County Commissioners Meeting February 8, 2023

The Board of Sheridan County Commissioners met at 12:30 p.m. County Commissioners present were Sandra Felchle, Roddy Schilling and Shannon Dieterle.

Chairperson Felchle called the meeting to order. It was moved by Commissioner Dieterle to approve the minutes from the previous meetings as were emailed out, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The following statements of fees were collected for the following funds and were approved for the month of January, 2022

County Recorder, December fees, $933.00

County Recorder, January fees, $3,202.80

Sheriff, fees, $222.40

The miscellaneous receipts were collected for the following funds and were approved for the month of January, 2022:

General - $45,312.57 Unorganized Rd. - $135,523.38

Highway Dist. - $19,031.34 Weed Control - $33.84

911 - $2,731.40 Veteran’s Van - $7,005.85

An itemized listing of miscellaneous receipts are on file at the County Treasurer’s office.

The January payroll warrants #78876-78907 were approved from the following funds:

General - $41,651.12 Highway Dist - $22,439.09

Emergency - $4,953.11 Veteran Service Officer - $546.88

County Agent - $195.58 Weed Control - $260.00

Civil Defense - $662.20 911 - $636.75

Veteran’s Van Service - $1,696.50

The following bills #78964-79028 were approved and ordered paid subject due to delinquent or any other indebtedness owing the County:

NDAWN, 1,000.00; Aramark, 196.67; Bentz Supply Store, 1,510.51; Dept. Of Corrections And Rehab, 8,834.38; McClusky Gazette, 1,281.93;Bravera Insurance, Inc., 487.00; Stock Growers Bank, 39,594.16;Jerome Distributing, Inc., 54.00;Locator Supplies Inc., 17.55; Shirley A Murray, 85.15; Mandan Auto Glass Inc., 428.96; National Sheriffs Association, 71.00; WRT, 798.31; CO- OP Elevator, 11,374.18; ND Association Of Counties, 811.10; ND County Treasurers Assoc., 100.00; Uniform Center, 131.94; ND State Radio Communication, 5,770.80; Pro Forms, 291.79; Fireside Office Solutions, 111.55; ODP Business Office Solutions, 185.53; ITD, 1,377.85; McLean County Sheriff’s Office, 2,530.00; Lawson Products, Inc., 303.91; Newman Traffic Signs, 320.76; Marco Technologies LLC., 446.45; McLean Sheridan Rur. Water, 63.48; NAPA Auto Parts, 20.28; Power Plan, 4,700.72; Heringer Lumber, 17.99; NDSU Extension Service, 5,994.22; ND Co. Recorders Assoc., 200.00; The Herald Press, 57.00; Mechanics Plus, 173.98; Bravera Bank, 9,604.88; NRG, 150.00; James Paulus, 94.74; North Dakota State Treasurer,5,594.91; GDCD, 4,993.45; NDTC, 16.48; SRT Communications Inc., 17.36; A & G Trucking, 3,040.00; Central Dakota Enterprises, 152.60; Northwest Tire Inc., 68.97; WSI, 250.00; Visa, 591.35; McClusky City, 44.00; ES&S, 1,233.00; WM Of WI-MN, 167.24; Charles D. Nyhus, Md, 100.00; Verizon Wireless, 509.73; Bryon Belile, 59.99; MOCIC,100.00; Pharm Chem, Inc., 221.15; Deere Credit, Inc., 17,367.43; Sarah Crimmins, 888.46; Lynn Vietz,150.00; Kotaco Fuel And Propane, 979.99; Purchase Power, 37.44;Lavern Laib, 125.00; Onsolve, LLC., 646.50; ND One Call, 1.30; Lautt’s Auto Body And Towing, 177.03; Eric’s Electric, 521.56

Sheriff, Trent Naser, met with the board to report on his prisoner contract line item is close to being over budget for the year already with criminal cases they have had that the judge has set jail sentences for and still 11 months to go with current budget. The NDPERS retirement for public safety officers was discussed again and the board decided to offer the regular NDPERS retirement as the rest of the County employees are receiving.

The time being 1:00 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Cody Faul, McClusky, was held. No one was present. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the abatement for the residential structure on the SW4 33-149-76 being he qualifies as a farm resident therefore the residential structure is exempt from property taxes, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote –Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The auditor presented a resignation from Kolby Berreth as equipment operator in the Goodrich area. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the resignation of Kolby Berreth as of February 10th, 2023, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote - Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve a 5% increase to Darrell Grade’s wages back to January 1st, 2023, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The time being 1:15 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Richard Bentz, McClusky, was held. No one was present. It was moved by County Commissioner Schilling to approve the abatement for the residential structure on the SW4 9-148-77 being he qualifies as a farm resident therefore the residential structure is exempt from property taxes, seconded by County Commissioner Dieterle. Upon roll call vote – Schilling –yes, Dieterle – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The time being 1:30 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Adam Ehrman, Anamoose, was held. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the abatement for the residential structure on Outlot A 3-150-75 being he qualifies as a farm resident therefore the residential structure is exempt from property taxes, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

Scott Stroh, McClusky, Weed Board member, met with the board to be updated on the Weed Board member duties and was presented their financial report by the County Auditor. Stroh stated they will have a meeting to organize their board and decide on their clerk position. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to appoint Curt Kurle to the Weed Board effective immediately, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The time being 1:45 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Steven & Vonnie Erdmann, Denhoff, was held. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the abatement for residential structure on the SE4 32-147-75 being they qualify as a farm residence therefore the residential structure is exempt from property taxes, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by County Commissioner Schilling to approve increasing the primary road crew 10% more per hr. effective February 11th, 2023 including Darrell Grade and 5% increase on temporary road crew helpers, seconded by County Commissioner Dieterle. Upon roll call vote – Schilling – yes, Dieterle – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The time being 2:00 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Leela Sprenger, Anamoose, was held. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the abatement for a residential structure on a tract in SW4NW4 33-150-75 being she qualifies for homestead credit, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The Sheridan County Agent narrative was reviewed with activities held throughout the month of January, 2023. Sarah Crimmins, County Agent, reported that 4-H Hippology and crop judging contests had a busy time in January with 13 4-H members participating. A 4-H Cloverbud STEM workshop for Sheridan County Youth in Kindergarten through 3rd grade was held at the McClusky City Hall January 24th. 11 youth attended the event. Trainings that Crimmins participated in the month of January included: central district zoom meeting, Sheridan County advisory council meeting, how to use pesticide handbooks webinars, ND Beef Cattle Improvement Association meeting, 4-H project area reorganization meeting, ND ag disaster response meeting, 4-H animal science program planning committee meetings, ANR agent and livestock specialist meeting and monthly 4-H zoom call. The Women in Ag series has continued with great interaction and questions.

Kathy Mindt and Sylvia Schell, Clerk of Court/County Recorder office, met with the board to report on current legislation to have Clerk of Courts be a State employee and no longer a County employee. The current Clerk of Court would have to go thru applying with the State if wanting to be hired as Clerk of Court. Mindt presented a resolution to the County Commissioners to consider in approving opposition of the legislation.

It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling to approve the resolution opposing legislation making the Sheridan County Clerk of Court’s office a State Office. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Resolution adopted.

A Resolution Opposing Legislation to Make the Sheridan County

Clerk of Court’s Office a State Office

WHEREAS, there is legislation being proposed pertaining to the transition of contract county clerk services to state funding and other legislation priorities:

WHEREAS, such legislation would make the Sheridan County Clerk of Courts’ office a state agency and the employees thereof state employees, which would take away local control and governance of such office and employees;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sheridan County, North Dakota, is desirous of keeping the Sheridan County Clerk of Courts’ office as a county office.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the board of County Commissioners for Sheridan County, North Dakota, that the following resolution be adopted as follows:

1. That the Board of County Commissioners of Sheridan County directly opposes the passage of legislation pertaining to the transition of contract county clerk services to state funding and other legislative priorities; and
2. That the Board of County Commissioners of Sheridan County resolves to keep the Sheridan County Clerk of Courts’ office a county office.

APPROVED:

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ATTEST: Sandra Felchle, Chairperson

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Shirley A. Murray, Sheridan County Auditor

The time being 2:15 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Earleen Miller, Goodrich, was held. It was moved by County Commissioner Schilling to approve the abatement for a residential structure on a tract in SE4 300’x 726’ 5-146-74 being she qualifies for homestead credit, seconded by County Commissioner Dieterle. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

The time being 2:30 p.m. the abatement hearing for 2022 property taxes for Arlene Bender, Martin, was held. It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle to approve the abatement for a residential structure on Lots 9-10, Blk. 8, Original, Martin City being she qualifies for homestead credit, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

John Martin, Wold Engineering, Bismarck, met with the board to announce that Baranko Bros., Dickinson, was the lowest bidder on the south Pickardville Rd. Project for both detours in the amount of $2,220,652.51 which was $155,118.01 over the engineer’s estimate. It was moved by County Commissioner Schilling to approve the following Resolution, seconded by County Commissioner Dieterle. Upon roll call vote – Schilling – yes, Dieterle – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried. Project deadline date is November 10th 2023, and if not done by then, then daily liquidated damage amounts start to accumulate from day to day.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the bid in the amount of $2,220,652.51 from Baranko Brothers Inc. received in the bid opening of February 3, 2023 for Project SC-CVD-4205(056) was the low bid received.

WHEREAS, this bid is considered reasonable.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Sheridan County will award to Baranko Brothers Inc. the contract for Project SC-CVD-4205(056) and hereby authorizes the Chairperson of the Board to sign said contract.

IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD, that the County shall reimburse the North Dakota Department of Transportation for any payments made under this contract, which are not collectible from the Federal Highway Administration.

ATTEST:

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County Auditor Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners

Sheridan County

Sarah Crimmins, County Agent, met with the board to set up a job evaluation committee with one County Commissioner participating with the NDSU Director for Crimmin’s job evaluation. County Commissioner Dieterle volunteered to serve on the committee.

The Auditor reported on the buy-out options with leased JD motorgraders that are coming up this summer to purchase straight out or extend payments another 3-4 years. The old 2003 motorgrader will be put out on bids/sold later this year after new motorgraders arrive possibly in June, 2023.

The time being 3:00 p.m. the Board of Sheridan County Commissioners recessed for the Planning and Zoning hearing. The County Commissioners meeting reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Dieterle to approve the Conditional Use Permit to Strata, Inc. for gravel pits located on NW4 & NE4 30-145-78, SW4 30-147-78, and NW4 7-146-75 in Sheridan County and to instruct the County Road Foreman to shut down a gravel pit if roads are not kept up, seconded by Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried. Discussion on raising Conditional Use fees and other fees being per diem went up to $100.00 per meeting will be decided later on.

It was moved by County Commissioner Schilling to sell the crushed class #5 gravel in the Vietz and Netzloff pits at $7.00 per yd. plus $1.00 royalty effective immediately, seconded by County Commissioner Dieterle. Upon roll call vote – Schilling – yes, Dieterle – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

Road Foreman, Byron Belile, met with the board to discuss purchasing tires for Motorgrader. The board requested the front railing of the Courthouse to be repaired and to have road crew repair it. The part time road employees seem to be working out as needed with half the road crew available.

The time being 4:00 p.m. the interview for an Equipment Operator with Nathan Plute, Drake, was held. Questions were asked and answered.

The time being 4:15 p.m. the interview for an Equipment Operator with Christopher Blair, Mercer, was held. Questions were asked and answered.

It was moved by Commissioner Dieterle to approve hiring Nathan Plute effective as soon as possible at $21.00 per hr. and $1.00 per hr. increase after six months probationary period is done, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried. Plute was contacted by phone and offered the Equipment Operator job. Plute will get back to the County Auditor’s office tomorrow with an answer.

The County Auditor reported a RAISE grant is available thru grants.gov and would cover up to 100% on infrastructure and road projects. Murray contacted Greg Hagen, with Wold Engineering to help with writing a grant. Hagen stated he can help in the next round being it is due the end of February already.

The County Auditor also reported the 2022 General Election expense statistics came out to $14.00 per vote with a low voter turnout of a total of 631 votes cast and 58% were mail ballots that were cast.

Meeting adjourned.

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Auditor Chairperson

Special County Commissioners Meeting February 9, 2023

The board of County Commissioners met at 11:50 a.m. on call of the Chairperson. The board of County Commissioners were all present on conference call except Chairman Felchle was physically present.

Chairperson Felchle called the meeting to order. Nathan Plute, Drake, responded back to Felchle by phone that he would need more pay per hour to travel to Goodrich/McClusky to work. The board offered a per hr. rate of $24.50 with no probationary increase and would have him work as much as possible in the Martin area until regular blade operator comes back to work.

Meeting recessed 12:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:25 p.m.

The board of County Commissioners were all present on conference call except Chairman Felchle was physically present.

Nathan Plute, Drake, responded back again by phone and accepted the Equipment Operator position at $24.50 to start on Monday, February 13th.

It was moved by County Commissioner Dieterle, seconded by County Commissioner Schilling to hire Nathan Plute, Drake, as Equipment Operator at $24.50. Upon roll call vote – Dieterle – yes, Schilling – yes, Felchle – yes Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

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Auditor Chairperson