RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – January 4, 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, Norm Hansen, Neil Olerud, Greg Schwab and Joe Mathern.

Agenda – The agenda was reviewed, Gilbert asked to add the get together on December 282021 to the agenda, storm days were also added to the agenda. Gilbert moved to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Hansen. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes – Commission Minutes from the previous regular scheduled meeting on December 21, 2021 were considered. Olerud moved, seconded by Schwab to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Manual Warrants – Manual warrants in the amount of $68,201.31 were then reviewed. Olerud moved, seconded by Hansen to approve the manual warrants in the amount of $68,201.31. All aye. Motion carried.

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| CASS COUNTY ELECTIC COOP | 1,568.53 |
| JOHN DEERE CREDIT  | 47,314.34 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA  | 15,304.41 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC.  | 407.57 |
| LISBON, CITY OF  | 291.00 |
| MARCO  | 713.13 |
| ND GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT  | 89.00 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS  | 52.30 |
| VOYAGER FLEET SYSTEMS, INC.  | 177.93 |
| WEX BANK  | 2,283.10 |

Ransom County Housing Authority – Derek Johnson with the Ransom County Housing Authority appeared before the board to go over the financial statements for October, November, and December 2021. Hansen moved to approve the financials as presented by Johnson for October, November, and December 2021, seconded by Gilbert. All aye. Motion carried.

Englevale Water – Lenny Toyne appeared before the board with the quotes they had received from various companies to fix the water line issues in Englevale. Toyne stated there are roughly twenty to twenty-five families who use the current well that is having issues in Englevale.

Fallon Kelly, states attorney arrived.

Drain Eleven – Scott Olerud, with the Ransom County Water Board appeared before the commission to let them know he doesn’t have any new info. Hansen moved, seconded by Schwab to make a motion stating Ransom County Commission hear on declares that it has no intention of approving any Sargent County initiated water drain assessments within the boundaries of Ransom County regarding Drain number eleven. Chairman Mathern asked for all in favor or the motion, none were in favor. Gilbert, Hansen, Olerud, Schwab, and Mathern all opposed the motion. Motion died. Hansen moved, seconded by Gilbert to make a motion stating having received public input from Ransom County residents, Ransom County Commission hear by declares that it has no intentions of approving any Sargent County initiated water drain assessments within the boundaries of ransom County regarding drain eleven. All were in favor. Motion passed. The board would then like the motion sent to the Sargent County Commission, Sargent County Water Board, and the Ransom County Water Board.

Owl – Gentzkow asked the board for permission to purchase an owl camera for the commission room out of technology. This will allow people to see who is all in the commission room when they watch the commission meetings on zoom. Schwab moved, seconded by Olerud to purchase an Owl out of the technology account. All aye. Motion carried.

Election – Gentzkow would like to have the 2022 Vote center for the primary and general election at the Ransom County Expo Center again. In 2020 the election site was held up at the Expo Center and it worked really well, there is more space, and no steps. The board approved of the election being held at the Expo center again this year.

Cameras – Schwab discussed having camera’s put in all of the County shops for safety and security reasons.

Roads – Schwab would like to see the roads opened up sooner after snow. He said it could be a liability issue if someone were to get hurt or there was an emergency where emergency crews couldn’t get through.

Tax Assessments – Kristie Reinke joined the meeting. Fallon Kelly advised the board that the county is allowed to charge other entities for assessing, however entities are allowed to hire an assessor of their choice if they choose. Mathern let the board know his current rate for the City of Enderlin is $35 per hour, and it typically takes him an hour and a half to assess a parcel. Different prices were discussed. Olerud moved, seconded by Schwab to charge the City of Lisbon $8.00 per parcel for one year to see how it goes. Mathern called for a roll call vote: Mathern – yes, Gilbert – no, Olerud – yes, Hansen – no, Schwab – yes. Motion carried.

Christmas Eve – The board discussed if in the future Christmas Eve should be closed a full day, or open all day. Either way Schwab and Mathern don’t think much gets done in the four hours the county is open, and would like to see it readdressed when the handbook is done.

Being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Mathern adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Joe Mathern, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission