RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – May 18, 2021

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

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

Minutes from the previous regular commission meeting on May 4, 2021 were considered. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Bills and payroll were then reviewed. Olerud moved to pays bills and payroll with a few changes, Mathern seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Derek Johnson from Ransom County Housing Authority appeared before the board to go over the financials from January – April 2021. Olerud moved to approve the financial reports presented by Johnson, seconded by Schwab. All aye. Motion carried.

The board then discussed some of the chair options they have gotten pictures of. Gentzkow can get some chairs from Quill for them to try, and send back if not happy. The board would like to sit in a few before buying any.

Gentzkow asked the board if they would like her to apply for the lasted round of covid relief funding, or wait until the county has a plan of how they want to spend the money that falls under the allowable criteria. The board all agreed they would like to have a plan on how the money can be spent before the county applies for it.

Schwab gave an update on the Legislative wrap he attended in Bismarck.

Gentzkow presented a local gaming permit along with the appropriate fee for Cowboy up. Olerud moved to approve it, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

Gentzkow presented a local gaming permit for Riding for dreams along with the appropriate fee. Olerud moved to approve it, seconded by Gilbert. All aye motion carried.

The pancake feed the county hosted was discussed. Shelly Schwab said she thought there were about 230 people who ate that morning. The county would like to thank the employees for all their hard work, all the residents who came and attended the pancake feed, and the businesses who gave donations. It was a huge success.

Greg Schwab mentioned that he got a call about County Road 133 to the east of the new hog barn being in rough shape. He is wondering if when the discussion of the hog barn being built was happening, if there was to be money set aside to fix the roads due to the extra traffic going to and from the hog barn. The board said there was an agreement between the Nelson Hog Coop and the township, but nothing involving the County. Jeff Hopkins and the road crew will take a look at County Road 133 and fix it as needed.

At the last commission meeting the board had asked Gentzkow to send out a survey to employees asking if they would like to see the county hours changed to 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Gentzkow passed out the survey for the board to review and discuss. Fifteen employees voted yes for the hours to be 8:00 a.m – 4:30 p.m., two employees did not want the hours changed, 3 employees had no preference. The board discussed. Schwab moved to change the court house hours to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. year-round, Olerud seconded the motion. Schwab, Olerud, and Hansen were in favor of the new hours. Mathern and Gilbert opposed. Motion carried.

Kirsten Gilbert asked what time she should set the doors to unlock, currently when the courthouse opened at 8:30 a.m. the doors would open at 8:15 a.m. The board discussed. Schwab motioned to have the doors open at 7:59 a.m., Olerud seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried. The start date of the new hours will be Wednesday May 19, 2021.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Hansen adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Norm Hansen, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission