RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – August 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Neil Olerud. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Norm Hansen, Connie Gilbert, Steve Dick, and Neil Olerud. Absent: George Bunn.

The agenda was reviewed. Nicole Gentzkow asked for the addition of Kirsten Gilbert at 9:30 to discuss FEMA. Hansen moved, seconded by Gilbert, to approve the agenda with the addition. All yes. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous scheduled commission meeting on August 4, 2020 were considered. Gilbert moved, seconded by Dick, to approve the minutes with corrections. All yes. Motion carried.

Bills and payroll were then reviewed. Gilbert moved, seconded by Hansen to approve bills and payroll with a few minor changes. All yes. Motion carried.

Kirsten Gilbert – FEMA agent appeared before the board to let them know Thursday August 20, 2020 she will be hosting a FEMA recovery scoping meeting in the community room. All eleven townships who are part of the spring disaster are required to participate in this meeting. The townships are allowed to join in person or by zoom. Gilbert informed the board the state may not be coming out to each county for site inspections this year due to COVID, it may fall back on the emergency manager and highway superintendent. She will keep the board posted as more information is available.

Hauge Memorial Post 9067 submitted a gaming permit along with the appropriate fee, for a meat raffle. Hansen moved, seconded by Dick, to approve the gaming permit. All yes. Motion carried.

Social Services called over to the auditor’s office and asked for a last minute check to be cut for postage. Gilbert moved, seconded by Hansen, to approve the check for social services. Dick opposed. Motion carried.

Scott Smyth with KLJ appeared before the board to let them know there are no new updates regarding the Maple River and the Virgil Schultz Bridge. The Corps of Engineers is behind, and asked KLJ to do the survey on the Sheldon road bridge if the board would approve. KLJ could get the survey done in the new few weeks, it would take roughly 1-2 days to do the survey. Hansen moved, seconded by Gilbert, to approve KLJ to do the survey at the Anselm Bridge near Sheldon. All yes. Motion carried.

The board asked Smyth about the railroad crossing by Englevale. It still doesn’t have lights and is a hazardous crossing. Smyth asked if the Sheldon crossing has been fixed yet, the board said it is still extremely rough. Smyth will make some more phone calls to the railroad.

Jeff “Ivan” Hopkins appeared before the board to let them know he was contacted by Todd Larson wondering what is going on with the culvert. Water board is dealing with this culvert, they are waiting to see if this is going to be turned into a legal drain on the Ransom County side.

Hopkins also stated the motor grader stationed out in Fort Ransom had a hydraulic leak and started on fire. It is currently at John Deere in Moorhead getting fixed. This is the machine that is scheduled to get traded this next year on the rotation for new machines. Hopkins will talk to Lance Gulleson regarding insurance on this machine. Hopkins also had a phone call from Jason at Sundale Colony asking when the County plans to pave the Milnor road half mile east of the colony. The board agreed, this is not something they are looking into at the time.

Fallon Kelly asked the board to consider allowing one of his part time county paid state’s attorney position’s to go full time. Discussion was had. Gilbert moved, seconded by Dick, to allow the lower salary position to become a full time county employee for the states attorney’s office starting 9/1/2020. All yes. Motion carried.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Olerud adjourned he meeting at 11:00 a.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Neil Olerud, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission