

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 21, 2020**

July 21, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.

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

Madam Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion by Skorheim to approve the July 7, 2020 regular meeting minutes, July 14, 2020 minutes from the water board meeting and agenda additions of auditor's convention and planning and zoning member.** Second by Barta. Motion carried.

**Ron Jurgens, Sheriff, appeared during employee time to inform the commissioners that a jailer has resigned. Motion by Wild to advertise and fill the jailer position. Second by Burianek.** Upon roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.

Commissioners Burianek, Skorheim and Wild attended the Park River Snagging and Clearing public hearing on July 14, 2020. **Motion by Burianek to approve the 2020 assessment for the Park River Snag & Clearing Project.** Second by Wild. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

The city is going to proceed with recommending the city council amend the city ordinance to have just one county representative on the city planning and zoning commission since that is allowed for cities with population under 5,000.

The Auditor/Treasurer Convention is July 28 & 29, 2020. The auditor will be attending virtually this year.

Sharon Lipsh, Highway Superintendent, presented several drainage permits. **Motion by Barta to approve the drainage permits for Wayne Lessard Farms, Section 11, Oakwood Township; Cyril Suda & Sons, Section 23, Action Township; Lee Gudajtes, Section 36, Harriston Township and Section 1, Ardoch Township with the stipulation that Eric Stanislawski be notified; David Hankey, Section 26, Ops Township and Robert W Vivatson, Section 36, Crystal Township, Pembina County.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried. Pembina County signed off on the permit as Walsh County maintains the road.

Brent Nelson, Emergency Manager and Ron Jurgens, Sheriff, were present to discuss the LEC Use Agreement. At a meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> Mayor West made an offer to the County of \$70,000 a year for the continued use of the LEC Building and dispatch center. After reviewing the offer and discussion Walsh County prepared a counteroffer. A letter was presented to the commissioners for review and approval. The offer for consideration was finish the 2020 agreement with the current plan with the City paying 1/3 of the actual expenses. In 2021 the City would pay \$150,000 with a \$2,500 per year increase up to \$160,000 over a 5 year agreement. **Motion by Wild to sign and accept the recommendation proposed by the committee to the City of Grafton and forward the letter on to the mayor and city council.** Second by Barta. Upon roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.

Judge Barbara Whelan and Scott Johnson, Unit 1 Court Administrator, appeared to discuss security for the courtroom. Judge Whelan is not unhappy with the current service but there is a need for more security and more use of the metal detector. Century code states it is the job of the sheriff's office to provide security for the courtroom. The sheriff or a deputy is already present for criminal cases but individuals can get forms online and appear in court without a lawyer. There is a risk factor when a lawyer is not involved. Mr. Johnson stated that there is less respect for the court now a days and any given day something can happen. Uniformed presence reduces the chances greatly. The job of a bailiff is strictly to work with the jurors and their needs. A bailiff is not armed. Cases before the court are becoming more contentious and these are unprecedented times. The state doesn't have funds for security personnel but does offer the court facilitator grant for improvements to the courtroom or courthouse.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

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Karen A Anderson, Madam Chairman

Attest:

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Kris Molde, Auditor