RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL MEETING – September 3, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Joe Mathern. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Connie Gilbert, Norm Hansen, Neil Olerud, and Joe Mathern. Also present: State’s Attorney Fallon Kelly, highway superintendent Jeff Hopkins, Todd Larson, Kristie Reinke, and Ron Hartl, representing the Ransom County Water Board. Absent: Greg Schwab.

Fallon Kelly advised action has been taken by one individual, however the commission has to act as a board. The board can change their mind or make a new motion if the majority feels differently after hearing more information.

Ron Hartl- Stated the Ransom County Water Board is aware there could be potential long-term problems downstream due to the amount of flow through the three culverts the county plans to have installed. The waterboard has informally looked into this concern, but is willing to have the waterboard Engineer do an official hydrology study if the Ransom County Commission would like. The study would take around sixty to ninety days, the waterboard recommends the commission waits to see what the hydrology study recommends.

Todd Larson would like the Ransom County Commission to make a decision and not waste tax payer dollars getting the water board’s decision since they do not have jurisdiction over the water or the culverts near his property.

Olerud moved, seconded by Hansen to put the project on hold until a hydrology study could be done by Interstate Engineering Firm. Olerud – yes, Mathern – yes, Gilbert – no, Hansen – no. Motion failed due to tie.

Culverts – Hansen asked Todd Larson if the county could leave the culverts on his property where they currently are until a decision was made. Larson agreed to let the board leave the culverts where they are for now. Larson would be alright giving the board thirty days to do more research; however, he would like the state water commission in on it.

Being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Mathern adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission