

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 6, 2019**

August 6, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chairman Barta, Commissioners Anderson, Burianek, Skorheim and Wild.

Motion by Anderson to approve the July 16, 2019 regular meeting minutes, monthly bills, Saint Gianna's Gaming Permit and additions of snag & clearing assessment and right of way letter . Second by Wild. Motion carried.

Brad Brummond, County Agent, appeared during employee time. He presented an estimate from HB Sound & Light for a new speaker system for the arena. The old sound system is from the late 1960's. Brad will ask the hockey and skating groups to pay for half the system. **Motion by Wild to accept the estimate from HB Sound and & Light for 7,984.63 for new equipment and rack cleanup.** Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Brummond also gave a fair update. The fair will be October 16-19. They have begun the hiring process for a new home economist. Hopefully they will have one in place in time for the fair so the individual can see how the fair operates.

Brent Nelson, Emergency Manager, also appeared during employee time to ask permission to look at replacing his pickup which is a 2013 with 98,000 miles on it. He will get state bids and come back to the commission.

Ed Sevigny, Tax Director, presented an abatement for Edward Beneda. He is no longer running a commercial repair business out of his garage so all the structures should be residential now. **Motion by Anderson to follow the recommendation from Cleveland Township and the Tax Director to approve the Edward Beneda abatement as follows.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Edward Beneda Cleveland Twp 25-6132 2019 RET \$25,140

Ed also informed the commissioners that they didn't have a quorum for the soils committee meeting but had some general conversations such as a new schedule with 15% adjustment and possibly reaching a point where abatements will need to be used for issues and instead of the soils committee.

The next item on the agenda is the bridge damage by Gudajtes Farms. Kelley Cole, State's Attorney, was present. The board went into executive session. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC section 44-04-19.1 for the

potential litigation or negotiation with Gudajtes Farms, and give guidance to State's Attorney Cole on how to proceed.

At 9:40 a.m. the board returned to its regular meeting.

Commissioners asked Cole about right of way letter.

Commissioners discussed the budget. County General mills will stay at 60 mills however the total mills will be reduced by 1 mill as the Forest River and Park River Joint Water Districts will not receive any mills this year. **Motion by Anderson to approve the preliminary budget as presented.** Second by Wild. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

The President's Tour will be in Walsh County on August 15th at 8:30 a.m. to meet with the commissioners and other elected and appointed officials. They will also tour the courthouse.

Commissioners attended the Snag & Clearing Public Hearing on July 16th. **Motion by Burianek to approve the 50 cent assessment for the Snag & Clearing project.** Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Anderson will reach out to legislators and try to set up a meeting with them on August 20th.

Twila Novak, Social Service Director, was present for the appointment of the zone board members. She gave the commissioners a brief update on the social service redesign progress. **Motion by Wild to appoint Commissioner Anderson to the zone board representing the Walsh County Commissioners.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson to appoint Ann West to the zone board as the at large member from Walsh County. Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Terry Traynor sent out an informative email on August 1st. It states that the commissioners shall develop the zone plan. Funds from the cost allocation could be used to cover expenses of hiring additional help in Cavalier County. The Host County shouldn't incur any extra expenses just for being the host county. **Motion by Anderson to help Host County with costs of additional office help through the cost allocations reimbursements.** Second by Wild. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson to approve moving forward with the Wi-Fi at the county park at a cost of \$3000. Second by Wild. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Burianek to approve the request from the Historical Society for annual \$5000 contribution. Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call voted, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Discussed the proposal for digitizing the commissioners minutes back to the beginning of time. Archsearch was at the auditor's convention and was in the area offering free estimates. At this time there is no interest in digitizing the minutes as county general is maxed out at 60 mills and there other priorities that \$14,000 could be spent on.

Report of county offices for fees collected during June: County Recorder \$7,220.85 and Sheriff fees \$5,184.35.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Ernie Barta, Chairman

Attest:

Kris Molde, Auditor