

SPECIAL MEETING OF HETTINGER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
July 11, 2022

Chairman Tom Geerts called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with commissioners Todd Lutz and Angela Carlson in attendance.

Commissioners reported on the other boards they represent for the county. Carlson reported that Roosevelt Custer Regional Council will be contracting the position of the director, whom will be Taran Doerr. She is an employee of Bowman County Development Corporation. She also mentioned that due to costs, rates for the SW Multi-County Correctional Center will have to go up. Lutz reported that the Sales Tax Committee met earlier in the day for their annual meeting. The sales tax collected for 2021 was \$117,982.02 and will be disbursed accordingly to the Fire Districts and Ambulance services in the county. Lutz also attended a weed board meeting to discuss the steps for an issue of a landowner not taking care of noxious weeds. Geerts reported that the fair building bathrooms should be finished, as it is the fair is this week. Geerts also mentioned that the zoning board had a meeting and hearing for a variance application. Tracy Kruger, 911 Coordinator, presented a Memorandum of Agreement with the State of ND, acting by and through the Dept. of Emergency Services Division of State Radio to provide 911 services to Hettinger County. Carlson motioned to sign agreement, seconded by Lutz. All voted aye.

Kruger, as Emergency Manager, mentioned that she will purchasing a portable 25-person shelter kit that will a reimbursable purchase to use up the grant funds still available.

Heidi Marxen, County Agent, along with Karagan Friedt, Intern, met with the commission. Friedt showed that she is getting close to completing her internship and is currently helping the Extension Office during the fair. Marxen mentioned it will be a busy fair week. They held the horse show in Amidon this past weekend and was grateful for the ability to use their arena due to the arena in New England having to much water in it from the recent rain.

Sheriff Warner gave her monthly report. Chief Deputy Christenson reported what is available, and what is used to try and save money on gas purchases for their department.

Barb Farber met with the board to see if something can be done about the road and the gravel on 74th St SW, in Kennedy Township, which is also known as the George Ott Road. Commissioners mentioned that this road did have some work done in recent years. Finck mentioned that the future graveling on this road is unknown at this time.

Alex Aldinger of Cardinal Insurance discussed a few ND Fire and Tornado insurance policy options. Carlson motioned to add the blanket coverage at no additional cost and add a policy for debris removal for the courthouse, shop building, social services building and the fair building, seconded by Lutz. All voted aye.

Aldinger will check and see if interior is included in the debris removal for such an instance of fire.

Assistant State's Attorney Pat Merriman, met with the commissioners to discuss the letter that State's Attorney David Crane received a letter from Keogh Law Office. This letter was asking the commissioners to take another look at the property borders between Victor Scholz and Brent Roll. Due to finding out about the recent passing of Mr. Scholz, Merriman will contact the Keogh Law Office to issue our condolences and to see what they are determining about this matter going forward.

Elliott Finck, Road Foreman, gave his monthly. He mentioned the county has received the \$62,000.00 through the Volkswagen Grant used toward the purchase of the Western Star truck.

Lutz motioned to approve the Zoning Boards recommendation of approving a variance for Bernadine Jorstad in SE1/4 12-133-97 in Kennedy Township to be closer than the 200' setback, seconded by Carlson. All voted aye.

Carlson motioned to appoint a board to the County Park Board that will do the disbursement of the fund requests, seconded by Lutz. All voted aye.

Cathy Ebert, Tax Director, met with the board to get more training through Vanguard. Carlson motioned to purchase eight hours, seconded by Lutz. All voted aye.

Sondra Bullinger, Human Resources, Deputy Auditor, was asked to put together the current employee manual and input the changes the committee had made within the contents. She will then send it out to the board for their review.

Lutz made the motion to accept the quote from Greff Electric for \$905.56 to do the wiring for the mini-split units that will be installed in the commissioner room and the emergency manager's office. Carlson seconded the motion. All vote aye.

The expenditures for the month were presented for the following funds: General \$39,385.25; Road & Bridge \$78,595.41; County Agent \$441.97; Capital Improvements \$8,142.00; Sheriff \$3,664.04; 24/7 \$90.00. Lutz motioned to approve for payment, seconded by Carlson, with mentioning her concerns of bill approval done without portfolio holder approval. All voted aye.

Carlson motioned to void check #13543 for the amount of \$4.51 and reissue to New England Community Grocery for the same amount, due to lost check, seconded by Lutz. All voted aye.

Carlson asked that we check into meetings being taped live and watchable to the public.

The board discussed the duties and contract for the janitorial, mowing and snow removal for the courthouse and the social service building.

Commissioners reviewed the audit report for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, completed by Rath & Mehrer P.C.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

ATTEST

Jeri G. Schmidt, AUDITOR

Tom Geerts, CHAIRMAN