

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 18, 2019**

June 18, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.

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

Motion by Burianek to approve the June 4, 2019 regular meeting minutes and additions of courthouse security. Second by Skorheim. Motion carried.

Commissioner Skorheim asked about courthouse security. There is a Court Security Committee that meets on a regular basis to discuss security.

Twila Novak, Social Service Director, appeared to request the hiring of a shared CPS Intake Worker for the 7 counties involved with Walsh County contributing \$15,000. With the savings from an employee retiring and the position not being filled the funds are available. **Motion by Anderson to approve the request for a CPS Intake Worker at a cost of \$15,000.** Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Twila also gave a brief update on the Social Service Redesign Meeting held in Bismarck on June 11th. A host county was not determined at the meeting. Cavalier County has the best benefits that mirror the state's but they have the fewest social service employees and are concerned about the added costs and work load it will add to Cavalier County. A meeting will be held with the 3 counties, Terry Traynor from NDACo and Chris Jones from DHS in the near future to discuss the zone.

Ron Jurgens, Sheriff, appeared to discuss the following:

- DOCR delivered an Order of Temporary Closure & Order Suspending Order of Temporary Closure. The jail will be monitored and inspected for 18 months at the county's expense. Although a request was made for the estimated cost, no costs have been provided at this time. The jail passed the inspection with an 89%. Most of the issues are policy and procedures.
- A new jailer has been hired.
- The stainless steel toilet that needed to be replaced has been installed at a cost of \$6500. **Motion by Anderson to go ahead and replace the other 2 toilets that are leaking.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

The Commissioners re-convened as the County Tax Equalization Board at 9:55 a.m.

Ed Sevigny presented a recap of residential and commercial sales. Township assessments are down. The average value per acre for Walsh County is \$1,006.84 which is up 1.47% from last year.

Reviewed each township and city assessment sheet and their increase or decrease in local assessments. The deputy auditor for Grafton City did the assessment work for the City of Grafton this year. Ed will meet with Nick Ziegelmann to discuss the city's plan going forward. Marvin Windows is now totally on the tax roll. Ann Berg is working hard in the City of Park River. Ann is now the assessor for Edinburg and will start house inspections. There were some changes to parcels in Ardoch. If there is no house on the property it should be taxed commercial. Walsh County is within tolerance of state requirements. Commissioners asked about gravel pits and feed lots. **Motion by Skorheim to approve the 2019 County Tax Equalization assessments as presented.** Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried. This concludes the 2019 Walsh County Tax Equalization meeting.

Chairman Barta received a petition signed by area farmers, residents and Eden Township officials to fix or repair the Conway Bridge. Present for the discussion were Leslie Peterka, Dennis Jelinek, Chad Jelinek, Nathan Brintnell, Taylor Grabanski, Mike Gorder, Tim Zikmund, Gary Brintnell and Brian Brintnell. Also present was Sharon Lipsh, Highway Superintendent. Sharon provided a copy of the bridge policy to those in the audience. The county policy states township would pay 50% and then it becomes the townships responsibility to maintain the bridge. Discussed the 3 options available; close & remove, a 15 year event at \$25,215.56 or repair abutment for approximately \$66,950. Last year Sharon met with township boards and discussed bridge plans for the future. There are over 500 bridges in Walsh County and they all can't be replaced. Sharon will send a letter to the township with the project costs. The township can discuss if they want to accept and sign the proposal and payment plan. **Motion by Burianek if township agrees to terms in the letter and payment plan we can move forward with Conway Bridge project.** Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Bids for the pup trail were presented. **Motion by Skorheim to accept the bid from Robert Kertz for \$7,100.** Second by Anderson. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson to approve the 2 utility permits for Nodak Electric, Section 19 Farmington Township and Section 29/32 St. Andrews Township. Second by Skorheim. Upon roll call, vote all vote yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson to approve the drainage permits for Al Thompson, Section 1, Grafton Township and Peter Almen, Section 7 Golden Township. Second by Burianek. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Shop 1 is in need of new garage door openers. Shop 4 would like to upgrade to LED lighting in the shop. Commissioners would like to see a second bid on the lighting project. **Motion by Anderson to approve garage door opener replacements and lighting updated with lighting bid to go to lowest bidder once another bid is received.** Updates will be paid for out of capital outlay. Second by Dennis Skorheim. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Burianek to approve and sign the box culverts replacements (BRO-0050(037)) from 2018 and the railroad project (RPS-9999(361)) financial match forms. Second by Anderson. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

A flood declaration has been made so that will start the process of NDDES coming to complete inspections. If sites are repaired it makes things quicker. There is usually a 15% local match and Sharon assumes that will be the same this flood.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Ernie Barta, Chairman

Attest:

Kris Molde, Auditor