INN	176.40
35646	QUILL CORPORATION	214.70
35647	RACHEL STOKES	738.50
35648	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	7,310.00
35649	STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT	22.50
35650	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	3,525.00
35651	THOMAS MOTORS	1,130.88
35652	TODD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	102.65
35653	USPS	114.00
35654	WILLIAM J GALE	1,311.96

35655	WORLDWIDE LITIGATION SERVICES	358.04
35656	WORLDWIDE LITIGATION SERVICES	758.85
35657	WORLDWIDE LITIGATION SERVICES	424.33

Commissioner Hagel asked to add Emergency Management under commissioner discussion. Commissioner Beumer made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

No new business reported for the gravel pit.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided the BOCC with an update from the Road Department. Monson stated warranty work is being done on Carrington RDO blade, and Carrington CAT blade. Monson also stated a culvert was replaced on an approach on 66th Avenue NE also known as the dump ground highway. Since May 16th, 2023, there has been 1.89 inches of rain. The total amount of rain in the Carrington area for the month of May was 6.25 inches. There are currently a few roads closed due to water over them and a few roads with caution signs. Load road restrictions were taken off Thursday, May 25. The road department has durapatched 5 times hitting 119 spots in the county. The road department has patched gravel in spots on the McHenry Road. Monson stated Border States plan on being here this week to patch overlay on the Club Hall Highway. Monson stated Wold Engineering will be surveying the west side of the gravel road on 80th avenue. Wold Engineering will be doing a survey to see the number of acres it entails. Monson stated he plans to mow at the fair ground early next week. Monson plans to mow twice before the Foster County Fair begins. Monson requested approval of publishing an ad in the Foster County Independent notifying the public that mowing the tops of all County Highway ditches will begin Monday, July 10th, and anyone planning on haying highway ditches must have them mowed before Monday, July 10th. A rotary mower will be used. Commissioner Beumer made a motion to approve the ad to be published in the Foster County Independent, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Collin Macmillan with Garney Construction provided the BOCC with an update on the Red River Valley Project. Macmillan stated they plan to start on the Bordulac Highway mid-July and will result in full road closure to ensure no chance of endangerment to the public. The public detour will be down 73rd Avenue. The contractors only have 48 hours to complete the project. Macmillan stated they provided road maps to all the road truckers involved on the project to ensure they follow the proper roads.

Karen Evans, Tax Director approached the BOCC with Homestead Credit Abatement for Dana Unruh for 2022 Taxes. Commissioner Copenhaver made a motion to approve the Homestead Credit Abatement for Dana Unruh, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Evans also provided the BOCC with information about the Expansion of the Homestead Tax Credit for 2023. On April 27, 2023, Governor Doug Burgum signed HB 1158 into law. This legislation broadens the eligibility requirements and maximum reduction amounts for those applying for the North Dakota Homestead Property Tax Credit program. The program is aimed at homeowners 65 years of age and older or those who are permanently and totally disabled. Evans stated the Tax Equalization office sent out applications for individuals that qualify.

Craig Wiesz, Custodian approached the BOCC with a question about the Historical Museum mowing. A consensus was made to honor the contract that was signed this year and the BOCC plans to meet with the Foster County Historical Society at a later date to discuss next year's mowing contract.

Hailey Bachmeier, Deputy Auditor approached the BOCC with a Snow Assistance Removal Program update. All the information has been collected for 2022-2023 snow removal expenses and sent to Justin Messner, Disaster Recovery Chief. Two townships didn't submit any information to be sent to the State. Bachmeier stated there had been questions if Foster County would be open or closed Monday, June 3rd, 2023. The BOCC came to a consensus that Foster County will remain open on Monday, June 3rd and if employees want the day off, they will have to use vacation time. Bachmeier also approached the BOCC with information provided by Kara Brinster, Foster County's States Attorney, requesting the BOCC to motion to approve joining the McKinsey and Company suit for the Opioid Litigation Settlement. Commissioner Beumer made a motion to approve joining the McKinsey and Company suit, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Bachmeier also provided the BOCC information with new health insurance rates.

Commissioner Utke provided information to the BOCC about the North Dakota RV Park/Campground inspection located at Juanita Lake. Commissioner Utke stated he received a phone call from the inspector wanting to verify if he was in the right location and what is all provided at the park. Commissioner Utke stated out of all the 32 check list items from the inspector there was only one the park didn't comply with. The park doesn't show designated areas for tents. Commissioner Utke and Commissioner Scanson plan to go out to the campsite and see how they can fix the problem. Commissioner Utke asked the BOCC to give permission for Commissioner Scanson and himself to order signs for designated areas for tents for \$100 dollars. Commissioner Copenhaver made a motion to allow Commissioner Utke and Commissioner Scanson to order signage for designated tent areas for \$100 dollars, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed.

Bachmeier approached the BOCC with a quote from the Foster County Independent for two printed copies of the multi-hazard mitigation plan. The cost for 2 copies, in binders with numbered tabs would cost \$175 for full color and \$75 for black and white. The BOCC agreed to have Foster County Independent proceed with 2 copies of the full color MHMP. Commissioner Utke approached the BOCC with a scope of work for the Public Health roof provided by EAPC. EAPC will have more information with cost estimations at a later date. Commissioner Hagel informed the BOCC that Darlene Thomas, Foster County Emergency Manager/E-911 Coordinator has taken on another position that starts next week. Thomas is requesting to change her hours to Monday through Thursdays, 3pm to 9pm, and some Saturdays if needed. The BOCC was concerned that if there was a meeting or disaster would Thomas be available in short notice. Commissioner Hagel stated she was going to contact Joe Lies, Emergency Response Coordinator – Homeland Security Division. The BOCC came to a consensus to allow Thomas's hour changes. Commissioner stated Foster County had received a grant for CPR training last year, and the deadline has been extended until the end of August. Bachmeier stated she will reach out to county employees and see if anyone is interested in the CPR training and will update the Commissioners at the next meeting. Commissioner Hagel stated there are currently some issues with the elevator in the courthouse and that is resulting in Craig Wiesz, Custodian having to lock the elevator entrance door at 4:30pm. The Human Services drop box is located inside the elevator entrance door and if individuals need to drop off items in the drop box after hours, they won't be able to. Julie A St Germaine, Director of Central Prairie Human Service Zone is verifying if Human Services still needs a drop box or if individuals should be mailing items. Commissioner Hagel stated if Human Services needs to have a drop box, Human Services can order the drop box and Wiesz will install it outside on a post by another drop box.

With no further business, Chairman Scanson adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm.

Hailey Bachmeier
Foster County Deputy Auditor

Alan Scanson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners