RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – May 4, 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, Joe Mathern, Neil Olerud, and Norm Hansen. Absent: Greg Schwab.

Chairman Hansen asked for any revisions to the agenda. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the agenda as it was presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on April 20,2021 were reviewed. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud. All aye. Motion carried.

Manual warrants in $10657.18 were considered. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve the manual warrants. All aye. Motion carried.

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| 4/23/21 | ACH 994 | Cass County Electric Coop | $191.69 |
| 4/23/21 | ACH 999 | Cass County Electric Coop | $1458.75 |
| 4/20/21 | ACH 998 | Great America Financial  | $422.71 |
| 4/20/21 | ACH 1004 | Great America Financial | $390.23 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 970 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $129.44 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 971 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $30.00 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 972 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $13.00 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 973 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $324.75 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 974 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $5.66 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 975 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $27.08 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 977 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $19.00 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 978 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $117.93 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 979 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $56.52 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 980 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $373.58 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 981 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $39.91 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 982 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $274.95 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 983 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $59.94 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 984 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $7.98 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 985 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $19.98- |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 986 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $127.32 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 987 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $22.99 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 988 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $59.24 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 989 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $21.98 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 990 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $127.77 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1002 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $58.61 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1003 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $186.10 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1005 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $80.02 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1006 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $85.18 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1007 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $80.02 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1008 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $85.18 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1009 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $80.02 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1010 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $601.44 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1011 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $1569.25 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1018 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $90.29 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1019 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $54.92 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 1013 | Lisbon, City of  | $66.00 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1014 | Lisbon, City of  | $159.40 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1015 | Lisbon, City of  | $26.60 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 1016 | Lisbon, City of  | $29.50 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 1017 | Lisbon, City of  | $10.00 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 992 | Marco | $187.51 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 993 | Marco | $151.70 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 995 | Marco | $140.60 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 997 | Marco | $739.80 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 1012 | Marco | $261.03 |
| 4/14/21 | ACH 996 | Southeast Water Users | $52.13 |
| 4/10/21 | ACH 991 | ND GAME AND FISH | $165.00 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 1000 | Wex Bank | $1156.00 |
| 4/11/21 | ACH 1001 | Wex Bank  | $128.44 |
| **Total** |  |  | **$10657.18** |

The board discussed the pancake feed the county is hosting on May 14, 2021. When they originally discussed hosting, they threw out a number of five hundred people to plan for. The board discussed if they still felt comfortable with that number or if it needed to be changed. All members agreed they thought five hundred was a good number to leave it at.

Duffy Hansen with Island Park township appeared before the board to discuss some new information and updates regarding the Fox Farm Bridge. Hansen recently had attended a Ransom County Water Board meeting where he learned about a program through the NDDOT called “Off System Bridge replacement/Alternate Route that possibly could help gets some funds for the Fox Farm Bridge project. The board had Duffy Hansen and Scott Smyth the county engineer through KLJ exchange information to see if anything could come of this program.

Scott Smyth presented a contract updating the State Water Commission Cost Share Application for the Maple River Bridge Bank Slope Stabilization project. The contract states the project is a fifty/fifty split between the county and the Sate Water Commission. It is estimated to cost roughly $50,300 for both the county and the State Water Commission. The design and study were completed in the spring of 2021. Construction will occur in the Summer or early Fall of 2021. All work is to be completed in 2021.

Scott Smyth also presented a contract updating the State Water Commission Cost Share Application for the Virgil Schultz Bridge Bank Slope Stabilization project. The cost share application is a fifty/fifty split between the county and the State Water Commission. The total project is estimated to cost $110,585.00. Construction is estimated to start in early summer or fall of 2021, and be completed in 2021.

Greg Schwab arrived at 10:40 a.m.

Smyth also presented the board with a “Non-Federal Sponsor’s Self-Certification of financial Capability for Decision Documents.” The document stated that the Ransom County board is aware of the financial obligations of the Non-Federal Sponsor for the Sheldon road Bridge CAP Section 14 Emergency Streambank Restoration Project, and that the Non-Federal Sponsor will have the financial capability to satisfy the Non-Federal Sponsor’s certification shall not be construed as obligating either the Government or the Non-Federal Sponsor to implement a project. Gilbert moved to allow chairman Hansen to sign the Non-Federal sponsor’s Self Certification of Financial Capability for Decision Documents. Olerud seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Smyth then presented an Amendment to Owner Engineer Agreement for Ransom County Highway 58 Seal Coat project SC-3700(021). The nature of the amendment is for additional services to be performed by engineer, and modification to payment to engineer. The original agreement amount was for $15,500 the new amount is for $77,500. Gilbert moved, seconded by Schwab to have Hansen sign the Amendment to the Owner Engineer Agreement. All aye. Motion carried.

Hopkins appeared before the board to let them know there is a culvert near the Preston Church that is washed out, and more water is going over it than through it. Hopkins is going to have Baasch reset the culvert at the correct height. Hopkins also asked to purchase some clay for CTY road 53. The board discussed, and would like to see Hopkins’s purchase clay and use where he feels necessary to help keep the gravel and roads in better conditions. Hopkins also asked about purchasing a water tanker, to use on gravel roads where needed. The board discussed. Hopkins will look into water tanker prices and get back to the board.

Olerud asked Hopkins if he knows who bored under County Road 55 and 133, as the county hadn’t received a permit for it. Hopkins will look into it.

AE2S gave a presentation about their website services. They try to make their websites the most useful tools possibly to the constituents using it, and make it the least time consuming for the people creating it. They like to build and host the site for at least one year so if there are bugs, they can assist with any issues. One year service is $320 per year. Creating a whole new page usually cost anywhere from $4000-$6000 and that includes training, and taking pictures for the new website. Tammy Jo with AE2S will get a paper proposal together for the county before any final decisions are made.

Shelly Schwab – recorder appeared before the board to let them know her new office hours are 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. She has posted a sign on her office door, and let the attorney offices in town know. She informed the board she knows this isn’t the most ideal situation, however currently there is another office in the building who works these hours. Schwab would like to see the board get opinions from the employees on what hours the courthouse should be open. She presented some numbers from other counties. Currently thirty percent of the state is open until 5:00 p.m. and it is only the larger counties, seventy percent of the counties close at 4 or 4:30 p.m. The board discussed. Nicole Gentzkow will send a survey out to all court house employees and public health per the permission of the board and ask if they would like to see the court house hours changed to 8:00 – 4:30 p.m. going forward. If any employees would like to discuss it, this subject will be on the agenda for 11:00 a.m. at the next commission meeting. Results will be presented to the board at that time as well.

Ryan Kenyon let Randy Gallagher know he is not interested in doing the internet rewiring project with Computer Express. The board discussed if they should find someone new, or allow Jamie to get who ever he works best with. The board is going to leave it up to Jamie with Computer Express.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Hansen adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Norm Hansen, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission