

MEETING OF HETTINGER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 14, 2024

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

Lutz motioned to approve the minutes from January 10<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Geerts motioned to approve the agenda as presented, with the addition of adding discussion on the social service building, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Each of the commissioners reported on their other boards or committees they are on.

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

15246 A WEST SECURITY \$2,414.87; 15247 ALL PRO SERVICES \$15,870.00; 15248 AT&T MOBILITY \$694.41; 15249 BISMARCK HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER \$96.30; 15250 BROSZ ENGINEERING, INC. \$1,490.00; 15251 BUTLER MACHINERY CO. \$766.98; 15252 CITY OF MOTT \$1,053.00; 15253 CONSOLIDATED \$916.98; 15254 CONVERGINT TECHNOLOGIES \$441.00; 15255 COREY WARNER \$3,598.15; 15256 CRANE & MERRIMAN, PC \$252.50; 15257 DAKOTA DUST-TEX \$249.75; 15258 DEERE & COMPANY \$2,240.94; 15259 DELUXE \$1,621.03; 15260 DENNY'S ELECTRIC \$1,230.00; 15261 DENNYS ELECTRIC & MOTOR REPAIR \$58,998.48; 15262 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$7,136.37; 15263 FITTERER OIL \$1,185.93; 15264 FITTERER SALES \$7,573.80; 15265 FRIEZE AUTO PARTS, INC. \$3,639.25; 15266 GS PUBLISHING \$281.30; 15267 H.A. THOMPSON & SONS \$25,760.00; 15268 HETTINGER COUNTY TREASURER \$16,821.16; 15269 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. \$707.70; 15270 KILZER FINANCIAL SERVICE \$26.25; 15271 M. D. U. \$4,010.31; 15272 MARCO \$588.28; 15273 MOTT EQUITY EXCHANGE \$943.13; 15274 ND ASSOC. OF COUNTIES \$1,088.30; 15275 ND CLERK'S ASSOCIATION \$100.00; 15276 ND COUNTY AUDITORS ASSOCIATION \$200.00; 15277 ND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSO. \$1,085.00; 15278 ND COUNTY RECORDERS ASSOC. \$400.00; 15279 ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS \$11,566.65; 15280 NDPIO \$100.00; 15281 NELSON INTERNATIONAL \$420.81; 15282 NEXUS PLANNING & CONSULTING, LLC \$6,250.00; 15283 NORTH DAKOTA ONE CALL \$1.30; 15284 PEAK YIELD LLC \$1,600.00; 15285 QUILL CORPORATION \$331.95; 15286 RDO EQUIPMENT CO \$2,058.86; 15287 REVISE LLC \$940.00; 15288 ROOSEVELT-CUSTER REGIONAL COUNCIL \$7,350.00; 15289 SIDWELL \$195.00; 15290 SLOPE ELECTRIC COOP \$403.72; 15291 SOFTCHOICE CORPORATION \$583.00; 15292 SOUTHWEST DIESEL & REPAIR \$576.78; 15293 SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$59.85; 15294 SPORTS AWARDS \$66.45; 15295 STEIN'S, INC. \$364.86; 15296 SW MULTI-CO. CORRECTION CENTER \$15,572.00; 15297 TODD LUTZ \$14.07; 15298 VISA \$89.99; 15299 VISION WEST ND \$450.00; 15300 WEST RIVER MECHANICAL \$241.65; 15301 WUTZKE ELECTRIC INC \$455.11; 15302 AT&T MOBILITY \$1,449.71; 15303 BALCO UNIFORM \$48.89; 15304 BODY CAMS BY RETIRED COPS \$1,198.00; 15305 CENEX FLEET FUELING \$840.31; 15306 GRAFIX SHOPPE \$544.35; 15307 IDEMIA IDENTITY & SECURITY USA LLC \$5,528.00; 15308 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. \$215.80; 15309 INTOXIMETERS \$100.00; 15310 JACOBSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL \$689.00; 15311 MID-STATES ORGANIZED CRIME \$100.00; 15312 NDACO RESOURCES GROUP \$3,875.52; 15313 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL \$595.00; 15314 PHARMCHEM, INC. \$159.75; 15315 RED ROCK FORD \$842.22; 15316 SAFE LIFE DEFENSE \$96.88; 15317 SW NARCOTICS TASK FORCE \$21,000.00; 15318 THE HUB CONVENIENCE STORES \$194.25; 15319 VISA \$115.26; 15320 VOICE PRODUCTS SERVICE, LLC \$1,272.23.

The following amendments were made to the 2023 Budget: Road & Bridge \$307,912.00 HB 1066 (PD) Funds came in and received Snow Removal Grant; ARPA \$211,409.00 Started utilizing funds; County Interest \$12,937.38 Interest Rate Increase; Preservation \$9,278.51 Purchase of Book Scanner. Geerts motioned to approve the budget amendments, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

The projects for the court facility grant for a total of \$23,3525.51 were approved. This will include work in the courtroom and jury room.

The commissioners reviewed the Alden Cemetary Trust funds. There will be an ad placed for a caretaker for next two years.

Geerts motioned to approve Rath & Mehrer, P.C. to do the county's audit for years 2022 and 2023, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Lutz motioned to sign contract with Denny's Electric for annual maintenance for the generator, seconded by Geerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Deputy Kyle DeMark, Emergency Manager, met with the board to inform them that the Hazard Mitigation Meeting will be moved to March, but he is not sure of the date at this time.

Sheriff Warner presented her monthly sheriff's report.

Doug Wegh and Erv Bren, representing Community Action, met with the commissioners. They wanted to let the board become aware of what their program offers, which includes Housing Stability, Utility Assistance, Temporary Financial Assistance, Supportive Services for Veteran Families, Senior Commodities and others. They are involved with the Head Start also, a program for children to ready them for kindergarten. Doug Wegh is the county's appointee to this board.

Bradley Darr, Maintenance Engineer, NDDOT, other representatives of the NDDOT, Troy Mosbrucker, Mayor of the City of Mott, and also Daxon and Amy Kirschmann met with the commissioners. The NDDOT needed to meet to get the commissioners thoughts for an application of Request for Designated Routes up to 129,000 Pounds to the NDDOT from the Kirschmann's. After discussion, Geerts made the motion to recommend approval for this request, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Troy Mosbrucker, Mayor of the City of Mott, discussed with the board to discuss the removal of a condemned house in the city. Mosbrucker will work with Finck for the removal. Costs of removal will be split with the County.

Corey Warner stopped in briefly to let the commissioners know that the elevator maintenance that was going to start next week has been moved to sometime in March. The condenser pump and the new valves that have been installed in the courthouse have been doing well with the heating. There are still more valves to be replaced.

Elliott Finck, Road Supervisor, gave his report. He is currently looking for a truck and should he find one, he would need to get authorization to pay for it right away. Lutz motioned to approve payment if within the budget, seconded by Geerts, should the truck be found prior to next meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Eric Urness of Brosz Engineering met with the board. He needed to get the finalization of the projects he will submit for the Dept. of Energy's grant related to the new transmission line that will be constructed in our county. The projects chosen were: Gravel resurfacing on the Mott-Regent Road, the South Regent Road and also the St. Michael's Road.

Geerts motioned to move the commissioner's meeting in June to the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month to be in compliance with the required dates for the county Equalization meeting, seconded by Lutz. All in favor, motion carried.

Geerts motioned to approve the following: **RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF HETTINGER AND ROOSEVELT CUSTER REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR PURPOSE OF REGIONAL LIVESTOCK PLANNING GRANT ACCEPTANCE.** WHEREAS the County of Hettinger on behalf of its County Commission desires to enter into Agreement with the Roosevelt Custer Regional Council to apply for a Regional Livestock Planning Grant which the County is eligible. The Agreement further provides the County with identification of suitable locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities and other agriculture related development. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Hettinger, North Dakota as follows: 1. Following completion of the site analysis process the county with review county and township zoning and land use regulations. The county may update any zoning or land use regulations based on recommendations of site analysis process. Additionally, county will provide information to townships of said county so they may review and update zoning and land use regulations as they see fit. 2. That Devan Laufer - the Chair of the County of Hettinger, and Jeri Schmidt, the County Auditor, are authorized to sign the Agreement. Lutz seconded this motion. Roll call vote was taken with all voting "aye". Motion carried to approve this resolution.

The auditor mentioned to the board that Heather Fischer has been hired as Hettinger County's new County Agent. Her position will start May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Lutz motioned that the county continues with the state funding agreement we currently have for the 2025-27 biennium, seconded by Geerts. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

ATTEST

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Jeri G. Schmidt, AUDITOR

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Devan Laufer, CHAIRMAN

