

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 21st, 2024

At 3:30pm, Chairman Utke called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, and Commissioner Alan Scanson. Also present was Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy and Foster County Independent reporter Leasa Lura.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the May 7th, 2024, regular meeting, and May 14th, 2024, Special Meeting. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

37131	ANDREW KIRKING	80.40
37132	AVID HAWK, LLC	35.00
37133	BAYMONT BY WYNDHAM	481.50
37134	BREMER BANK, N.A.	35.00
37135	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,000.00
37136	COREAN SWART	23.60
37137	DR. MICHAEL PAGE	900.00
37138	ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	6,181.78
37139	FOSTER COUNTY FAIR	50.00
37140	FOSTER COUNTY TREASURER	565.29
37141	JUSTIN JOHNSON	129.76
37142	MIDSTATES WIRELESS	9,883.32
37143	MOUNTAIN PLAINS YOUTH SERVICE	1,500.00
37144	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	1,210.89
37145	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	459.29
37146	QUADIENT FINANCE	2,013.00
37147	RACHEL STOKES	528.44
37148	VILLIAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER	1,500.00
37149	WHOLESALE AG PRODUCTS	95.20

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was nothing new to report for the empty lots by Juanita Lake.

New Business

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, presented fund transfers for Public Health as approved by the BOH at their April 17th, 2024, meeting. Roundy stated that the audit is still not completed so there may be some corrections that will have to be made yet, however, the bulk of the corrections have been made as approved by the state auditors office and BOCC. She also noted that if the BOCC chooses to, they could pay out the Protect ND fund. Commissioner Hagel motioned to approve the transfers, pay out the Protect ND Fund, and retain the county health fund balance until the audit has been completed, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Roundy also provided the BOCC with an update from Stutsman/Foster EM Andrew Kirking on his work progress. He has started to sort through files in the office and organize based on retention schedule, he has started working on the homeland security grant application and is working with state and local officials familiarizing himself to the role.

Roundy spoke on behalf of Road Superintendent Nate Monson for an update on the Road Department. Discussion included work that was potentially to be done on Truck #1. Commissioner Beumer motioned to place the liner in truck #1 for \$3,700, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. Commissioner Scanson noted that he spoke with Monson and there is a sale on trucks in Ada, MN. If the BOCC was willing to wait, Commissioner Scanson and Monson would make the trip to Ada to look at the trucks. Roll Call for the motion to install the liner in Truck #1:

- Commissioner Beumer – nay
- Commissioner Hagel – nay
- Commissioner Utke – nay
- Commissioner Copenhaver – nay
- Commissioner Scanson – nay

motion failed. The consensus was to have Commissioner Scanson and Monson travel to Ada, MN and look at the trucks available prior to putting any additional money into the trucks onsite. Commissioner Utke had spoken with Monson regarding the red pickup. Discussion was had on continuing to fix up the red pickup or look at other

options. Commissioner Hagel motioned to authorize Monson to continue to work on the red pickup seconded by Commissioner Beumer. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. A change on the MOA for the removal of the Grace City bridge (BRJ-0016(019)) was sent to Commissioner Utke. He will run it by Michael Rivinius with Wold Engineering, and once Rivinius reviews it again he will sign it as previously authorized to do so by the BOCC.

Kip Kovar, Scott Mehring and Vance Miller approached the BOCC regarding the Garrison Diversion pipeline. They would like permission to cut the Jackson highway (dumpground road) and the Kensal Highway. These projects will not be started for a year or two, but they plan to start the bid process in July. From the time of first cut to closing the road back up would be a total of seven days. They have bypass options available for each route, the roads will not be closed or detoured. The Commissioners are concerned about not having an agreement and not being able to hold the contractors accountable if the road is not up to standard once completed. Discussion included the agreements that were signed with the initial start of the project and creating current road agreements. They plan to attend the next BOCC for an update.

Chris Thomas, EAPC, joined the meeting via phone. The basement renovation is moving along, and they are wrapping up the first phase (east end) of the project. They will tentatively finish phase one early June and will start the second phase once everyone is settled into their new working quarters. Thomas noted there was an option to include the vault floor under the Recorder's office as a change order. The space is currently used for storage of documents and the only access point is through a spiral staircase in the Recorder's vault. Thomas received a bid to add this to the project and his recommendation would be to hold off on completing at this point. Commissioner Utke noted that he would like to complete the entire project and look at other high need areas in the Courthouse before adding this and cutting into the contingency fund, the BOCC agreed.

Commissioner Utke stated that Jeff Golz who maintains the grounds at Juanita Lake would like to fill his one-hundred-gallon tank. The BOCC approved this two years ago, filling the tank saves time and is a cost savings when buying in bulk. Discussion included making sure the tank had a lock. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the purchase of one-hundred gallons of gas to be used for mowing at Juanita Lake, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Commissioner Utke also noted that Hoyt Electric was able to get the electricity up and running for the camping spots at Juanita Lake. Commissioner Scanson provided a job description for the vacant NDSU Extension agent for Eddy and Foster.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 4:32 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners