RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – September 15, 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, George Bunn, Steve Dick, and Neil Olerud.

The agenda was reviewed. Bunn moved, seconded by Hansen, to approve the agenda with additions. All aye. Motion carried.

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

Bills and payroll were then reviewed. Hansen moved, seconded by Gilbert, to pay bills and payroll with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Kristina Dick, Julie Cole, Lydell Mairs, Tim Meyer, and Don Eppler appeared before the board to represent The City of Lisbon’s Finance Committee. The Finance Committee came to discuss how to go about informing residents of The City of Lisbon that there was a mistake on the pretax statements. The pretax statements showed a decrease for The City of Lisbon, when it should have been an increase. Bunn motioned to have the County pay for a legal in the Gazette to let the public know there was a mistake on some of the pretax statements. Seconded by Dick. All Aye. Motion carried.

Nickela Runck – Deputy Auditor appeared before the board to discuss the COVID – 19 family leave policy. Runck would like to discuss updating the COVID – 19 policy dealing with employee leave if family members get COVID. It was proposed to pay staff out normally and to let Nickela know that it was state mandated leave time. A motion was made to add verbiage to existing policy that if household or family member is quarantined due to COVID, employee will be paid normally to stay with them. The employee will need to provide proof to Auditor’s office. Gilbert moved, seconded by Dick. All Aye. Motion carried.

Chelsey Jones and Brenna Welton with Public Health appeared before the board to ask permission to hire a temp nurse to help get them through Flu season. Gilbert moved, seconded by Bunn, to allow public health to hire a temp nurse through the end of November 2020. All aye. Motion carried.

Benji Froemke appeared before the board on behalf of the Sheyenne Speedway, to ask the County if there were any funds available for them to help with purchasing new lights and more seating for the grand stands at the track. Board advised to call economic job development board for assistance. The county is not able to use tax payer money on this type of request.

Fallon Kelly – States Attorney appeared before the board to discuss the full time employee he was granted. Kelly asked if he could hire two part time employees instead of the one full time employee. It was discussed that hiring two part time employees will roughly cost the same as one full time employee. Bunn moved, seconded by Dick, to allow Kelly to use two part time benefited employees by the county in addition to the other fifty percent benefited employee. The start date for the two new part time employees will be September 1, 2020. All aye. Motion carried.

Janet Sanford with Load Pass Overweight Permit System appeared before the board to give a presentation.

Scott Smyth with KLJ appeared before the board and told them he received approval on the permit for the Maple River Bridge. Smyth will be sending letters to contractors to find one for the Maple river project. He let board know that the Sheldon Bridge project is still moving forward at a good rate.

A local gaming permit along with the appropriate fee was submitted by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Bunn moved, seconded by Hansen, to approve the permit. All aye. Motion carried.

Darren Benneweis – sheriff, asked if the board would approve and sign the paperwork for Sargent and Ransom County to work together for the underage drinking grants through the state. Dick moved, seconded by Hansen, to sign the paperwork for the Sheriff’s alcohol, seatbelt, and underage drinking grant.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Olerud adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

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Christine Opp Neil Olerud, Chairman

Ransom County Deputy Auditor Ransom County Commission