

County Commissioners Meeting January 5, 2010

The Board of Sheridan County Commissioners met 9:00 a.m. Commissioners present were Eldon Ehrman, Michael Axt, and Howard Erdmann.

Chairman Ehrman called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting was sent out and approved as is.

The following Statements of fees were approved and submitted to their appropriate funds:

County Recorder, Fees, \$2,268.00  
Clerk of Court, Fees, \$305.00  
Sheriff, Fees, \$206.00

The total miscellaneous receipts were collected for the following funds and were approved for the month of December, 2009:

General fund - \$6,551.42	Secondary Road - \$31,962.28
County Road - \$2,324.25	Highway Dist. - \$15,410.07
County Park - \$29.36	Insurance Reserve - \$207.00
SS & OASIS - \$276.67	County Extension - \$45.00
Weed Control - \$2,448.47	911 - 760.00
Wireless 911 - \$800.11	

An itemized listing of miscellaneous receipts is on file at the County Treasurer's office.

The December payroll warrants #35790-35818 were approved from the following funds:

General fund - \$20,683.70	Service Officer fund - \$266.67
County Agent fund - \$817.57	Civil Defense - \$425.00
Emergency Manager - \$412.50	County Corrections - \$2,100.00
Highway Dist. - \$11,555.00	Human Services - \$3,298.67

The following bills #35834-35919 were approved and ordered paid subject due to delinquent or any other indebtedness owing the County:

Ameripride Linen & Apparel Srv.,45.05; Dakota Communications,95.00; McClusky Gazette, 148.80; McClusky Rexall, 8.68, Shirley A. Murray,21.93; N.D. Newspaper Association,162.30; Howard Erdmann,99.00;Choice Financial Group,7,088.02;WRT, 905.57; Co-Op Elevator, 4,647.96; N.D. Association Of Counties,12,404.22; Unity Insurance Agency, Inc.,1,630.00; Sylvia Schell,37.12;Waste Management Of ND,42.21;Secretary Of State, 669.09; N.D. State Radio Communication,1,882.08; Eldon Ehrman,102.10;Fireside Office Solutions,95.27;Office Depot,276.47; Birch Telecom,115.51; BHG, Inc.,345.82;Information Technology Dept., 588.60, US Postal Service,88.00; Cass County Treasurer,89.00; D&J Oil, Inc.,4,421.02; John Deere Credit,16,429.62; Abused Adult Resource Center,350.00;Agriculture Communication,4.00; Lawson Products,199.07;Caterpillar Financial Services, 36,905.09;Mercer Machine,300.00; Kenschak Oil Inc.,3,940.49; Mclean-Sheridan Rur Water,43.45;Elmer Jesme Conf Of Counties, 150.00; NAPA Auto Parts,327.94;Power Plan,279.18; Farmers Union Oil Co., 421.35; ND Tax Commissioner,1,167.67;Gerda Ameristeel Corp.,17.06; Alltel, 208.32; NDSU Extension Service, 9,239.00;Diane Fylling, 58.26;Lewis & Clark Reg Dev Council,1,346.00;Midwest Graphic & Signs, 220.00;National 4-H Council,19.35;Mechanics Plus,108.24; ND County Commissioners Assoc.,815.00; First District Health Unit,5,968.50; NACO,400.00; North Country Bank,21,476.67; Tony Volochenko Jr.,60.00;Insight Public Sector,71.16;Marshall & Swift,247.95; ND County Auditors Assoc.,75.00; Erin Lauer,72.00; NRG, 3,983.83;Electronic Communications, Inc., 894.00; Capital Trophy, Inc.,56.25; James Paulus,758.81; North Dakota State Treasurer,5,581.87; Garrison Diver Conserv Dist., 2,408.87;Tractor Supply Credit Plan, 51.58; NDTC,18.20; SRT Communications, Inc.,12.88; Kingdom Construction, Inc.,1,847.50; Johnson's Plumbing Service,449.90;Contractors Leasing,2,907.00;Michael Axt,22.00; Susan Ebach,20.00;Bullberry Systems Inc.,3,152.50; Stein's Inc.,117.26; Applied Concepts, Inc., 102.00;Menards,15.95; Visa,128.95;McClusky City, 38.50; Emineth & Associates,49.50; Gotter Law Office,4,750.60; Cool Country,13.50; Jerry Jesz, 20.00;Digital-Ally,13,635.00;

Wold Engineering, PC.,41,683.79, ND Dept Of Transportation,57,036.09; Dallas Pfenning, 42.00;Alberta Strobel,89.27;Laura Logsdon,25.50

The first order of business was to elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to elect Michael Axt as Chairman and Howard Ehrman as Vice-Chairman of the board for the ensuing year, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

Cynthia D. Wahl, Director of Tax Equalization, met with the board to report that the average agriculture value went from \$221.72 to \$240.46 per acre or 8.5% increase according to the State Tax Commissioner’s Office. It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to increase only to 6% and stay within the state tolerance, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to approve the 2009 application for abatement of taxes due to property owner qualifies for 100% Homestead Credit on part of NW4NW4 100’x 140’ 12-146-77, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to approve the basic computer support contract with NRG services for 2010 in the amount \$3,300.00 and any extra support is \$110.00 per hour, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to approve the 2010 Police Service Contract with the City of McClusky with no changes from last year, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

The Auditor reported that the Mclean-Sheridan Rural water will be increasing the minimum rate an extra \$5.00 per mth. effective 1/1/2010 and a Sunday alcohol permit was issued to the Union to be open on December 27<sup>th</sup>,2009.

The time being 11:00 a.m. the County Park Board Meeting was held. The County Commission meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Mike Hanson, NDSU Northwest Director, and outgoing County Extension Agent, Crystal Schaunaman, met with the board to discuss filling the Sheridan County Extension Agent vacancy. Hanson stated that Sheridan County has an outstanding invoice that is owed to NDSU that requires payment before pursuing to hire another County Extension Agent. Depending on the interest of the County in the agricultural interest or 4-H interest there must be a minimum of a 4 year degree. It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to pay the outstanding NDSU invoice to be current and instruct Mike Hanson to start the procedure of hiring a new County Extension Agent, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried. Schaunaman also presented the County Extension Agent narrative for August thru December 2009.

The time being 2:00 p.m. the fuel bid letting on the rack price was held. Bids were received from the following:

	Gasoline	Diesel Fuel	Heating Fuel	Oil	Grease	Anti-Freeze
	(Amounts added to the rack price)					
D&J Oil, Inc.	.10 per gal.	.10 per gal.	.10 per gal.	.10 per gal.	.05 per lb	.50 per gal.
McClusky						
Konschak Oil	.10 per gal.	.10 per gal.	.10 per gal.			
Goodrich						

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to approve the rack price on the fuel bids from D&J Oil for the North McClusky and McClusky Shops and Konschak Oil fuel bids to Goodrich Shop and Cecil’s motorgrader and to approve the oil, grease, and heating fuel bids for the Courthouse from D & J Oil, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

Greg O'Shea, Butler Machinery, met with the board to present quotes on motorgraders. A quote was reviewed for a 2009 Caterpillar 140M AWD Motor Grader in the amount of \$232,500.00 with a trade-in of \$50,000.00 on the 1998 JD Motorgrader for a total of \$182,500.00. The interest rate would be at 4.50% with 5 annual payments of around \$17,042.16 starting 01/15/2011 with a balloon payment in the amount of \$130,000.00. The quote was tabled at this time.

Randy Hoovestol, RDO Equipment, met with the board to present quotes on motorgraders. Quotes were reviewed for a 2010 JD 772G at \$248,000.00 minus \$68,750.00 trade-in for the 1998 JD Motorgrader would be at \$179,250.00 and the 2009 JD 772D Motorgrader was \$233,000.00 minus \$68,750.00 trade-in for 1998 JD Motorgrader would be at \$164,250.00. It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to lease purchase the 2010 JD 772G Motorgrader in the amount of \$179,250.00 at 2.95% interest for 5 annual payments of \$19,033.00 starting January 15, 2010, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

Wayne Houston, Emergency Manger, met with the board to present the GIS Data Contract with Bullberry Systems, Inc., Bismarck, for an annual amount of \$565.00 to clean up addresses and postal zone boundaries. Federal snow assistance for the 2009 December snow storm figures are being calculated to see if there is enough costs incurred for a state emergency declaration. A meeting of County Commissioners and 911 Coordinators will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> to review State Radio expenses.

County Treasurer, Janice Erdmann, met with the board to present the Pledge of Assets for Sheridan County. It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to approve the 2010 pledge of assets as presented by the County Treasurer, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote - Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

Trent Naser, Sheriff, met with the board to present tire estimates from Mechanics Plus. It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to purchase (4) LT265/70R17 OWL tires from Mechanics Plus for \$838.84, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote - Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried. Naser also requested to hire an extra deputy to help with the upcoming jury trial being himself and Deputy Hoffman are both sequestered for the trial and Deputy Kluth will be transporting the prisoner. It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to compensate a licensed officer at \$15.00 per hr. for extra help if need be, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote - Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried. Naser also presented the 2009 Sheriff's Report with a breakdown of 52% of calls for the County, 31.20% calls for McClusky City, 11.3% calls for Goodrich City, 3.1% calls for Martin City and 2.4% calls were assisting for other counties (prisoner transports, etc).

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to approve the Courthouse boiler insurance policy for 2010 with Unity Insurance, McClusky, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman to approve the Consent to Assignment agreement with Robert Mix formerly, Maximus, Inc., to continue to provide software services to Sheridan County, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann that the District County Assessors be paid \$300.00 per township for assessor duties for 2010, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote- Erdmann – yes, Axt – yes, Erdmann – yes. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann, seconded by Commissioner Axt, and carried that the Chairman of the Board, Michael Axt, the County Auditor, and the County Treasurer, be appointed the members of the purchasing board for the ensuing year, 2010. Upon roll call – Ehrman – yes, Erdmann –yes, Axt – yes. Motion carried. The County Officials and Janitor are therefore requested to requisition to the Board of County Commissioners at their regular meetings for all larger items such as furniture, equipment, etc. that exceeds over \$100.00 and that they have the approval of the purchasing board on all smaller items.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman and carried that the Auditor be authorized to pay the following items by Auditor's warrants during the year upon authorized payrolls, certificates of interest on warrants, workmen compensation premiums, unemployment insurance, withholding tax, welfare office personnel, other welfare vouchers upon approval of welfare board, and county shop, county park, and courthouse electricity and water bills. Upon roll call – Axt – yes, Erdmann – yes, Ehrman. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman, that the following banks be designated as County Depository Banks. Upon roll call vote: Erdmann – yes, Axt– yes, Ehrman – yes. Motion carried.

North Country Bank of McClusky  
Choice Financial Group of Goodrich

It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman that the County employees be paid .50 per mile for necessary travel, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Axt, - yes, Erdmann – yes, Ehrman– yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann that the Elected Officials and Appointed Officials annual Salaries for 2010 be set as follows:

County Auditor	26,400.00
Sheriff	33,360.00
County Recorder	25,200.00
Treasurer	24,400.00
States Attorney (Part time)	24,350.00
County Commissioners	9,300.00 each
	(Plus mileage and expense)
Veteran's Service Officer	3,500.00
Civil Defense Director	5,400.00
911 Coordinator	5,250.00
Risk Manager	3,150.00
Tax Director	15,840.00
And Salaries of Deputies, Clerk, etc. be set as follows:	
Auditor – Deputy	15,726.00
Extra help if needed	100.00
Sheriff – Chief Deputy	30,900.00
Office Clerk	7,917.12
Special Deputies-Signal 100 or Similar long situations	15.00 per hr.
Normal-Special Deputies	15.00 per hr.
County Recorder– Deputy	9,935.04
Extra help if needed	1,000.00
Treasurer – Clerk	7.00 - 8.00 per hr.
County Agent(County's 50% Share )	19,078.00
County Agent Clerk	10,494.84
Janitor	15,816.00
Janitor Extra help	500.00
State's Attorney Rent	100.00 per mth.
Weed Board Members	50.00 per mtg.
County Park Board Commissioners	10.00 per mtg
Planning & Zoning Board members	10.00 per mtg

Seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote - Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes, Axt – yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman that the Highway employees salaries be as follows for 2010, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Axt – yes, Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes Motion carried.

*HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES – Salaries – Annually*

Salaries for full time experienced operators:	<u>Annual</u>
Foreman and Head Blademan	28,700.00
Head Mechanic and Blademan	27,850.00
Other Blademen and Tractor operators with Over 8 years experience	27,320.00
Other Blademen and Tractor operators	23,510.00
Salary for full time in-experienced operator	22,310.00

  

Wages for part time inexperienced operators:	<u>Per Hour</u>
Experienced part time operators	9.57
Inexperienced operators begin at	9.31
Common Labor, Tarring Streets, Picking Rocks, etc.	9.50

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to re-appoint the following for the year 2010:

Marlin P. Engen – County Park Commissioner  
Arlington Helm – County Park Commissioner  
James Paulus – Veteran Service Officer  
Wayne Houston – County Emergency Manager & 911 Coordinator  
Trent Naser – Acting Coroner  
Cynthia D. Wahl – Director of Tax Equalization  
Tracy Stein – Risk Manager

Seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Erdmann- yes, Axt – yes, Ehrman - yes Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Ehrman that the County employees that do not arrive for work due to inclement weather, even though the Courthouse is open, shall take a vacation or sick day off at the employee’s discretion to compensate for that day, seconded by Commissioner Erdmann. Upon roll call vote – Axt– yes, Erdmann –yes, Ehrman – yes. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Erdmann to re-appoint Mary Feickert, James Haux, Sherril Houser, and Shirley Jorgensen as District Assessors for the unorganized twps for a four year term, seconded by Commissioner Ehrman. Upon roll call vote – Axt – yes, Erdmann – yes, Ehrman – yes Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

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Auditor

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Chairman

County Commission Meeting January 19, 2010

The Board of County Commissioners met in special session at 4:15 p.m. as per set. Commissioners present were Michael Axt, Howard Erdmann, and Eldon Ehrman. Others present Tom Hrdlicka, Otter Tail Energy Services; Angela Piner, HDR Engineering, Inc.; Allan Tinker, Editor, McClusky Gazette; Tim and Janice Erdmann, Denhoff twp land owners, Kevin Korus, Denhoff twp chairman; and Lee Boehm, Prophets twp chairman.

Chairman Axt called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Tom Hrdlicka.

Tom and Angela presented a slide show on an update of the Sheridan County Wind farm projects. The County permitting process has been completed for the conditional use permit and will be meeting with the ND Public Service Commission tomorrow on state approval. Federal permitting is being currently worked on with environmental organizations. A small group of land owners will be getting together with Otter Tail Energy Services Co. as an advisory committee tomorrow evening at the McClusky Community Center to discuss land issues. A public meeting will be held later on in the year.

Archaeological and biological resource surveys have been completed from the met towers. Bats and birds seem to be the general wildlife in the areas. Access roads were explained. The turbine and transformer area take up around a 1/10 of an acre. The process of the electrical connection to the wind turbines was reviewed also. The intent of connecting to the existing power line going through the Prophets Twp area and northern Sheridan County is OTESCO's plan. A power purchase agreement needs to be marketed to sell the energy that is generated from the wind farms in order to have a demand to construct the wind farms. The wind farm projects hope to be constructed no later than 2012 or the production tax credit will end by the federal government.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

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Auditor

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Chairman