**RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting – November 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Neil Olerud. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Connie Gilbert, George Bunn, Steve Dick, Norm Hansen, and Neil Olerud. Also present was State’s Attorney Fallon Kelly, Sheriff Darren Benneweis, and Deputy Sheriff Jorge Gonzolez.

Sherri Wayman appeared before the board to discuss her delinquent taxes. Wayman let the board know she is working with an attorney, and disputing the specials. Fallon Kelly advised until any wrong doing has been proved to the county, they property will still be on the delinquent tax sale on November 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Minutes from the previous commission meeting on October 16, 2020 were considered. Bunn moved, seconded by Dick to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Manual warrants in the amount of $17,487.09 were reviewed. Bunn moved to approve the manual warrants, seconded by Dick. All aye. Motion carried.

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| 10/23/20 | ACH 642 | Cass County Electric Coop | $138.17 |
| 10/23/20 | ACH 643 | Cass County Electric Coop | $375.01 |
| 10/20/20 | ACH 636 | Great America Financial  | $575.76 |
| 10/20/20 | ACH 637 | Great America Financial | $281.00 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 646 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $1047.63 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH647 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $128.90 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 648 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $16.98 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 649 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $4164.77 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 650 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $134.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 651 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $1339.76 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 652 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $49.57 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 653 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $89.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 654 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $89.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 655 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $8.26 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 656 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $40.80 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 657 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $89.99 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 658 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $144.83 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 659 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $200.44 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 660 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $259.60 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 661 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $97.65 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 662 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $19.00 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 663 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $28.25 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 664 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $30.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 665 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $1047.63- |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 666 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $25.99 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 667 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $65.78 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 668 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $1076.76 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 669 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $10.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 670 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $506.34 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 671 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $274.95 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 672 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $669.01 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 673 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $120.87 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 674 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $29.98 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 675 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $39.77 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 676 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $79.54 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 677 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $62.25 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 678 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $4.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 679 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $59.88 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 680 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $143.94 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 681 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $127.59 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 682 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $322.29 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 683 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $14.60 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 684 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $37.47 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 685 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $16.99 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 686 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $45.99 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 687 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $59.25 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 688 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $71.94 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 689 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $48.00 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 690 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $15.99 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 691 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $145.95 |
| 10/13/20 | ACH 692 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $23.98 |
| 10/13/20 | ACH 693 | JPMorgan Chase Bank NA | $21.50 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 631 | City of Lisbon | $162.65 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 632 | City of Lisbon | $49.88 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 633 | City of Lisbon | $29.50 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 634 | City of Lisbon | $10.00 |
| 10/10/20 | ACH 694 | City of Lisbon | 65.67 |
| 10/24/20 | ACH 629 | Marco | $452.57 |
| 10/22/20 | ACH 639 | Marco | $137.67 |
| 10/22/20 | ACH 640 | Marco  | $127.47 |
| 10/22/20 | ACH 641 | Marco | $697.23 |
| 10/22/20 | ACH 635 | ND GAME AND FISH DEPTARTMENT | $2502.00 |
| 10/12/20 | ACH 644 | Southeast Water Users | $51.50 |
| 10/13/20 | ACH 638 | Tesoro Fleet Systems, INC.  | $70.12 |
| 10/12/20 | ACH 645 | Voyager Fleet Systems, INC. | $240.16 |
| 10/14/20 | ACH 630 | WEX Bank  | $669.33 |
| Total  |  |  | $17487.09 |

Nicole Gentzkow presented a letter from Court Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee stating they are accepting applications for grants to be awarded from the Court Facility Improvement and Maintenance Fund. If the county elects to request a grant, an application must be submitted by December 31, 2020. The board would like a copy of the letter to be sent to Randy Gallagher, Bea Roach, and Darren Benneweis.

Suzanne Anderson – treasurer, prepared some information for the board regarding a DOT kiosk that could be installed in the court house as soon as December 2020 if the board approves. There were still a lot of unanswered questions, regarding the kiosk. Gilbert moved, seconded by Dick to not have a kiosk put in the Ransom County Court House. All yes. Motion carried.

Gentzkow let the board know that the CARES act will be reimbursing the county for the 5 licensed law enforcement officers through the end of the year. Salary, overtime, health insurance, FICA, retirement, and social security will be reimbursed one hundred percent. The county has already been reimbursed for March – June 2020. Discussion was had on how much should be reimbursed to the City of Enderlin since they pay thirty one percent of the sheriff’s total budget. Dick moved, seconded by Bunn to pay thirty one percent of the CARES act money we were reimbursed for the sheriff’s department to Enderlin in one single payment. Olerud called for a roll call vote: Dick – yes, Bunn – yes, Gilbert – yes, Hansen – yes, Olerud – yes. All yes. Motion carried.

**10:00a.m. City and Township appraisal hearing**

Don Eppler and Kristina Dick arrived for the appraisal hearings in case anyone showed up to dispute appraisal values in Lisbon. No one appeared to dispute appraisal prices. Gilbert moved, seconded by Hansen that since no one appeared to argue with appraisal all prices will stay as set. All yes. Motion carried.

Nicole Gentzkow – Auditor, let the board know that Jill Mulder the new HR director would like a printer, and social services is due for an upgrade. Gentzkow suggested putting the printer/copy machine from the auditor’s office in the social service building for both social services and HR. Then upgrading to a different brand and model for the auditor’s office to have some features that Gentzkow is requesting. Hansen moved, seconded by Bunn to approve transferring the auditors copy machine to social services, and getting a new one for the auditor’s office. All yes. Motion carried.

Jeff Hopkins – road superintendent, appeared before the board to let them know the culvert on county road 136 was found to be one and a fourth feet to one and a half feet to high according to Interstate Engineering. Daylon Baash was installing the culvert at the correct height as we speak.

Discussion was had on the fox farm bridge. No decisions have been made. Ron Carlson plans to appear at the next commission meeting with representatives from Swingen Construction to give a presentation.

Gentzkow mentioned job duties for Jill Mulder need to be discussed. It is hard for Gentzkow to know what information and access needs to be given to Mulder without knowing her job duties. Norm Hansen and Connie Gilbert agreed to meet to discuss job duties. They will meet with Gentzkow and Mulder and then present to the board to come up with a plan.

Discussion was had on if the court house doors should be left unlocked, or if they should be locked to the public for COVID precautions. Hansen moved, seconded by Bunn to lock the doors of the court house, and go back to appointment only. Olerud, Gilbert, Hansen, Bunn, and Dick opposed the motion. Motion failed. Hansen moved, seconded by Gilbert, to leave it up to the chairman to make the call if needed to lock the doors to appointment only. If they chairman feels it is necessary to lock the doors, they need to let all other board members know. All yes. Motion carried. At this time the doors will remain unlocked until further notice.

Lynn Flieth and Kristen Hasbargen appeared before the board. Flieth introduced herself as the new RSR Human Service Zone Director. Hasbargen has accepted a job with the state and will oversee the zones. Flieth and Hasbargen presented the Human Service Zone Plan Template. Bunn moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve the Human Service Zone Plan Template. All yes. Motion carried.

Scott Smyth appeared before the board to go over the three projects listed on the county federal aid program sheet for 2021. Smyth advised that combining the three seal coat projects into one would be the most cost effective route. He strongly encourages doing the seal coat projects in 2021 to preserve the investments the county has already made. Smyth advised the county doesn’t have enough money to do all the projects in 2021, but the state is always looking for counties who want to borrow ahead. The county would be allowed to borrow four years ahead, if they choose to. Smyth also gave an update on the Sheldon Road Bridge it is projected to come in at $100,000, which means the county shouldn’t have any additional cost for the study. Smyth let the board know that the Corp of Engineers can’t continue their work on the Sheldon Bridge Project without the deeds showing the legal right of way. The board advised Smyth to talk to Fallon Kelly to get the legal paperwork drawn up.

**4:00 p.m. ND DOT meeting to go over County Federal Aid Program for 2021**

The county will be getting an estimated $188,165 for funding in 2021. The county still owes a small amount from borrowing ahead, so they will have $174,636 to spend in 2021. The Fox Farm Bridge was discussed. The state advised the county would not be able to use any federal funds on that bridge due to location and the cost of repairing it. Gilbert moved, seconded by Hansen, to go ahead with the three chip seal projects in 2021. All yes. Motion carried.

Nicole Gentzkow asked permission to close the auditor’s office on Friday. The board approved the closing of the auditor’s office for the day.

There being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Olerud adjourned he meeting at 4:25 p.m.

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Nicole Gentzkow Neil Olerud, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission