RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – April 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Hansen. The Pledge of Allegience was recited.

Chairman Hansen called for any additions/revisions to the agenda. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the agenda. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on 4/6/2021 were reviewed. Along with minutes from special meetings on 3/9/2021 and 3/31/2021. Schwab moved to approve the three sets of minutes with corrections, seconded by Olerud. All aye. Motion carried.

Bills and payroll were then considered in the amount of 890,892.38. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern, to pay all bills with the exception of the Sargent County bill for the fifty percent split for the human resource director until it had more details confirming dates. All Aye. Motion

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| 6776 |  4/21/2021 | GALLAGHER, RANDY  | 222.85 |  |
| 6777 |  4/21/2021 | GILBERT, CONNIE  | 9.78 |  |
| 6778 |  4/21/2021 | GILBERT, KIRSTEN  | 50.00 |  |
| 6779 |  4/21/2021 | HEGLE, KELSEY  | 118.45 |  |
| 6780 |  4/21/2021 | HOPKINS, ROBERTA  | 286.95 |  |
| 6781 |  4/21/2021 | KELLER, MALLORY  | 750.00 |  |
| 6782 |  4/21/2021 | KELLY, FALLON M.  | 1,016.23 |  |
| 6783 |  4/21/2021 | LARSON, MEGHAN  | 181.13 |  |
| 6784 |  4/21/2021 | SCHWAB, SHELLY  | 85.10 |  |
| 6785 |  4/21/2021 | WELTON, BRENNA  | 100.00 |  |
| 6786 |  4/21/2021 | ZIMPRICH, BRIAN  | 483.75 |  |
| 81108 |  4/14/2021 | FORT RANSOM SODBUSTERS  | 2,000.00 |  |
| 81113 |  4/21/2021 | RODENBURG LAW FIRM  | 741.94 |  |
| 81117 |  4/21/2021 | A W DIESEL SERVICE  | 78.33 |  |
| 81118 |  4/21/2021 | AGWEEK  | 64.00 |  |
| 81119 |  4/21/2021 | ARAMARK  | 299.11 |  |
| 81120 |  4/21/2021 | ARMSTRONG FUNERAL HOME  | 675.00 |  |
| 81121 |  4/21/2021 | BARNES COUNTY PARK BOARD  | 2,500.00 |  |
| 81122 |  4/21/2021 | BOBCAT OF GWINNER  | 973.88 |  |
| 81123 |  4/21/2021 | CARDINAL HEALTH 110, INC.  | 2,896.47 |  |
| 81124 |  4/21/2021 | CASS COUNTY GOVERNMENT  | 4,930.00 |  |
| 81125 |  4/21/2021 | CHRISTIANSON, PAUL  | 972.50 |  |
| 81126 |  4/21/2021 | COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 65.00 |  |
| 81127 |  4/21/2021 | COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY  | 2,040.93 |  |
| 81128 |  4/21/2021 | DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY  | 431.12 |  |
| 81129 |  4/21/2021 | DAKOTA PLAINS AG  | 428.03 |  |
| 81130 |  4/21/2021 | DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP.  | 80.20 |  |
| 81131 |  4/21/2021 | DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS  | 37.50 |  |
| 81132 |  4/21/2021 | DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC.  | 1,649.73 |  |
| 81133 |  4/21/2021 | WEX HEALTH, INC.  | 58.50 |  |
| 81134 |  4/21/2021 | ENDERLIN FIRE HALL  | 200.00 |  |
| 81135 |  4/21/2021 | FIRST MEDIC AMBULANCE  | 20,138.64 |  |
| 81136 |  4/21/2021 | GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 91.95 |  |
| 81137 |  4/21/2021 | GREEN LIGHTS RECYCLING  | 394.55 |  |
| 81138 |  4/21/2021 | HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.  | 203.80 |  |
| 81139 |  4/21/2021 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  | 6,685.37 |  |
| 81140 |  4/21/2021 | INTERCOMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY  | 75.00 |  |
| 81141 |  4/21/2021 | JOHN DEERE CREDIT  | 40,354.98 |  |
| 81142 |  4/21/2021 | KENYON ELECTRIC, LLC  | 738.25 |  |
| 81143 |  4/21/2021 | KIRK'S AG REPAIR  | 90.95 |  |
| 81144 |  4/21/2021 | KLJ ENGINEERING LLC  | 5,941.15 |  |
| 81145 |  4/21/2021 | LISBON BODY SHOP  | 75.00 |  |
| 81146 |  4/21/2021 | LISBON OIL COMPANY  | 5,462.76 |  |
| 81147 |  4/21/2021 | LISBON POSTMASTER  | 195.00 |  |
| 81148 |  4/21/2021 | LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 216.87 |  |
| 81149 |  4/21/2021 | MAIN STREET FARM AND HOME  | 55.58 |  |
| 81150 |  4/21/2021 | MATHERN, JOE  | 11.50 |  |
| 81151 |  4/21/2021 | MIDWEST CARD AND ID SOLUTIONS LLC  | 760.00 |  |
| 81152 |  4/21/2021 | NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  | 450.00 |  |
| 81153 |  4/21/2021 | ND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION  | 29.55 |  |
| 81154 |  4/21/2021 | ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATION  | 420.00 |  |
| 81155 |  4/21/2021 | ND WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION  | 275.00 |  |
| 81156 |  4/21/2021 | NDSU EXTENSION  | 2,970.00 |  |
| 81157 |  4/21/2021 | NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE  | 11,656.26 |  |
| 81158 |  4/21/2021 | OFFICE DEPOT  | 59.98 |  |
| 81159 |  4/21/2021 | OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  | 3,605.00 |  |
| 81160 |  4/21/2021 | OTTER TAIL POWER CO  | 687.15 |  |
| 81161 |  4/21/2021 | PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT  | 44.25 |  |
| 81162 |  4/21/2021 | QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC  | 868.86 |  |
| 81163 |  4/21/2021 | QUAL, ANGELA  | 250.00 |  |
| 81164 |  4/21/2021 | QUILL CORPORATION  | 151.95 |  |
| 81165 |  4/21/2021 | RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE  | 827.11 |  |
| 81166 |  4/21/2021 | RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO  | 30,437.82 |  |
| 81167 |  4/21/2021 | REINKE, JOSEPH  | 143.75 |  |
| 81168 |  4/21/2021 | RICHLAND COUNTY CORRECTIONS  | 1,100.00 |  |
| 81169 |  4/21/2021 | RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  | 1,464.08 |  |
| 81170 |  4/21/2021 | RIVERSIDE BUILDING CENTER  | 314.33 |  |
| 81171 |  4/21/2021 | ROUGH RIDER INDUSTRIES  | 24.00 |  |
| 81172 |  4/21/2021 | SANDVIG, ROGER  | 300.00 |  |
| 81173 |  4/21/2021 | SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT  | 2,594.23 |  |
| 81174 |  4/21/2021 | SIMPLE WOLF  | 340.87 |  |
| 81175 |  4/21/2021 | SORBY, JASON  | 30.00 |  |
| 81176 |  4/21/2021 | STARION BOND SERVICES  | 223,973.75 |  |
| 81177 |  4/21/2021 | STURDEVANT'S INC  | 60.93 |  |
| 81178 |  4/21/2021 | TEAL'S MARKET  | 7.48 |  |
| 81179 |  4/21/2021 | TRIZETTO PROVIDER SOLUTIONS  | 427.12 |  |
| 81180 |  4/21/2021 | TRUENORTH STEEL  | 21,472.70 |  |
| 81181 |  4/21/2021 | UNIFORM CENTER  | 164.99 |  |
| 81182 |  4/21/2021 | VILLAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER  | 1,500.00 |  |
| 81183 |  4/21/2021 | WELTON TIRE SERVICE  | 757.00 |  |
| 81184 |  4/21/2021 | WEX HEALTH, INC.  | 58.50 |  |
| 81185 |  4/21/2021 | WM CORPORATE SERVICES  | 170.00 |  |
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Shelly Schwab – recorder, appeared before the board to discuss summer hours for the court house. She stated she was not proposing the commissioners do them, however it is not a bad idea. Schwab stated currently there are some departments that do have summer hours, and other departments who have their various hours differing from what the official courthouse hours state. Currently the employees who are working summer hours are getting thirteen Fridays off, which is an extra two and a half weeks those employees are getting than the rest. It is an extra month and a day the doors are shut to the public. Schwab would like to see a personnel committee put together, and some uniform hours be made throughout the county buildings. She would like the personnel committee to be made up of at least one person per department and two commissioners.

Kirsten Gilbert – emergency manager, appeared before the board to discuss a state homeland security grant she was applying for. She stated she is working with Randy Gallagher and Sheriff Darren Benneweis to get ideas of what the courthouse is in need of for security. Gilbert asked the board if there were any ideas they had. The board will leave the ideas up to Kirsten Gilbert, Gallagher, and Benneweis on what to apply for. Gilbert stated every year she never knows what will be approved, if anything at all. She will apply for as many things as she can that we need that would qualify for the homeland security grant. However, we won’t know for months, what if any was approved.

The burn ban was discussed. Gilbert passed out a new color-coded chart of the state showing what counties currently still have the burn ban in place. Only a few counties have removed, or revised the burn ban they had issued. Kirsten Gilbert advised if the commissioners decided to rescind the burn ban, we would need to issue a fire emergency declaration or we would not qualify for any emergency assistance, if needed. The burn ban will stay as is for now in Ransom County. If someone needs to burn or they have a prescribed burn they should call the state radio number listed on the sheriff’s department door. State radio will get you in contact with the deputy sheriff on duty, who will get you the contact info for the fire chief in your district, and they will advise if you are allowed to burn that day.

Scott Smyth with KLJ appeared before the board to go over the bids for the seal coat project. Strata was the only company who bid it, and their bid came in at $496,361.16. Gilbert moved to approve the bid, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried. Smyth will get the construction and administrative contract started for the next meeting.

There was also a bid opening for the slope reconstruction/stabilization of the Maple River and Virgil Schultz banks that Strata also bid. Strata was the only bidder on this project as well. The bid came in lower this spring than last fall, however still higher than KLJ expected. Daleyn Baasch would have bid the project, however he didn’t have time. The board discussed if they wanted to accept the bid, or rebid. Smyth said he could modify the cost share application to match Strata’s bid and submit it to the State Water Commission for the meeting they have coming up in June. Schwab moved to rebid the Maple River and Virgil Schultz slope stabilization and not accept Strata’s bid. Mathern seconded the motion. Hansen, Schwab, Mathern, Olerud, were in favor. Gilbert opposed. Motion carried. Scott Smyth will redo the cost share application with the State Water Commission.

The board asked Jeff “Ivan” Hopkins if he and his crew could fill in the pier on the east side of the Virgil Schultz bridge while the water is down so low. Hopkins also let the board know they have begun summer hours. They are working 6:30a.m.-5p.m Monday – Thursday now through deer opener in November. The board discussed the roads seem to be in rough conditions. Schwab made a motion to allow the road department to work overtime as needed to get the roads in better shape. Mathern seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Todd Anderson, appeared before the board on behalf of the Ransom County Fair board. Anderson asked for an additional $10,000 on top of the $90,000 already allocated to the Fair board for the 2021 budget for the racing association. The racing association has been working hard to improve the track, they are installing more grandstands. They have secured a $40,000 endowment grant. However, they need to come up with another $40,000 in grant matching funds. Anderson is asking the county to donate $10,000 towards the grant matching funds for the racing association. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern to give the Ransom County Fair Board $10,000 out of the Covid disbursement to go towards the grandstands project grant matching endowment funds. Gilbert, Mathern, Schwab, and Olerud were in favor. Hansen opposed. Motion carried.

Gentzkow presented a local gaming permit for the Mcleod Softball association along with the appropriate fee. The raffle will be held at the Silver Prairie Saloon. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

Gentzkow presented a contract from ND Motor Vehicle that needed to be signed stating the county would not unplug or tamper with the kiosk that was placed on the main level of the court house. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert, to allow Chairman Hansen to sign the Motor Vehicle Kiosk contract. All aye. Motion carried.

Gentzkow asked the board if they would be in favor of resuming South East County commission meetings in person again. The board was all in favor.

NDIRF sent a letter asking if the commissioners would like to vote for a board member. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud to vote for Scott Ouradnik by proxy All aye. Motion carried. Gentzkow will send the letter back to NDIRF.

Heather Edison with the weed board had asked if the weed board could purchase a hard drive out of the county general technology fund. The board discussed. The weed board is a 2000 account, the board would like the weed board to purchase the hard drive out of their own budget.

Purchasing new commission chairs was discussed. They were budgeted for in the 2021 budget under equipment and improvement. The board set a limit of $500 per chair. Olerud and Mathern volunteered to go out and look for some new chairs. They will bring their findings to the board for the next meeting.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Hansen adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Norm Hansen, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission