RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – July 5, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.by Chairman Joe Mathern. Roll call was taken: Gilbert, Olerud, Schwab, and Mathern. Hansen was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda- The board reviewed the agenda presented. Gilbert had something to add to miscellaneous. Olerud moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Gilbert to approve the agenda with the addition. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes – From the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on June 21, 2022 were reviewed. Gilbert moved to approve the commission minutes from June 21, 2022 with corrections, seconded by Schwab. All aye. Motion carried.

Manual Warrants – In the amount of $6,770.87 were reviewed by the board. Gilbert moved to approve $6,770.87 with a few corrections/changes to account numbers, seconded by Schwab. All aye. Motion carried.

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| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC  | 640.79 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA  | 3,927.32 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC.  | 275.91 |
| LISBON, CITY OF  | 281.23 |
| MARCO  | 927.27 |
| ND GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT  | 202.00 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS  | 49.89 |
| VOYAGER FLEET SYSTEMS, INC.  | 416.46 |
| WEX BANK  | 50.00 |
| Total | 6,770.87 |
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Recorder’s Office – Shelly Schwab, recorder appeared before the board to let them know Cindy Morin, deputy recorder plans to retire in October 2022. Morin is a thirty-two hour per work, eighty percent benefited employee, Schwab would like to hire a 40-hour, one hundred percent benefited employee to replace Morin. Schwab would like to have the new employee hired by the end of September so they have three weeks of training before Morin leaves. Schwab let the board know she has plenty of work in the recorder’s office to justify a fulltime employee. She welcomes any commissioners to stop in and visit with her.

NDACO Delegate- At the last commission meeting Gentzkow asked the board to pick a delegate for the NDACO meeting in October. Gentzkow since verified that Olerud has only served one year of his two-year commitment. The board did not need to assign a new one if they didn’t want to. Gilbert rescinded the motion appointing Schwab as delegate as it was a two-year commitment. Olerud seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried. Gilbert then motioned to have Olerud serve one more year as a delegate for Ransom County at the NDACO convention in October 2022, seconded by Schwab. All aye. Motion carried.

State’s Attorney Fallon Kelly arrived at 9:45 a.m.

Resignment – Gentzkow let the board know Norm Hansen has resigned as of 7/1/2022. Fallon Kelly did a little research and let the board know they need to appoint someone to fill Hansen’s position until the end of his term as soon as possible.

National Opioid Settlement- Gentzkow let the board know they would be getting $1,366.50 from the National Opioid Settlement they signed up to be a part of. Gentzkow will set up a payment portal, and the money will get deposited into the county’s checking account.

KLJ- Scott Smyth appeared before the board to give an update on the Fox Farm Bridge load rating report. The bridge was rated up to 22 tons if they fix the beam, but the substructure hadn’t been evaluated yet. Smyth said there could be a rehab option, but at this time didn’t know for sure. Once the scour holes get fixed the bridge could be opened up 10 tons. The substructure needs to be evaluated still once the water goes down. There is no time line to when that will happen as of now.

Terry Thompson, Bill Carlson, Ron Carlson, Darren Benneweis, Shelly Schwab, Ivan Hopkins, Cindy Morin, Nickela Runck, Bea Roach, Randy Gallagher, and Shane Smyth were all present via zoom or in person.

Fox Farm Bridge – Residents for the Fox Farm bridge arrived along with attorney Jordan Weir from Vogel Law who was hired by Terry Thompson and Ron Carlson to represent them regarding the bridge issues. Discussion was had. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud to go into executive session and recess the regular meeting for likely litigation based off comments and demands that had been made. Mathern asked for a roll call vote. Gilbert- yes, Olerud- yes, Schwab- yes, and Mathern- yes. All aye. Motion passed.

Meeting was recessed.

Meeting was brought back in session.

No decision was made during executive session, Fallon Kelly advised board of options.

Schwab asked Scott Smyth to do a survey going east to find out where the section line is south, and south of the quarter line. Olerud seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

With nothing further to come before the board. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. by Chairman Mathern.

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Nicole Gentzkow Joe Mathern

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission