

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner David Utke. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Stutsman/Foster Emergency Manager Jessica Moser via phone and Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price via phone.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the March 4th, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed.

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

38400	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	1,391.96
38401	BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC.	346.77
38402	BLUE TO GOLD, LLC	620.00
38403	BRISS OIL COMPANY	120.00
38404	BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	53.87
38405	C & J OIL COMPANY	884.97
38406	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	505.46
38407	CENTRAL CITY H2O+	99.00
38408	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,000.00
38409	DAKOTA FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	878.74
38410	DAVID UTKE	155.40
38411	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	1,066.00
38412	FOSTER COUNTY TREASURER	148.60
38413	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	1,160.35
38414	JEREMIAH BLAHNA	1,975.00
38415	JOHNSON CONTROLS FIRE PROTECTION LP	579.54
38416	LYNELLE R LYMAN HOPPE	194.60
38417	MIDSTATES EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY	17,168.50
38418	NAPA AUTO PARTS	193.42
38419	NORMONT EQUIPMENT CO.	4,225.31
38420	PAT COPENHAVER	176.40
38421	QUADIENT FINANCE	1,017.32
38422	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC.	353.19
38423	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	1,998.61
38424	RELENTLESS LLC	1,398.00
38425	RUNNING'S SUPPLY, INC.	127.11
38426	SIDWELL COMPANY	130.00
38427	STORM TRAINING GROUP	299.00
38428	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	3,100.00
38429	THE MEDICINE SHOPPE	11.06

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda as it stands, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was no update on the lots by Juanita Lake.

New Business

The Board of County Commissioners recognized George Topp for his years of service on the Foster County Weed Board. They thanked him for his work and the commitment he had to the board.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, presented a notice of intent to obtain coverage for stormwater discharges. The application notices that the owner and operator intend to discharge stormwater associated with construction activity to waters of the state in accordance with conditions set forth in the North Dakota Pollution Discharge Elimination System general permit. The application was submitted by Gowan Construction for the flex-funding project. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the application with Madam Chair signing on behalf of Foster County, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Jessica Moser, Stutsman/Foster Emergency Manager, presented three estimates to the BOCC for updating the multi-hazard mitigation plan. Every five years the county must comply with regulations set by the grant. Seventy-five percent of the funding comes from the state with the remainder twenty-five percent local share. Moser explained that NEXUS has previously worked on the MHMP, and the twenty-five percent match is usually met with "in-kind" hours. Commissioner Scanson motioned to commit Foster County to the local match requirement seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, asked the BOCC for a motion to make an amendment to May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, minutes and Resolution 2024-02. An error was made on the legal description. The legal description should read: the SE ¼ of 13-146-67 and NE ¼ of 24-146-67. Commissioner Copenhagen motioned to approve the correction and make an amendment to the minutes and resolution seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer Hailey Bachmeier has been working on creating envelopes for payment at Juanita Lake. Roundy presented the envelopes to the BOCC for approval. The lowest quantity that can be ordered is 500 for an estimated \$269.00. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the purchase of payment envelopes for camp spots at Juanita Lake seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy requested a motion to open and advertise for a Custodian/Maintenance position. Commissioner Copenhagen motioned to approve opening the position seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. City of Carrington Mayor, Tom Erdmann, has visited the Auditor's Office regarding the delinquent property on main street previously owned by Kyle Schroeder. In the past, there have been grant opportunities for cities to tear down old, vacant buildings with a match portion funded by the public entity. The options the BOCC have are to give the city the property or ask for payment for the property for the unpaid taxes. Commissioner Scanson motioned to sell parcel 02961000 located at 970 Main St to the City of Carrington for one dollar seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented a new key form for employees to fill out when requesting keys to various offices and buildings of Foster County. Commissioner Copenhagen motioned to approve the form seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. Sheriff Johnson budgeted for the purchase of two tasers for his office. He received funding from Scott Fetch with Fetch's Five Spot in the dollar amount of \$2,500 to go towards the purchase of the two tasers with the county's portion estimated to be around \$500. Commissioner Copenhagen motioned to approve the purchase seconded by Commissioner Roller. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Roller – aye
- Commissioner Copenhagen – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson -aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed. The BOCC appreciated Fetch's support for the Sheriff's Office. Lastly, a discussion was held on IT supplies for the new commissioner room. The BOCC will table making any decision until the last of the tables show up and they can rearrange the room to see what will work best.

Commissioner Utke spoke on an issue that General Roofing is running into with the east side entrance. The door closure is malfunctioning at times causing the door to slam and break the side windows. The cost to replace the door closure is estimated at \$600. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the purchase of a new door closure seconded by Commissioner Scanson. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Roller – aye
- Commissioner Copenhagen – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson -aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed. Roundy showed the BOCC an option for the front door entrance. Instead of cutting into the floor, the BOCC had previously approved cutting the bottom of the door. However, two grates were found that could be cleaned up and placed in the panel of the door. The BOCC's consensus was to put the two matching grates into the wood door vs. cutting the bottom of the door. The BOCC would like to get the exterior ambulance doors installed this spring. Commissioner Hagel will reach out to a few contractors that are familiar with the doors and what is required for installation for quotes. Commissioner Hagel testified in Bismarck regarding HB 1176. This bill would increase the primary residence credit and create a three-percent cap on levy increases for local entities. There are major concerns throughout the state regarding the three percent cap. Many increases that the county incurs are out of their control and may have to look at making cuts in the future.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

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Ellen Roundy  
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

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Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair  
Board of County Commissioners