**RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting – February 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Mathern at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present. Connie Gilbert, Neil Olerud, Greg Schwab, Norm Hansen, and Joe Mathern.

Agenda – The agenda was reviewed, Kathie Erickson, treasurer was added to go over the pledges, Joe Mathern had some items to be discussed during miscellaneous. Olerud moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Erickson and Mathern’s miscellaneous. Hansen seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes – From the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on February 1, 2022 were considered. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud to approve the minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s report – Kathie Erickson appeared before the board to present the pledges. As of January 31, 2022 the county has $10,381,253.00 at Bremer bank, $2,185,000 at Stock Growers, and $2,127,862.39 at Bank North for a total of $14,694,115.39. Gilbert moved to approve pledge of securities as presented by Treasurer Kathie Erickson, seconded by Hansen. All aye. Motion carried.

Bills – The board reviewed bills in the amount of 244,903.26. Olerud moved, seconded by Hansen to pay the bills in the amount of $244,903.26. All aye. Motion carried.

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| A W DIESEL SERVICE | 93.84 |
| ACUITY SPECIALTY PRODUCTS, INC | 147.47 |
| ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES | 264.97 |
| BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER | 5,925.00 |
| BERT'S TRUCK EQUIPMENT | 1,123.38 |
| BRI-TON | 73.26 |
| CARDINAL HEALTH 110, INC. | 5,387.97 |
| CITY VIEW FUEL LLC | 49.20 |
| CODE 4 SERVICES, INC. | 726.31 |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS | 3,734.30 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY | 2,945.00 |
| DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY | 470.67 |
| DAKOTA PLAINS AG- GWINNER | 2,027.15 |
| DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP. | 207.70 |
| DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS | 37.50 |
| DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC. | 1,649.46 |
| ELLIOTT TOWNSHIP | 2,429.46 |
| ENDERLIN INDEPENDENT | 224.00 |
| ESRI, INC. | 1,000.00 |
| FARMERS UNION SERVICE ASSOCIATION | 50,345.00 |
| FP MAILING SOLUTIONS | 149.85 |
| FRS WORKS | 45.20 |
| GALLAGHER, RANDY | 18.44 |
| GILBERT, KIRSTEN | 50.00 |
| GORDY'S GRILL & FILL | 53.49 |
| GREEN IRON EQUIPMENT | 270.47 |
| GREER, TARA ANN | 12.00 |
| GWORKS | 3,245.00 |
| HEGLE, KELSEY | 80.16 |
| HEMOCUE AMERICA/RADIOMETER AMERICA | 282.00 |
| HOPKINS, ROBERTA | 290.00 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. | 12,003.95 |
| INTERCOMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY | 75.00 |
| JOHN DEERE CREDIT | 37,539.84 |
| KELLY, FALLON M. | 1,510.44 |
| KLJ ENGINEERING LLC | 7,181.04 |
| KRAZY KREFT | 242.00 |
| LARSON, MEGHAN | 81.36 |
| LEE, DEBRA | 561.13 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS | 144.95 |
| LISBON OIL COMPANY | 19,922.81 |
| LISBON TRUE VALUE | 30.86 |
| LITTLE FALLS MACHINE, INC | 61.32 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 28.31 |
| MATHERN, JOE | 17.26 |
| NAPA PARTS SUPPLY-LISBON | 928.93 |
| NCRAAO TREASURER | 325.00 |
| ND ASSOC OF COUNTIES- BISMARCK | 2,650.00 |
| ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES | 352.80 |
| ND COUNTY AUDITOR'S ASSOC | 100.00 |
| ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION | 12,313.12 |
| ND SACCHO | 500.00 |
| ND SHERIFF'S & DEPUTIES ASSOCIATION | 400.00 |
| ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATION | 24,434.40 |
| ND 911 ASSOCIATION | 50.00 |
| NDACO RESOURCES GROUP | 4,416.00 |
| NDACTVSO | 125.00 |
| NDLTAP-UGPTI/NDSU | 175.00 |
| NDSU AG COMMUNICATION | 200.00 |
| NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE | 11,911.26 |
| NORTH DAKOTA ONE CALL | 1.25 |
| OLSON ACCOUNTING | 132.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 4,136.47 |
| PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT | 229.22 |
| QUILL CORPORATION | 73.98 |
| RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE | 59.52 |
| RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO | 6,347.56 |
| RECORD KEEPERS, LLC | 16.00 |
| REINKE, JOSEPH | 196.30 |
| RICHLAND COUNTY CORRECTIONS | 220.00 |
| RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT | 3,488.16 |
| RSR HUMAN SERVICE ZONE | 969.50 |
| SALAMANDER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC | 760.00 |
| SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT | 531.59 |
| SARGENT COUNTY TELLER | 40.00 |
| SCH WELD DBA SUBWAY | 41.59 |
| SCHWAB, GREG | 79.35 |
| SILVER PRAIRIE SALOON | 1,527.45 |
| STURDEVANT'S INC | 136.01 |
| SUNDALE HUTTERIAN ASSN. | 190.00 |
| TEAL'S MARKET | 11.88 |
| TRIZETTO PROVIDER SOLUTIONS | 198.81 |
| TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC. | 449.00 |
| VILLAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER | 1,500.00 |
| WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE | 70.00 |
| WELTON TIRE SERVICE | 572.00 |
| WELTON, BRENNA | 100.00 |
| WEX HEALTH, INC. | 58.50 |
| WIL'S BODY SHOP | 500.00 |
| WM CORPORATE SERVICES | 314.59 |
| ZIMPRICH, BRIAN | 312.50 |
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| Grand Totals: 397 Transactions 91 Vendors | 244,903.26 |

Public Health – Brenna Welton and Chelsey Jones appeared before the board to give an update about things going on with public health. Welton and Jones presented blueprints to the board detailing a remodel project they would like see happen to provide more spacing to meet covid restrictions. Welton has secured a health equity grant in the amount of $125,000, which will cover the remodel project. Welton also secured a second immunization grant for $82,000. The grant will allow public health to purchase computers, wall mounts, and the reminder recall system. Welton also let the board know that Kerry Cooper has given her notice, her last day at Ransom County Public Health will be May 27, 2022. Welton would like to put an ad in the paper immediately so they can hire someone at the beginning of April. That would allow the new employee two months of training time with Cooper. Hansen moved to allow Welton to hire a new employee at the beginning of April to allow the employee as much training time as possible with Cooper. Welton asked the board for permission for her, and Cayla Wiltse to attend a tobacco conference in New Orleans. All travel expenses will be reimbursed through the tobacco grant. Welton asked the board if she could also pay for the two Sargent County employees attending the conference with Welton and Wiltse since the grant is shared between Ransom and Sargent. Welton manages the grant, so she will be the one who files the paperwork for reimbursement. Hansen moved to allow four public health employees permission to travel to New Orleans for a tobacco conference. Airline tickets and hotel reservations are allowed to be purchased using the county credit card. Schwab seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried. All expenses will be reimbursed by the tobacco grant. Jones and Welton asked how it should be handled when they have an opening on the health board. Hansen let them know typically when there is an opening on a board. The county puts an ad in the paper so any one interested has an opportunity. Hansen made a motion for Gentzkow to put an ad in the paper advertising for an open position on the health board. Gilbert seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

County Government Month – Shelly Schwab appeared before the board to ask if they wanted to do a pancake feed for the community again this year in the month of April for county government month. The board discussed. The pancake feed will be on April 29, 2022 at the Ransom County Shop.

TextMyGov – Presented to the board via zoom. TextMyGov was developed to open lines of communication with local government agencies and citizens. The system works 24 hours a day and easily connects with your website and other communication methods. TextMyGov uses smart texting technology to communicate with citizens. Local government agencies can answer questions, send links to their website, and provide details on current happenings of the county. TextMyGov requires an initial two-year contract, after that it will revert to a year-to-year contract. The price for TextMyGov is $3,200 annually, there is a $1,600 implementation/setup fee for the first year.

Verizon Connect – Benneweis presented Verizon Connect, a program that would allow access to track a vehicle. Benneweis would like to have them installed in the patrol vehicles. Benneweis also thought it would be a good idea to put them in all county vehicles that currently do not have JD Link.

Motor Grader – Jamie Thoennes appeared before the board to let them know the grader ordered last November 2021 is delayed and won’t be available until June of 2022. The lease on the Sheldon motor grader was up in January, Thoennes let the board know that RDO rents motor graders for $12,000 a month. However, they are willing to work with the board. After some discussion, the board and Thoennes agreed on $2,500 per month, for three months to rent the motor grader. Olerud moved, seconded by Schwab to pay $2,500 for March, April, and May to rent the motor grader until new arrives. All aye. Motion carried. Thoennes also let the board know the next motor grader lease is up on March 29, 2023 he recommends the county start the bidding process, so it can arrive before the lease is up.

Fuel, Propane, and Gravel Bids - Hopkins inquired about posting the fuel, propane, and gravel bids in the paper. Hopkins is going to advertise them in the paper for three weeks. Bid opening will be March 15, 2022 during the regular scheduled commission meeting. The board also discussed adding a line for class thirteen gravel. Hopkins will ask Kirsten Gilbert to add an option to the gravel bid for class thirteen. It will not disqualify anyone if they don’t offer it, it is just an added option.

Scott Smyth - Appeared before the board to let them know there are two options on the Sheldon Bridge Project which is anticipated to cost around $1.8 million. The county could do a request for proposal, which would need to be advertised in the paper for three weeks, contractors interviewed, grade rated, and then select which ever firm scores the highest. Or they could hire a contractor or their choice if they use all county funds to fund their portion of this project. No decision was made at the time.

Storm Pay – Sheriff Darren Benneweis questioned why in the last meeting it was decided storm pay would not be paid to the individuals who still had to work during an emergency (example: sheriff’s department & road crew). Benneweis understands it is their job to be out there, but is it right employees are being paid to stay home, while others are having to work in the elements. Discussion was had. Olerud moved to pay storm pay (double pay) to the road crew and the sheriff’s department if they are called out for an emergency during a storm due to courthouse closure. Roll call vote was taken. Gilbert – yes, Hansen – no, Olerud – yes, Schwab – yes, Mathern – yes. Motion carried.

Auditor’s Office – Gentzkow asked for permission to close the auditor’s office to attend election training in Bismarck March 3rd & 4th. Hansen moved to approve the auditor’s office closing for training in Bismarck, Gilbert seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Sheldon Street Snow Removal – Mathern and Schwab met with Rick Taylor the Mayor of Sheldon to discuss the county assisting with snow removal. Mathern and Hopkins will work with Kirsten Gilbert, highway secretary to get a contract drawn up between the City of Sheldon and the County for snow removal.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Joe Mathern

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission