

Minutes of the Board of Ward County Commissioners
August 16, 2016

The regular meeting of the Ward County Commission was called to order by Chairman Fjeldahl at 9:05 a.m. with Comm. Louser, Walter, Weppler, and Nybakken, present. Also present were Department Heads: Ryan Kamrowski, Kerrienne Tyler, Betty Braun, Roza Larson, John Crosby, Dana Larsen, Melissa Bliss, and Devra Smestad.

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

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on August 2, 2016. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Auditor/Treasurer Devra Smestad then presented the bills. Moved by Comm. Nybakken, seconded by Comm. Weppler to approve regular bills of \$2,922,671.82 and the Social Welfare Fund of \$74,648.01. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Ward County Building Inspector Leo Schmidt appeared with request for Moving Permit filed by Mark & Darcy Sandstrom.

At 9:06 a.m. Chairman Fjeldahl opened public hearing which would allow Mark & Darcy Sandstrom to move a two story conventional framed home with garage and Pole Barn from 5712 7th St SW, Minot, ND in Afton Township W2SWNE Sec.12, 154-N 83-W to 6785 13th St SE, Minot, ND in Sundre Township NW1/4 Sec. 18 154-N 82-W.

No one appeared to speak for or against the permit. Moved by Comm. Weppler, seconded by Comm. Louser to close the public hearing at 9:07 a.m.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve Moving Permit. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

First District Health Unit Director Lisa Clute appeared with proposed 2017 Budget requesting 2.22 mills equalized per county. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to accept request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Eric Hoffer, JLG Architects, appeared. Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Certificate of Substantial Completion date of August 4, 2016 as submitted by Mattson Construction for Juvenile Detention Renovation. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Change Order #8 in amount of \$6,233 for fire rated doors in Juvenile Detention and authorize Chairman sign document. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Madison Young, Adolfson & Peterson Construction, appeared with project updates and change orders.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Courthouse Renovation Change Order #8 in amount of \$12,712 for furring and electrical revisions. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Courthouse Renovation Change Order #9 for proposed Alternate #4 in amount of \$172,072 with funds from Courthouse Facilities Improvement Grant. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve Courthouse Renovation Change Order #10 in amount of \$53,879 for permanent platform and

temporary partitions to Courtroom #122. Roll call: Comm. Louser, Walter, Wepler, and Nybakken voted yes, Chairman Fjeldahl voted no; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to approve Courthouse Renovation Change Order #11 for States Attorney casework revisions in amount of \$1,533. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve Courthouse Renovation Change Order #14 for electrical routing clarifications totaling \$2,229. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Kaylon Faul, Rushville Township landowner appeared with concerns about current landowner in Gasman Township removing established road, thereby cutting off access to his cropland. Faul appeared before Gasman Township Board, but they declined to make ruling, and relinquish decision to County Commissioners.

States Attorney Roza Larson advised Faul only option for immediate recourse is to file temporary injunction granting access to cropland for purpose of harvest. Any additional action by Board tabled pending further research by Larson.

Since Rushville Township is an unorganized township, Faul requested Commissioners act as Township Board and approve request to move fence 30' from current location, leaving only 3' of Right-of-Way along section line. Moved by Comm. Walter, second by Comm. Louser to approve request until such time as township wants to build road along the section line. Discussion ensued and Chairman Fjeldahl recommended Faul petition to close the section line. Motion was withdrawn to allow Faul to file said petition.

Highway Engineer Dana Larsen appeared with updates on highway projects. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Wepler to award the County Road #23 Sliver Widening Project CP 2320 (16) to Farden Construction with their bid of \$784,907.80. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to authorize purchase of the 2016 HMI Side Dump Trailer from Westlie's for \$48,147 and tarp system for additional \$3,500. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to approve use of 10% Weight Exemption Harvest Permit for moving harvested product from field to first point of storage. This permit will be valid July 15, 2016 through November 30, 2016. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Wepler to accept North Dakota Department of Transportation 2017-2020 County Federal Aid Program and authorize Chairman sign document. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Facilities Management Administrator Leona Lochthowe appeared with proposal from Hight Construction in amount of \$15,500 for repairs to County North Building. Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Louser to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve Holm Construction masonry Quote of \$7,175 for Chumas Plaza memorial, and additional improvements in front of Ward County Administration Building. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Lochthowe then presented information on support contract from Simplex Grinnell for Tyco Security system that will be included in her 2017 budget proposal.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Wepler to authorize Chairman sign Energy Efficiency Credit for Mowbray & Sons on Jail and Courthouse. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Lochthowe also presented information from SRT for network VPN. Motion tabled pending more information.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve annual AVI Maintenance and Service Contract in amount of \$5,400. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Lochthowe provided Board with information for Accurate Controls, Inc., Maintenance and Service Agreement in Juvenile Detention. Motion tabled since she will present as part of 2017 Budget Proposal.

Finally, Lochthowe informed Board of various bills she will research before presenting for payment.

Melissa Bliss, Director of Social Services, appeared with request for additional position as presented during Social Services Monthly Meeting. Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve request. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Auditor/Treasurer Devra Smestad appeared.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Louser to receive and file the following correspondence: Chief Deputy Barnard – SO Monthly Report for July 2016; ND Legendary – Building Code Proposals. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Walter, seconded by Comm. Nybakken to receive and file Monthly Reports. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Louser, seconded by Comm. Wepler to approve Raffle Permit for Minot Air Force Base Top 3 Association. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Smestad presented information about North Dakota Association of Oil & Gas Producing Counties Annual Meeting on October 26, 2016. Annual dues of \$1,500 approved earlier as part of general bills. Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Moved by Comm. Wepler, seconded by Comm. Walter to approve the following payroll amendments: Cynthia Schwandt – Social Services (Level 17); Tiffany Johnson – Social Services (Level 19); Tiffany Pinckney – Social Services (Level 25); Meghan Lopez – Sheriff’s Dept (Level 18). Roll call: all voted yes; motion carried.

Smestad presented request from Vision West ND Consortium for \$1,500 budget consideration. Board agreed request should be included in budget discussion.

Commissioner Walter asked for update on County Road #10 construction and continued need for reduced speed limits. Highway Engineer Dana Larsen stated speed limit in area was increased from 40 mph to 45 mph and will remain in place until construction is complete in October.

Chairman Fjeldahl stressed importance of balanced county budget before discussions about setting mill levy.

Smestad informed group Bethany Lutheran Church provided cookies available in second floor breakroom as “Welcome to the Neighborhood” gesture.

At 10:42 a.m., with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.