

Meeting Minutes
Grant County Commissioner
Regular meeting

Alton Zenker

Commissioners:
Al Roy Hochhalter

Marty Meyer

Commissioner Zenker called the July 20, 2022 meeting of the Grant County Commissioners to order 9:02 a.m.

Moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Hochhalter to approve agenda. All present voting aye; agenda approved.

Moved by Commissioner Hochhalter and seconded by Commissioner Meyer to approve minutes. All present voting aye; minutes approved.

Old business:

New business:

Meyer made a motion to approve bills totaling \$153,266.55. Seconded by Hochhalter. Roll call vote- Hochhalter- aye, Meyer-aye, Zenker – aye. Bills approved.

Dennis Meier , Three Rivers Human Services Zone Director requested the purchase of an additional deposit box to be located on the south side of the courthouse. This box would be used for human services applications only. Motion made by Hochhalter and seconded by Meyer to purchase a second box. Auditor Sara Meier clarified that the box would be purchased with the funds that are earmarked for indirect costs for the zone, and would be the property of Grant County not the zone. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

Hochhalter moved to appoint Bonita Roth to the School Tuition Committee for a 3 year term beginning July 20, 2022. A retainer of \$100 per year, and hourly rate of \$25.00 and mileage when the Committee is to meet will be compensation for serving on the Committee. Seconded by Meyer. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

Brent Eckstrom, Executive Director of Lewis and Clark Council met with the Board to update on grants and funding that are becoming available.

Jody Fuchs and Robert Campbell gave an overview of the Grant County Fair activities and budget. A request for funding for the 2023 budget year will be considered. Chairman Zenker asked why commissioner ~~was~~ ^{was being} charged for the livestock auction. Fuchs explained it defrays some of the costs associated with running the fair, and improvements to the grounds. Zenker asked where the money from the county is used. Fuchs said back into the buildings and improvements. → correct

County Water Resource District members presented budget and mill levy request. Present were Jerald Christensen, Gary Meyer, and Julie Levorsen. The budget request for 2023 is \$70,390 which is the same as 2022. Motion made by Meyer to approve County Water Resource District levy for 2022 for \$70,390. Seconded by Hochhalter. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved. The District recommended Gary Meyer to be reappointed as member for a 3 year term. Motion made by Hochhalter and seconded by Meyer to appoint Gary Meyer. All in favor voting aye.

Custer Health District Administrator, Erin Ourada presented budget and mill levy request to the Board. Moved by Meyer and seconded by Hochhalter to approve Grant County share of levy for \$75,372 for 2022. Seconded by Hochhalter. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

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Merlin Leithold, Weed Board Officer presented the budget to the Board. Changes include a 4% increase in salary for weed board officer, increasing meeting rate to \$75.00 per meeting, and the purchase of a new spray pickup. Hochhalter moved to approve budget and Meyer seconded. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

Jackie Steinmetz, Director of Tax Equalization and Zoning Board Secretary met with the Board to discuss budgets. Steinmetz requested a salary of \$40,000 and a full time deputy with salary of \$32,000 and benefits. Chairman Zenker said the Board will look at the other requests before making a decision.

Grid United met with the Board to inform them of the progress of the transmission line that will traverse Grant County. Terry Traynor and Project Manager, Brian Dudeck said the anticipated construction will begin in 2025. The construction will be monopole steel poles spaced 1200 to 1400 feet apart. The DC line will travel from Center, North Dakota to Coal Strip, Wyoming.

Steinmetz presented a variance for a building permit on parcel 26333200. The variance is for a 50' set back. Meyer moved to approve and Hochhalter seconded. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

Jon Alt presented a bill for rock for Brad Reihl for 89 yards at \$10/yard. Hochhalter moved to approved and seconded by Meyer. Roll call vote – Hochhalter – aye, Meyer – aye, Zenker – aye. Motion approved.

Review of county budgets was done. Requested salary and wage increases will be finalized at the August 3 meeting. Most departments requested a 4% increase. Auditor Meier recommended consideration for longevity.

Being no further business, Zenker adjourned meeting at 2:15 p.m.

FYI: next scheduled meetings will be August 3rd and August 17th, 2022. Budget hearing is scheduled for September 14, 2022 beginning at 9:00 am MT.

X *Alton Zenker*

Alton Zenker, Chairman

X *Sara Meier*

Sara Meier, County Auditor