

MEETING OF HETTINGER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
December 6, 2023

Chairman Todd Lutz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with roll call of commissioners Tom Geerts and Devan Laufer attending. Road Superintendent, Elliott Finck, was also in attendance.

Laufer motioned to approve the minutes from November 8th, seconded by Geerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Geerts motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Laufer. All in favor, motion carried.

Each of the commissioners reported on their other boards or committees they are on. Tom Geerts made the motion to transfer the title of the 2019 Jeep used for Social Services to the Roughrider North Human Services, seconded by Laufer. All in favor, motion carried. The 2018 Dodge Caravan doesn't get used, so Laufer made the motion to sell it, seconded by Geerts. All in favor, motion carried. Geerts' term was up as a board member on this Human Services Zone so Laufer motioned to re-appoint him to another three year term on the Roughrider North Human Services board, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Geerts made a motion to approve the following vouchers with Laufer seconding the motion. Roll Call vote, all voted aye. Motion carried. These bills are included below:

15079 BROSZ ENGINEERING, INC. \$700.00; 15080 BUTLER MACHINERY CO. \$1,609.00; 15081 CITY OF MOTT \$209.25; 15082 COMMERCIAL BANK OF MOTT \$20.00; 15083 CONSOLIDATED \$877.89; 15084 COREY WARNER \$3,348.15; 15085 CRANE & MERRIMAN, PC \$68.00; 15086 DAKOTA DUST-TEX \$110.60; 15087 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$77,535.54; 15088 DEPT OF CORRECTIONS & REHAB \$3,704.74; 15089 FISHER SAND & GRAVEL \$55,484.00; 15090 FRIEZE AUTO PARTS, INC. \$278.14; 15091 H.A. THOMPSON & SONS \$47,615.00; 15092 INFORMATION SYSTEMS CORP \$18,735.00; 15093 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. \$713.95; 15094 KERRY MOSBRUCKER \$375.00; 15095 LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC. \$85.65; 15096 M. D. U. \$2,355.75; 15097 MARCO \$160.00; 15098 MOTT EQUITY EXCHANGE \$2,619.38; 15099 NARDINI FIRE EQUIPMENT \$482.00; 15100 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES \$450.00; 15101 ND ASSOC. OF COUNTIES \$2,073.60; 15102 ND DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY \$130.00; 15103 NELSON INTERNATIONAL \$493.66; 15104 OIEN GROCERY \$106.50; 15105 QUILL CORPORATION \$569.94; 15106 RDO EQUIPMENT CO \$324.88; 15107 SLOPE ELECTRIC COOP \$295.53; 15108 SOUTHWEST DIESEL & REPAIR \$795.54; 15109 SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$59.86; 15110 SW MULTI-CO. CORRECTION CENTER \$8,525.00; 15111 SYLVIA GION \$575.00; 15112 THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES \$2,101.50; 15113 TODD LUTZ \$21.62; 15114 U.S. POSTAL SERVICE (QUADIENT-POC) \$1,000.00; 15115 VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC. \$6,370.00; 15116 VISA \$332.46; 15117 WESTLIE MOTOR COMPANY \$75.22; 15118 AT&T MOBILITY \$694.28; 15119 CENEX FLEET FUELING \$1,045.70; 15120 FITTERER SALES \$61.00; 15121 GALLS, LLC \$2,475.10; 15122 JEDEDIAH KOHLER \$142.82; 15123 KYLE DEMARK \$108.45; 15124 LASER LABS, INC. \$857.00; 15125 MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. \$75.00; 15126 NDACO RESOURCES GROUP \$27.00; 15127 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL \$245.00; 15128 PHARMCHEM, INC. \$95.85; 15130 THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES \$1,194.96; 15131 TOP LINE ENGINE & REPAIR \$283.63; 15132 VISA \$28.95; 15133 WEST RIVER VETERINARY CLINIC, PC \$69.00.

Since the meeting was early in this month for all bills to be received, Geerts made the motion for the auditor to pay bills that are due in December, seconded by Laufer. Roll Call vote, all voted aye. Motion carried.

Geerts made the motion to keep the same number of precincts, and polling places, three (3), as in the last election in November of 2022, seconded by Laufer. All in favor, motion carried.

Custodian Corey Warner met with the commissioners to discuss getting the new boiler to run more efficiently and get valves for the radiators that have not been completed yet. The school will offer their condensate pump that they don't use, we would pay for the removal and of course the installation. Geerts motioned to approve the work to get the condensate pump from the school and to get the valves needed with having the ARPA committee look and see what funds could be used for this, seconded by Laufer. All in favor, motion carried.

Warner also discussed a plumbing issue that the Social Service building has been dealing with for many years. Commissioners would like to have a camera go into the pipes to see if there's anything to find that may be causing this issue.

Kevin Miller, President of the Hettinger County Activities Association, met with the board to let them know of the work that is planned for the fair building. He also mentioned that some of the fair board members went to the fair convention and have already booked entertainment for the 2024 fair.

Sheriff Sarah Warner submitted to the board her monthly sheriff's report stating there was 133 calls for service. She let the board know that she received the funds from the state for the Back the Blue Grant. These funds are a one time payment to be used by the Sheriff, for retainment of Deputies and for hiring incentives. She also told the board that the salaries for the deputies are not up to a level they need to be. Surrounding counties are higher at a starting wage than what we currently offer. She would like to switch items around in her budget around to provide a higher wage scale for her deputies and increase the starting wage. She would not change her budget. Commissioners did not see a problem, as long as she stays within her budget that was approved.

Robin Ulrich, Recorder/Clerk of Court, presented a Zoom meeting with Court Administrator, Donna Wunderlich. Donna discussed items with the board for the Court Room that could be applied for in the upcoming grant application.

Ulrich mentioned to the commissioners that she will be utilizing Sylvia Gion as a consultant for help with training Janine Wangsvick in her new duties.

Assistant State's Attorney, Pat Merriman, met with the board to discuss a dangerous building the county acquired, due to nonpayment of taxes. This parcel did not sell at the auditor's tax sale. Elliott will meet with Mayor Mosbrucker to come up with what needs to be done.

Geerts motioned to deed the property that did not sell at the tax sale to their respective cities they are located in, seconded by Laufer.

Commissioners reviewed the Pledge of Assets received from the Commercial Bank of Mott.

Geerts made the motion to approve the ARPA committees request of funds for the fair building to get spray foaming, gas line and blow-in fiberglass, seconded by Laufer. The funds needed will also be used in conjunction with the new fair building funds already on hand.

Elliott Finck, Road Supervisor, gave his report. Billy Doerr, Brosz Engineering, needed to know what projects the commissioners would like to have for the Flexible Transportation Funding Grant. They chose the Bomber Club road for gravel, hauling and placing, along with micromill and microseal for the Enchanted Highway, which will be used in conjunction with Federal Funds. This grant is due by the end of the month.

The commissioners held their election of officers for the board. Geerts motioned, Lutz seconded appointing Devan Laufer as the new Chairman of the Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Lutz motioned with Laufer seconding the appointment of Tom Geerts as the Vice-Chairman of the Board. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

ATTEST _____
Jeri G. Schmidt, AUDITOR

Todd Lutz, CHAIRMAN