RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER

Regular Meeting – September 1, 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, George Bunn, Steve Dick, and Neil Olerud. Absent: Connie Gilbert.

The agenda was reviewed. Nicole Gentzkow asked to add Kristie Reinke to discuss townships to the agenda at 9:30 a.m. Bunn moved, seconded by Hansen, to approve the agenda with the addition. All yes. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous scheduled commission meeting on August 18, 2020 were considered. Hansen moved, seconded by Dick, to approve the minutes with corrections. All yes. Motion carried.

Manual warrants in the amount of $17062.23 were then reviewed. Hansen moved to approve the manual warrants with a correction, seconded by Bunn. All yes. Motion carried.

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| 8/23/20 | ACH 572 | Cass County Electric Coop | $419.25 |
| 8/23/20 | ACH 574 | Cass County Electric Coop | $127.50 |
| 8/20/20 | ACH 568 | Great America Financial | $398.74 |
| 8/20/20 | ACH 575 | Great America Financial | $281.00 |
| 8/20/20 | ACH 577 | Job Service ND | $1280.86 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 547 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $319.60 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH548 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $195.96 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 549 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $217.98 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 550 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $140.28 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 551 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $37.42 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 552 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $38.99 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 553 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $8200.00 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 554 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $569.88 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 555 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $25.34 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 556 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $164.10 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 557 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $38.50 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 558 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $74.95 |
| 87/14/20 | ACH 559 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $7.75 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 560 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $292.09 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 561 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $134.64 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 562 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $48.25 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 563 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $54.67 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 564 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $128.75 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 565 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $102.76 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 566 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $576.30 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 583 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $320.53- |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 585 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $145.95 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 578 | City of Lisbon | $65.50 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 579 | City of Lisbon | $153.57 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 580 | City of Lisbon | $122.53 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 581 | City of Lisbon | $29.50 |
| 8/10/20 | ACH 582 | City of Lisbon | $10.00 |
| 8/24/20 | ACH 570 | Marco | $231.24 |
| 8/22/20 | ACH 571 | Marco | $110.01 |
| 8/22/20 | ACH 576 | Marco | $137.67 |
| 8/22/20 | ACH 586 | Marco | $778.45 |
| 8/12/20 | ACH 573 | Southeast Water Users | $6.04 |
| 8/13/20 | ACH 569 | Tesoro Fleet Systems, INC. | $166.33 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 567 | WEX Bank | $1095.86 |
| 8/14/20 | ACH 584 | WEX Bank | $454.65 |
| Total |  |  | $17062.33 |

Kristie Reinke, tax director appeared before the board to discuss Hanson, Northland, Owego, and Elliott City who have not paid their assessing fee. Reinke discussed how these jurisdictions are typically late at paying, however she can normally collect at the equalization meeting. This year due to equalization being held via zoom, she has been unsuccessful collecting from them. Reinke charges them the allowed $15 late fee per month. Reinke is wondering if the county is allowed to take the money the jurisdictions owe out of money we have to pay out to them. The board advised Reinke to check on the legality of it with Fallon Kelly. If it is allowed, the board is fine with the County withholding the funds.

Joseph Schwab appeared before the board to discuss a few concerns with the highway department and some roads.

Cass County Electric submitted a utility permit and the appropriate fee for boring. Jeff Hopkins, has given his approval. Bunn moved, seconded by Dick to approve the utility permit. All yes. Motion carried.

St. Judes S.E.N. D. submitted a gaming permit along with the appropriate fee for a raffle to be held at the Owego School House. Dick moved, seconded by Hansen, to approve the gaming permit. All yes. Motion carried.

The social service zone board had asked Nicole Gentzkow to ask the board if they would be willing to pay for wiring cost if any social service employees choose to permanently work from home. Discussion was had. Bunn motioned, if Richland County approves employees to work from home, Ransom County doesn’t feel they should pay for the installation or equipment. Dick seconded the motion. All in favor: Dick. Opposed: Olerud, Hansen, and Bunn. Motion failed. Olerud motioned Ransom County does not approve working from home and will not pay for any cost associated with it. Seconded by Dick. All in favor: Bunn, Olerud, Dick. Opposed: Hansen. Motion carried.

Scott Smyth with KLJ appeared before the board. Bunn asked Smyth if KLJ does the survey on the Sheldon road on behalf of the Corp of Engineers, who is responsible to pay for those costs. Smyth informed the board, that the Corp doesn’t need KLJ to do the study at this time. Matt Isley with KLJ also appeared before the board to discuss the states inspection report on Hock Bridge. The state is concerned about the condition of it, they are not recommending it needs to be closed immediately but needs some repairs. KLJ thinks the bridge needs repairs to the abutment to make it safer.

Jeff “Ivan” Hopkins would like to see the motor grader bid for the Fort Ransom machine that is up December 31, 2020 to be run in the paper now to prevent any delays due to COVID. Kirsten Gilbert will have the ad run in the paper on September 7, & 14, all bids will be due to the auditor’s office by September 21, 2020. Bid opening will be Tuesday September 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and the bid will be awarded at the regular commission meeting October 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Hopkins let the board know the salt shed they have is ten years old, and getting some tears in it. He has called and got a quote for a new one which came in around $10,000. The company requires a down payment in order to get the tarp ordered. Olerud moved, seconded by Bunn, to pay whatever is needed to get the tarp going. All yes. Motion carried.

Rates the county charges to grade roads were discussed. Joey Schwab has some concerns with the county grading for such a low cost, private guys can’t compete. Currently the County is charging $85 per hour for grading and snow removal. Schwab is at $80 per hour for grading, and $120 per hour for snow removal. Lesmeister is charging $95 for grading and snow removal. The board asked Hopkins how he felt about raising the prices. Hopkins said he would feel more comfortable at $95 per hour for grading. He would like to think about the snow removal rate.

The board discussed if the court house doors should be unlocked to the public. After some discussion and meeting with Suzanne Anderson and discussing motor vehicle the board decided to unlock the court house doors immediately. Motor vehicle will remain by appointment only from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. they will be offering appointments every thirty minutes, and are allowing customers to do two titles per appointment. Anderson will order another counter shield which will allow two customers in her office at a time.

Scott Olerud appeared before the board to represent the water board, he asked the board to consider putting millings on the road inside the park at Dead Colt. That road gets so much wear and tear from all the campers and takes a lot of time maintaining it. Olerud said the only way this would be feasible is if they could get some millings free or very cheap for this project. Hopkins will look into getting some millings.

Lynn Johnson and Charlie Fabor appeared before the board to ask what is going on with the culvert near Fabors’. The corner is very dangerous, Charlie has asked the school bus to not use that road. Scott Olerud said the water board has agreed to pay a portion of the culvert at that location, however it is up to the township to get it installed. Olerud spoke to the township, and they said they are trying to find someone who is willing to install the culvert. The board would like to invite Aliceton and Sydna Township to the next commission meeting along with Lynn Johnson, Charlie Fabor, and the Water Board to the meeting to discuss the culvert at 11:00 a.m.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Olerud adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Neil Olerud, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission