

Minutes of the Board of Ward County Commissioners
April 5, 2016

The regular meeting of the Ward County Commission was called to order by Chairman Fjeldahl at 9:00 a.m. with Comm. Louser, Walter, Wepler, and Nybakken, present. Also present were Department Heads: Dana Larsen, Roza Larson, Devra Smestad, Ryan Kamrowski, Betty Braun, Kerrienne Tyler, Leona Lochthowe, and Amanda Schooling.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve the agenda with additions. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Nybakken, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve the minutes of the Commission Meeting on March 15, 2016 and Special Commission Meeting on March 23, 2016. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Auditor/Treasurer Devra Smestad then presented the bills. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Wepler to approve regular bills totaling \$708,811.57 and the Social Welfare Fund of \$17,703. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Brian Kunz, Senior Project Manager for Adolfson & Peterson Construction appeared with update on projects. Ground-breaking ceremony for Jail Expansion Project will be at 11:00 on April 15, 2016 east side of Administration Building.

Doug Larson, JLG Architects appeared with updates on Courthouse Renovation Project. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to authorize Chairman to sign North Dakota Department of Health Asbestos Notification of Demolition and Renovation form. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larson also presented memorandum from Summit Fire Consulting regarding Courtroom door. Study determined it was not feasible to use existing door since extensive modification and cost would be required to meet fire codes. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to purchase new 45 minute fire-rated door assembly included in original bid. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Finally, Larson provided proposal for lead testing abatement in Courthouse. Results won't be known for approximately one week, so Special Commission Meeting may be required next week if additional action is required. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to authorize chairman sign Mavo Systems Proposal for \$6,000. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Highway Engineer Dana Larsen appeared with bids for County Road 20 Grade Raise. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Weppler to approve Resolution on Project CER-5154(057) to Foothills Construction in amount of \$1,244,145.70. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larsen then presented Construction Maintenance Agreement for Grade Raise on County Road 24. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve agreement and authorize Chairman to sign documents. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larsen also provided Joint Powers Agreement and Memorandum of Agreement for proposed joint road improvement projects in Plaza area. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve request and authorize Highway Department advertise for bids to improve County Road 20 between County Road 9 and Mountrail County Line. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larsen recommended following repairs for County North Building: remove fascia panels on south side of building; patch broken areas of parking lot; crack seal and chip seal entire parking lot. Moved by Comm. Louser, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve repairs with estimated cost \$16,000. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Additionally, Larsen requested authorization to take bids on County Road 23 Sliver Widening Project that will widen road approximately 4 feet on each side. This project will lay groundwork for next year's reconstruction of County Road 23 starting just south of US 52 to State Highway 23. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larsen also presented info about Rice Lake property owner who removed approximately 1000 cubic yards of clay from county owned land without permission. The unauthorized excavation resulted in sewer lines with inadequate soil cover to prevent freezing in cold weather. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Weppler to locate sewer line and then draft letter to property owner. Letter would require property owner to replace adequate amount of clay to ensure proper sewer line insulation, restore topsoil to assure grass grows, and pay for amount of clay that had been removed. Letter would give person until September 15, 2016 to complete work, or county will take over, complete the work, and send bill to property owner. Letter should also infer legal action may be taken if necessary. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Larsen then presented proposal from Gefroh Electric to replace existing Metal Halide fixtures in Minot shop with LED lights at cost of \$10, 585. Moved by Comm.

Weppler, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Finally, Larsen advised Board he'd talked to township officers at Annual Meeting and found several were interested in accounting software used for annual budgets. Township Officers Association will conduct poll to determine interest and report findings at later date.

Assistant Highway Engineer Travis Schmit appeared with bids for the Courthouse Parking Lot project. Bids also included option to change west lot entrance and exit to one central location for better traffic flow. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve \$122,075.82 bid from Bechtold Paving which includes option. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Schmit then informed Board of encroachment issues along Freedom Trail between Minot and Minot Air Force Base. During trail design phase, Park Board sent letters to each property owner notifying them of trail right-of-way (50 feet from center of trail on both sides) to prevent encroachment. Future trail improvements of benches and shelters make it imperative these encroachment issues are addressed immediately. Moved by Comm. Nybakken, seconded by Comm. Weppler to use variety of methods accomplish task: send letters to landowners reminding them of encroachments along the trail; place right-of-way markers along trail for farmers to follow if unaware of the right-of-way; and enforce deadline of August 1, 2016 for landowner restoration of right-of-way encroachments. If landowner fails to meet deadline, County will hire contractor to complete work and bill property owner for work. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Planning/Zoning Administrator Amber Turnquest appeared. Moved by Comm.

Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Memorandum 1 as follows:

1. Application for plat approval by Norman Sollid on behalf of Joseph Klein for the following described property:

Outlots 7 & 8 of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 2-153-81, Sawyer Township

The application is for 9.96 and 4.61 acre outlots respectively. The Sawyer Township Board has recommended approval. The Ward County Water Resource Board returned the plat without objection, but with the recommendation that a storm water management plan may be required if the property is (a) developed or subdivided or (b) if an application is made for a building permit; and that any development as a result of this plat should not obstruct watercourses or divert surface water flows.

2. Application for plat approval by Brian Sys for the following described property:

Outlot 2 Being a Portion of Outlot 1 and Lying in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 12-156-84, Kirkelie Township

This application is for a 10.23 acre outlot. The Kirkelie Township Board has recommended approval. The Ward County Water Resource Board returned the plat without objection, but with the recommendation that a storm water management plan may be required if the property is (a) developed or subdivided or (b) if an application is made for a building permit; and that any development as a result of this plat should not obstruct watercourses or divert surface water flows.

3. Application for plat approval by Brian Sys for the following described property:

Outlot 3 Being a Portion of Outlot 1 and Lying in SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 12-156-84, Kirkelie Township

This application is for a 10.91 acre outlot. The Kirkelie Township Board has recommended approval with the stipulation that any addition access to the outlot would need Supervisor approval. The Ward County Water Resource Board returned the plat without objection, but with the recommendation that a storm water management plan may be required if the property is (a) developed or subdivided or (b) if an application is made for a building permit; and that any development as a result of this plat should not obstruct watercourses or divert surface water flows.

Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Turnquest then presented Memorandum 2 as follows:

1. Application for special use permit by Justin Hoffarth for the following described property:

Outlot 7 of SE ¼ Less Outlot 9, Section 32-156-82, McKinley Township

This application is for special use permit is to allow a sanitation company to be operated on the property. There would be no customers at the location which would be used for container and truck storage.

The application was recommended for denial due to location of the swampy area and access to the lot not being adequate for commercial traffic.

Motion tabled with recommendation to send application back to Ward County

Planning/Zoning Commission. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Director of Tax Equalization Ryan Kamrowski appeared. Moved by Comm.

Walter, seconded by Comm. Wepler to approve changes to County Tax Roll as

follows:

1. Auditor's office did not history parcel in 2014 when it was annexed into the City of Minot:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Proffutt Limited Partnership	NE310990000260 Olt 26 of SESW	2014	\$7,200	\$0.00	\$360	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	NE310990000260 Olt 26 of SESW	2015	\$7,500	\$0.00	\$375	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	NE31005U090000 W2SE Less Por Happy Valley 1 st & SESE Less Olt 10	2014	\$28,200	\$0.00	\$1,410	\$0,00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	NE31005U090000 W2SE Less Por Happy Valley 1 st & SESE Less Olt 10	2015	\$29,300	\$0.00	\$1,465	\$0.00

Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR060990000010 Olt 1 of SWNE	2014	\$300	\$0.00	\$15	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR060990000010 Olt 1 of SWNE	2015	\$300	\$0.00	\$15	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U030000 Lot 2 S6-154-82	2014	\$15,300	\$0.00	\$765	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U030000 Lot 2 S6-154-82	2015	\$15,900	\$0.00	\$795	\$0.00

2. Continuation of #1:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U060000 W2SEnw & Lot 4 Less Por to Olt 7	2014	\$16,900	\$0.00	\$845	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U060000 W2SEnw & Lot 4 Less Por to Olt 7	2015	\$17,600	\$0.00	\$880	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U060000 W2SEnw & Lot 4 Less Por to Olt 7	2014	\$26,500	\$0.00	\$1,325	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U060000 W2SEnw & Lot 4 Less Por to Olt 7	2015	\$27,600	\$0.00	\$1,380	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U070000 E2SEnw Lots 3&5 LessPor of Olt 7	2014	\$26,500	\$0.00	\$1,325	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U070000 E2SEnw Lots 3&5 LessPor of Olt 7	2015	\$27,600	\$0.00	\$1,380	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U080000 SENE Lot 1	2014	\$25,400	\$0.00	\$1,270	\$0.00
Proffutt Limited Partnership	SR06005U080000 SENE Lot 1	2015	\$26,400	\$0.00	\$1,320	\$0.00

3. Auditor's office did not history parcel when replatted in 2012:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000010 Olt 1 of NE	2012	\$106,000	\$0.00	\$4,770	\$0.00
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000010 Olt 1 of NE	2013	\$121,800	\$0.00	\$5,481	\$0.00
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000010 Olt 1 of NE	2014	\$131,600	\$0.00	\$5,922	\$0.00
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000010 Olt 1 of NE	2015	\$135,400	\$0.00	\$6,093	\$0.00

4. Property is exempt under NDCC 57-02-08:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000040 Olt 4 of SE Less ROW & Hwy	2014	\$38,000	\$0.00	\$1,900	\$0.00
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000040 Olt 4 of Se Less ROW & Hwy	2015	\$25,800	\$0.00	\$1,290	\$0.00
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000030 Olt 3 Por of SE Less ROW & Hwy	2014	\$3,600	\$0.00	\$180	\$0.00
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000030 Olt 3 Por of SE Less ROW & Hwy	2015	\$900	\$0.00	\$45	\$0.00
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000020 Olt 2 of SE Less ROW & Hwy S-18-152-87	2014	\$10,100	\$0.00	\$505	\$0.00
Soo Line Railroad	OR180990000020 Olt 2 of SE Less ROW & Hwy S-18-152-87	2015	\$9,600	\$0.00	\$480	\$0.00

5. Omitted Property:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Hauser, John & Ada	KM180071400000 Tolley's 1 st Addition N ½ Vac 9 th St	2014	\$0.00	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$100
Hauser, John & Ada	KM180071400000 Tolley's 1 st Addition N ½ Vac 9 th St	2015	\$0.00	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$100
KA Development LLC	KM180071400010 Tolley's 1 st Addition Lot 1 & ½ Vac 9 th St NE	2014	\$10,600	\$84,200	\$530	\$3,789
KA Development LLC	KM1800714000010 Tolley's 1 st Addition Lot 1 & ½ Vac 9 th St NE	2015	\$5,600	\$99,200	\$280	\$4,464
Burtman, Jerald	BD280150100020 Lots 1 & 2 Blk 1 Eastside Addition	2015	\$8,300	\$167,300	\$415	\$7,528.50
Bonn, Dustin & Tracy	DL130010000030 Shady Pines S/D Lot 3	2015	\$23,300	\$346,200	\$1,165	\$15,579
Grosse, Reinhold	SW000059900030 Casseday's Addition	2015	\$13,200	\$27,000	\$660	\$1,350
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000030 Olt 3 of NE	2012	\$8,900	\$86,400	\$445	\$3,888
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000030 Olt 3 of NE	2013	\$9,600	\$98,800	\$480	\$4,446
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000030 Olt 3 of NE	2014	\$12,000	\$108,400	\$600	\$4,878
Strand, Darwin	NP070990000030 Olt 3 of NE	2015	\$13,100	\$112,200	\$655	\$5,049

6. Farm Exempt:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Feldman, Gordon	BA5103081 S22 NE	2015 (2016MH)	\$11,000	\$0.00	\$495	\$0.00

7. Auditor's office changed owner to NDDOT in error only an easement deed:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Keiser, Mitchell	BE22005U040000 SW Less Hwy Olts 3,4 & 10	2015	\$0.00	\$88,000	\$0.00	\$4,400

8. Remove structure value, the structure is located on a different lot:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Roteliuk, Rondel & Cody	SW110060100070 Hockspeirs Addition Lots 5,6,7 Block 1	2015	\$19,000	\$6,100	\$950	\$305

9. Parcel was previously assessed as commercial prior to 2015 assessment date, owner reclaimed property back to Ag. Land, adjust value to reflect Ag Land valuation:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Lochthowe, Justin	EE320990000040 Olt 4 of SW Less Por Olt 8 & 9	2015	\$45,000	\$8,000	\$2,250	\$400

10. Parcel was combined with Lot 2 in 2015, remove parcel from 2015 assessment roll:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Burtman, Jerald	BD280150100010 Lot 1 Block 1 Eastside Addition	2015	\$161,000	\$0.00	\$7,245	\$0.00

11. Escaped Assessment:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Ready Builder's II Inc	HA08005U030000 SESW Less Por for Golden Sunset Est, Whitetail Ridge & Olt 2,3,4,5,6	2014	\$0.00	\$16,000	\$0.00	\$800

Ready Builder's II Inc.	HA08005U030000 SESW Less Por for Golden Sunset Est, Whitetail Ridge & Olt 2,3,4,5,6	2015	\$0.00	\$16,000	\$0.00	\$800
Albert, Trenton	RY51030001 Ryder Twp NE ¼ Sec 30	2012 (2013MH)	\$0.00	\$45,000	\$0.00	\$2,025
Meadowlark Builders Inc.	MI5105596 Holiday Village MHP Lot 205	2014 (2015MH)	\$0.00	\$64,000	\$0.00	\$2,880
Hieronymus, David & Courtney	MI5105594 Edgeview MHP Lot 15	2014 (2015MH)	\$0.00	\$14,000	\$0.00	\$630
Mendoza, Salvador	MI5105595 Parkview MHP Lot 40	2014 (2015MH)	\$0.00	\$10,000	\$0.00	\$450
Danks, Georgianna C/O Edwards, Amanda	MI5103849 Holiday Village Lot 619	2014 (2015MH)	\$0.00	\$39,000	\$0.00	\$1,755
Danks, Georgianna C/O Edwards, Amanda	MI5103849 Holiday Village Lot 619	2015 (2016MH)	\$0.00	\$39,000	\$0.00	\$1,755
Huelsman, Laurie	MI5105598 Holiday Village #804	2014 (2015MH)	\$0.00	\$40,000	\$0.00	\$1,800

12. Reducing T & F Value after owner allowed inspection of property and a more accurate appraisal could be performed on the flooded property:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Hochsprung, Albert & Doris	BT120990000710 Olt 71 of S2NE	2015	\$195,800	\$146,000	\$8,811	\$6,570

13. Error in valuation when initial tax statement was calculated:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Hieronymus, David & Courtney	MI5105594 Edgeview MHP Lot 15	2015 (2016MH)	\$34,000	\$14,000	\$1,530	\$630

14. Property is flood damaged, to include foundation damage:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Ziegler, Ruth Family Trust	MI221420000040 Hanson's Addition Lot 4	2013	\$60,800	\$46,600	\$2,736	\$2,097

15. Property was purchased by the City of Minot :

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
City of Minot	MI232120600140 Lee & Jacobson's 1 st Addition	2015	\$108,000	\$90,00	\$4,860	\$4,050

16. Property qualifies for NDCC 57-02-08 New Construction Exemption for 2014-2015:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Bain, Jade	MI10D520033040 Northern Meadows Condo's on Lot Northern Meadows Addition Unit 1616	2014	\$118,000	\$43,000	\$5,310	\$1,935

17. Commercial Building value omitted from assessment in error:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Star Rentals , LLC & Slotto, Dwight	MI234730200040 Watnas Addition Lot 4 Block 2	2014	\$30,000	\$90,000	\$1,500	\$4,500
Star Rentals , LLC & Slotto, Dwight	MI234730200040 Watnas Addition Lot 4 Block 2	2015	\$30,000	\$90,000	\$1,500	\$4,500

18. Single Family residence not completed for 2015 assessment:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Gross, Robert	MI192130000420 Lenox Park Addition Lot 42	2015	\$148,000	\$70,000	\$6,660	\$3,150

19. Value not applied to tax roll in error, return to tax roll:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
West Central Distribution LLC	MI02E720100010 NE Industrial 2 nd Addition Lot 1 Blk 1	2015	\$0.00	\$16,000	\$0.00	\$800

20. Property qualifies for NDCC 57-02-08 new residence exemption for 2015-2016:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Fernandez, Jessy	MI10D520031020 Northern Meadows Condos on Lot 1 Northern Meadows Addition Unit 1616 #102	2015	\$117,000	\$42,000	\$5,265	\$1,890

21. Owner qualifies for wheelchair exemption:

Property Owner	Description	Valuation Year	Old True & Full	New True & Full	Old Taxable Value	New Taxable Value
Horpestad. Alden & Diane	MI359020000080 Villa Court Condominiums on Sublot B of Lot 15 & Sublots A & B of Lot 16 Thompson's 5 th Plat Unit 9	2015	\$175,000	\$75,000	\$7,875	\$3,375

Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Emergency Management Director Amanda Schooling appeared with Joint Powers Agreement with Rolling Green Township. Moved by Comm. Nybakken, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve request and authorize Chairman to sign document. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Schooling then presented request to update Ward County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Louser to authorize Chairman sign letter of intent to participate in Mitigation Plan update. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Schooling requested permission to advertise Request for Proposal of Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update notice. Purpose of this notice is to solicit qualifications from firms able to complete an update for Ward County and cities therein. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Weppler to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Finally, Schooling presented Federal Fiscal Year 2016 / 2017 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Application. Moved by Comm. Louser, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to authorize completion of application. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Chief Deputy Barnard appeared with two bids to replace golf carts used by Sheriff's Department during North Dakota State Fair. These carts will be purchased with drug seizure money. Moved by Comm. Louser, seconded by Comm. Walter to authorize purchase of two E-Z-Go Golf Carts from Acme Tools totaling \$18,990. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Barnard then provided copy of letter to be sent to all incorporated cities within the county regarding increase of jail fees. City of Minot, along with Ward County Liaison Committee, approved prisoner housing increase from current \$50/day to \$60/day effective January 1, 2017. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Weppler to approve increase. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Facilities Management Administrator Leona Lochthowe requested authorization to immediately convert Morgan Printing Building to accommodate Jail 24/7 program. Future building renovations will accommodate Attendant Care program also. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

IT Administrator Jason Blowers appeared with request to purchase one Verizon Cellular Extender/Repeater with ceiling mount to help cell phone reception in basement of Administration Building. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to authorize purchase of equipment totaling \$424.94. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Blowers also requested increase of VPN Circuit at County North Building to accommodate Bookmobile database updates. Since network circuit is also used by Sheriff's Office for New World evidence storage, increased monthly cost from \$49.00 to \$63.20 will be split between departments. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Blowers then informed Board of courthouse Cisco 3750x network switch failure due to construction dust and lack of ventilation in tiny equipment closet. County

insurance will not cover replacement cost, so suggested split equipment replacement costs between three contractors working in building. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to attribute equipment failure as consequences associated with renovation and not charge contractors for replacement costs. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve replacement of courthouse Cisco 3750x network switch from Marco in amount of \$4,872. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Blowers also requested VPN contract of \$63.20/month for telephone and security cameras in Morgan Printing Building. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Finally, Blowers presented proposals for security cameras in Morgan Printing Building with recommendation to accept quote from American Cabling Solutions for \$6,335.03. This system will easily integrate with current equipment for reasonable cost. Moved by Comm. Nybakken, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Auditor/Treasurer Devra Smestad appeared.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to receive and file the following correspondence: Unapproved Minutes of Liaison Committee Meeting; US Department of Interior – NAWS Environmental Impact Report On-Line. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Comm. Wepler requested discussion on Roger Behm – Tax Abatement Letter received by each Commissioner. Tax Equalization Director Ryan Kamrowski stated Behm requested reassessment of property and was granted reduction in land value but not reduction of building value. Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to receive and file document. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Smestad asked Board to decide if the additional \$7 Million for Highway Department should be included in our next Tax Revenue or GO Bond sale for the balance of building projects. Board decided to exclude the \$7 Million at this time.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve 2016 Annual Contract with Ryder Historical Society. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Smestad informed the Board of NDIRF Annual Meeting on May 11, 2016 at the Ramkota Inn, Bismarck, ND. She will attend on behalf of Ward County.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to accept bid of \$69,100.00 by RTB Consulting, LLC for Summit Park Addition Lot 3 Block 3, Tax Foreclosed Property in its present condition. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to approve the following payroll amendments: Kristina Weber – Emergency Management (Level 20); Tim Poston – Sheriff's Dept (Level 21); John Malone – Sheriff's Dept (Level 21); Darby Kessner – Sheriff's Dept (Level 21); Shirrell Ott – NDSU Extension Service (Level 16). Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Louser, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to appoint Arden H. Haner to Ward County Soils Committee. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Comm. Walter advised Board there will be a meeting with Department Heads in the Courthouse to inform them of future renovation issues.

Mattson Construction representative Jerome Gruenberg informed Board they've discovered large cracks in courthouse building foundation near Juvenile Detention area and will continue to monitor situation as the Jail Expansion Project begins this spring.

At 12:00 p.m., with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.