

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JULY 2, 2019**

July 2, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.

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

Motion by Wild to approve the June 18, 2019 regular meeting minutes, monthly bills and agenda additions of deeds, water tour, presidents tour, County Road 19, township dollars and auditors convention update. Second by Skorheim. Motion carried.

Brad Brummond, County Agent, appeared during employee time for the following:

- **Motion by Anderson to allow the purchase of lumber and hardware for head gates at a cost of \$2,200 from the fair budget.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.
- Will get bids to replace speakers in the arena.
- **Motion by Anderson to allow the hiring of Julie Zikmund to coordinate the fair at up to \$25 an hour. In the event Julie declines someone else could be hired.** Second by Wild. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.
- Will amend the contract with Jaime Medbury to go through July 15th.

Twila Novak, Social Service Director, appeared to remind the commissioners of the Social Service Redesign meeting schedule for July 8th at 8:30 a.m. in the Lila Mielke Room in the Chase Building. Pembina, Cavalier & Walsh County will meet to discuss forming a zone. Chris Jones from DHS and Terry Traynor from NDACo will also be in attendance.

Wanda Kratochvil, Health District Director, appeared to discuss putting Narcan with the AED equipment. There will also be training on how to use the nasal spray Narcan and how to identify possible opioid overdoses on July 11th. It is fairly simple to administer.

The Record would like to publish deeds in the newspaper as they are a public record. Todd already receives the list as an assessor. There would be no expense to the county.

NDACo will be conducting Presidents' Tours on August 15th. They will be in Walsh County at approximately 8:30 a.m. They would encourage all commissioners, elected and appointed officials as well as department heads to attend.

Sharon Lipsh, Highway Superintendent, appeared for the following:

- **Motion by Anderson to approve the drainage permits for Mark Novak, Section 36, Prairie Centre Township; Peter Almen Section 8, Golden Township; Hankey Farms, Section 1, Kensington Township & Section 26, Ops Township.** Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.
- **Motion by Wild to approve the utility permit for Nodak Electric Cooperative Section 1, Fertile Township.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.
- The County received \$6,547.22 for the Premium Safety Discount and \$1,923.76 for the Premium Dividend Credit Refund. They have been deposited into the safety fund. Discussed using the funds for grants for employees to get new chairs, Varidesks or using for safety issues such as replacing glass doors. There are approximately 22 glass doors within the courthouse.

- The ND Department of Transportation is accepting applications for Special Road Fund projects. Sharon will see if the bike path to Homme Dam would qualify. Other options would be the road into Homme Dam as well as the road along the campers.
- County Road 19 was discussed as the shoulders were being brought in and the blade operator may have been too aggressive. Twenty trucks were hired to get the graveling done before the rain as there was a funeral the next day. It was scheduled for gravel anyway.
- Commissioners asked about what we can do about planting in the right-of-way. We need to move forward with this. Do we implement fines, change policy or draft an ordinance? Sharon will visit with state's attorney about the issue.

Brent Nelson, Emergency Manager, appeared for the following:

- Polar will start installing speakers where designated. The new phone system will be installed August 22nd. The final bid was \$7,410 under original bid. Polar will need access to the courthouse after hours. The old headsets will work with the new system but a new cord is required. **Motion by Wild to buy the required \$75 cord for those with headsets. If new headsets are requested it will be at the expense of the department or safety grant if applicable.** Second by Anderson. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.
- It was discovered that the Lankin Tower is not the property of Walsh County. There is a 99 year lease recorded in 1963 with the terms of \$10 a year. No one is sure when the payments stopped. The Nygren Family has requested a payment for the past due years. Brent will reach out to the family and a payment will be sent.
- After the recent Presidential Declaration a Hazardous Mitigation Program follows and should open towards the end of the year. Does the County want to participate? Is it possible to get a new generator for the Adm Building? With the hospital expansion the county should inquire if they will be replacing their current generator. If so could the county possibly purchase it? Red River Regional Council has handled buyouts in the past and we would recommend that they handle the process again.

Auditor informed the commissioners that while at the Auditors/Treasurers Conference Secretary of State, Al Jaeger announced that a contract had been signed with ES&S for new election equipment. It will be a very busy year and a mock election may take place this fall. Additional part time judges and inspectors can be hired for election now with HB 1059. The funds from the Prairie Dog SB2016 have been distributed and will go out to townships on their July 10th payment.

Chairman Barta attended the Devils Lake Water Tour and gave an update. There are other water tours on the Jun 18th and 31st.

Report of county offices for fees collected during June: County Recorder \$7,134.50 and Sheriff fees \$2,864.90.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Ernie Barta, Chairman

Attest: _____
Kris Molde, Auditor