

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 17th, 2024

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver and Commissioner Alan Scanson. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer Hailey Bachmeier, Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, Michael Rivinius and Jon Martin from Wold Engineering, and Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy via phone.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the December 3rd, 2024, regular meeting and December 4th, 2024, special meeting. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the bills, the lost affidavit check for Stutsman County, and Check #37950 for Orr Auctioneer, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

37956	ANDREW S. MARQUART	288.00
37957	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	1,148.63
37958	AVID HAWK, LLC	35.00
37959	BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC.	50.39
37960	BECKY HAGEL	347.64
37961	BESSETTE MOTORS, INC.	163.71
37962	BRISS OIL COMPANY	77.00
37963	C & J OIL COMPANY	579.32
37964	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	396.70
37965	CENTRAL CITY H20+	13.50
37966	DAVID UTKE	129.98
37967	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	2,362.60
37968	EIDE BAILLY, LLP	619.00
37969	FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS, LTD.	270.00
37970	FARMERS UNION INSURANCE	239.00
37971	FOSTER COUNTY	582.47
37972	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	1,134.15
37973	LLOYDS MOTORS	123.60
37974	MATTHEW ABERLE	335.28
37975	NAPA AUTO PARTS	435.35
37976	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	27,723.31
37977	NDLTAP	50.00
37978	NORMONT EQUIPMENT CO.	651.55
37979	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	400.18
37980	PAT BIEL TRUCKING INC.	390.00
37981	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC.	417.00
37982	QUILL CORPORATION	57.98
37983	RAMADA BISMARCK HOTEL	192.60
37984	RUNNING'S SUPPLY, INC.	465.53
37985	SIDWELL COMPANY	450.00
37986	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	400.00
37987	UNDERGROUND VAULTS & STORAGE	200.00

Commissioner Scanson requested to add the Railroad and Bordulac Road to the agenda under Road Department. Commissioner Utke also requested to have Barlow Road project added on the agenda under road department and the JPA with Stutsman County added to the agenda under Commissioner Discussion. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was no update on the lots by Juanita Lake.

New Business

Road Superintendent, Nate Monson, provided an update to the BOCC. Monson stated maintenance had been done to the durapatcher and is ready for 2025 season. Monson also stated the ice has been major problem and the road department has been putting a lot of sand out on the roads. Monson asked for the Commission to think about what they would like to be done with the 2004 White Dodge Ram. The County could sell the pickup by bids or have ORR Auctioneers sell it. Commissioner Scanson suggested taking it to ORR Auctioneers.

Commissioner Scanson informed the BOCC about the culverts that Foster County was wanting to get rid of. Commissioner Scanson stated two townships had approached him about the culverts. Foster County States Attorney,

Kara Brinster stated the Culverts must be put out for bids. The minimum bid is the cost of what Foster County paid for the culverts. Commissioner Copenhaver suggested to wait to put out for bid until March of 2025. Commissioner Hagel requested to put Culverts under old business until March.

Wold Engineer, Micheal Rivinius and Jon Martin provided an update to the BOCC about the Barlow Road Project. Martin stated the Barlow design is done and Wold Engineering is now working on all the environmental aspects of the road project. Martin stated the next step is to address the public right of way. Martin stated all land owners are in favor of the Barlow Road project but a major issue is CP Rail closing 79th Avenue, it's a north south section line road that is hardly developed that allows access to a couple fields. The railroad would like to close the crossing on 79th avenue, which connects to the Barlow Road from the north, and which is very close to the crossing on the Barlow Road. Wold Engineering would recommend a bypass be built to provide access from the north if the crossing is closed. The landowners want to keep the crossing open as is. Martin asked the Commissioner what they are wanting to do with the crossing. Commissioner Utke stated his concern is safety. Commissioner Scanson and Commissioner Copenhaver both would like to go to the site and view it before making a decision. Martin said the decision on the crossing should be decided as soon as possible. Commissioner Hagel asked to put Barlow Road Project on the next commissioner meeting on December 31st, 2024.

Commissioner Hagel provided information about traffic counts that NDDOT will be conducting in 2025. Commissioner Hagel suggested meeting with Road Superintendent, Nate Monson to see which roads he would like to have traffic counted. NDDOT would do up to a dozen traffic counts. Commissioner Scanson stated that County Road 18, also known as the Gross Road would be beneficial to have a traffic count done on. NDDOT will need a decision by January 20th, 2025. Commissioner Hagel asked to table the Traffic Counts to the January 7th, 2025, regular meeting.

Commissioner Scanson provided an update about the CP Rail. Scanson had contacted PSC for railroad safety to get into contact with CP Rail employee about getting some questions answered about the trail derailment. Commissioner Utke stated Foster County needs to act on contacting CP Rail again to make sure all questions are answered. Commissioner Hagel stated she would sit down with Commissioner Utke in a meeting with CP Rail to get answers. Commissioner Beumer stated that Foster County should get PSC involved.

Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer, Hailey Bachmeier presented the BOCC with the County Resolution for the NDDOT for the Bridge Removal Project No. BRJ-0016(019). Commissioner Copenhaver made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. Bachmeier also informed the BOCC of the bid opening results from December 16th, 2024, for the engineering services for the Bridge Removal Project No. BRJ-0016(019). Wold Engineering was the only proposal that was submitted at the bid opening. The BOCC conducted an interview during the meeting and asked Michael Rivinius and Jon Martin, Wold Engineering, questions pertaining to the bridge project. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve Wold Engineering for the engineering for the Bridge Removal Project No. BRJ-0016(019), seconded by Commissioner Utke. All motioned aye and the motion passed. Bachmeier presented a local raffle permit for McCleary-Bonderud VFW 3524. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the local raffle permit, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed. Bachmeier also presented the BOCC with the South Central Dakota Regional Council JPA contract. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the South Central Dakota Regional Council JPA contract, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Bachmeier also presented the BOCC with liquor licenses for Carrington Crossroads Golf Course and Cows and Co. Creamery. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the liquor licenses, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Discussion included the clothing policy. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to have road department employees who didn't purchase any clothing/equipment in 2024 get \$200 for spending next year and the employees who have purchased equipment will not be eligible for the \$100 until 2026, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and motioned passed. Commissioner Hagel asked if the all the Commissioners have had a chance to look over the 2025 Fee Schedule. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the 2025 Fee Schedule, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Utke informed the BOCC of the building update for the renovation project. Commissioner Utke also informed the BOCC of the ambulance meetings moving to quarterly meetings. Commissioner Hagel informed the BOCC about the 6-county meeting, and stated discussion was had on having officers with scales. Auditor/Treasurer Roundy volunteered to collect information. Commissioner Hagel stated NDACo will be hosting annual county tours and Foster County is on the tour for 2025. Commission Hagel informed the BOCC of the Local Government Connection Meetings that will be February 18th and 19th in Bismarck. Commissioner Hagel informed the BOCC of the JPA with Stutsman County that was revised and sent over to Stutsman County last week.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:56 pm.

Hailey K Bachmeier
Foster County Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer

Becky Hagel, Madam Chair
Board of County Commissioners