RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – August 1, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chair Connie Gilbert. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Connie Gilbert, Kevin Bishop, and Greg Schwab were present. Neil Olerud and Joe Mathern were absent.

Agenda – was reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab to approve the agenda. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes – from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on July 18, 2023 were reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab to approve the regular schedule commission minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Budget minutes from July 14, 2023 were reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab to approve minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Budget minutes from July 19, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Schwab moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Manual Warrants – In the amount of 9,545.71 were reviewed by the board. Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab to approve manual warrants in the amount of 9,545.71 with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

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| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 258.09 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 7.77 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 176.82 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 39.50 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 1,333.21 |
| MARCO | 137.38 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 386.07 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 8.13 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 94.75 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 49.38 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 88.20 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 69.53 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 206.92 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 31.73 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 176.40 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 182.40 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 60.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 30.35 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.49 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 27.87 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 140.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 184.79 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 63.16 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 7.79 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 88.20 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 88.20 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 72.50 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 12.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 72.49 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 12.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 46.52 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 79.68 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 43.74 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 12.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 25.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 15.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 57.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 29.89 |
| MARCO | 198.35 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 30.56 |
| MARCO | 137.38 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 67.80 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 68.49 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 590.81 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 10.00 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 29.54 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 156.56 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 41.45 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 5.00 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 48.09 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 350.22 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 63.70 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 42.18 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 71.24 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 279.37 |
| MARCO | 608.92 |
| MARCO | 30.00 |
| MARCO | 353.76 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS | 53.80 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 23.39 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 29.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 189.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 165.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 55.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 91.74 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 290.58 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 13.58 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 25.49 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.75 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.75 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.45 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.45 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 1.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 5.50 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 202.76 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 30.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 56.19 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 44.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 52.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 475.00 |
|  | **9,545.71** |

Neil Olerud arrived at the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Commission Listing – in the amount of 183,246.47 were reviewed by the board. Schwab moved, seconded by Olerud to approve the commission listing in the amount of 183,246.47 with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

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| A W DIESEL SERVICE  | 148.36 |
| ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES  | 227.76 |
| BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER  | 3,557.00 |
| BARTHOLOMAY, DANIEL  | 26.20 |
| CAMAS SAND & GRAVEL  | 2,177.09 |
| CAVETT, JON  | 18.34 |
| CODE 4 SERVICES,INC.  | 226.64 |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 5,974.00 |
| DAKOTA PLAINS AG- GWINNER  | 1,497.60 |
| DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP.  | 65.30 |
| DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS  | 73.00 |
| ERICKSON, KATHIE  | 711.33 |
| GALLAGHER, RANDY  | 9.01 |
| GILBERT, SCOTT  | 11.79 |
| GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 780.09 |
| HEFTY SEED COMPANY  | 51,823.35 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  | 1,844.45 |
| JOHN DEERE CREDIT  | 4,750.00 |
| KOTACO  | 4,463.47 |
| LESMEISTER GRAVEL  | 66,363.71 |
| LINDA REGAN  | 750.00 |
| LISBON POSTMASTER  | 132.00 |
| LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 178.41 |
| MARCO  | 345.79 |
| MIDSTATES WIRELESS  | 200.00 |
| NARDINI  | 437.00 |
| ND ASSOC OF COUNTIES- BISMARCK  | 60.00 |
| ND COUNTY AUDITOR'S ASSOC  | 100.00 |
| NDAAO  | 840.00 |
| NDACO RESOURCES GROUP  | 1,050.00 |
| NDLTAP-UGPTI/NDSU  | 500.00 |
| NEWMAN SIGNS  | 257.82 |
| OFFICE DEPOT  | 537.58 |
| OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL-1250  | 880.00 |
| ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC.  | 6.50 |
| QUILL CORPORATION  | 128.56 |
| RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE- CASSELTON  | 256.00 |
| RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO  | 4,167.12 |
| RICHLAND COUNTY CORRECTIONS  | 1,445.00 |
| ROACH, BERNADINE  | 104.95 |
| SCHWAB, GREG  | 504.35 |
| SERVICEMASTER OF OAKES  | 513.00 |
| STURDEVANT'S INC  | 870.98 |
| SWEDE'S PLUMBING, INC.  | 219.00 |
| TITAN MACHINERY  | 31.50 |
| TRUENORTH STEEL  | 23,274.96 |
| WEIDNER,SAMANTHA  | 677.46 |
| WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE  | 30.00 |
|  |  |
| Total | 183,246.47 |

David Dahl - appeared before the board to ask about putting an approach on the county road right by his house. Dahl stated he would do the work himself and place a culvert in the approach if the county will allow it. The board advised Dahl to speak to highway superintendent Adam Schultz for approval on the approach. Dahl also asked why the board approved the change in the conditional use permit for Wild Prairie Pork, and why residents near the farm weren’t notified. Dahl did some research with the State water Commission and Wild Prairie Pork does not have a permit. The State Water Commission only knew of the well dug in November 8, 2022 through well logs submitted by the well digger companies. Dahl stated anyone who uses over four million gallons a year needs a permit through the State Water Commission. Discussion was had. Schwab moved, seconded by Olerud to not sign the conditional use permit, and contact the State Water Commission for details on water usage, and if they need to be metered. All aye. Motion carried.

Fallon Kelly – States Attorney will let the attorney for Wild Prairie Pork know the board isn’t going to sign the conditional use permit at this time. Greg Schwab will contact the State Water Commission.

State’s Attorney Fallon Kelly – appeared before the board. The board asked for updates on the case with Lynn Gonzalez. Kelly let the board know he isn’t a part of the case with Gonzalez as he doesn’t specialize in unemployment law. Kelly tried to get NDIRF to represent the county in the case against Gonzalez however, NDIRF declined as this is not a service they cover. Kelly let the board know he had been working with Sheriff Benneweis, Deputy Janelle Mairs, and Auditor Nicole Gentzkow before Gonzalez was terminated. The board asked Kelly to reach out to Michelle Donarski from ABST who is representing the county against Gonzalez, so he is in the loop.

Scott Smyth – appeared before the board to let them know the DOT has increased the amount of funding Ransom County will get on the Anslem Bridge. The county will now only be responsible for twenty percent of the Anslem Bridge, roughly $250,000. The board asked Smyth to change the Englevale Road to a mill and overlay project. Smyth also brought the contract for the Fox Farm Bridge. The contract is an hourly contract with KLJ. KLJ will begin working on easements once the contract is signed. The Fox Farm Bridge is scheduled to be bid in fall of 2023.

Adam Schultz – appeared before the board to let them know he has gotten $13,000 - $15,000 in insurance claims for windows and a face plate on the motor graders. Schultz also let the board know that his first meeting as interim highway super intendent was fuel/propane bid opening. Lux from the former Lisbon Oil contacted Schultz letting him know the LP tanks at all the shops are owned by CHS and Lisbon Oil got the bid. Schultz looked back at the bid opening folder and found a bid from CHS and Lisbon Oil, the CHS bid was dated March 15, 2023 over a month before the Lisbon Oil Bid. At the original bid opening the board was informed there were no fuel bids, so a motion was made to call for fuel bids again. Schultz will look into the bids more and get back to the board. Schultz also suggested the county purchase their own tanks so they can use who ever is cheaper on the day they need LP. Schultz would like the board to consider building two new shops on off HWY 27 and the corner of Fort Ransom and one of HWY 27 and the Sheldon/Milnor corner. Schultz also let the board know he was contacted by Mike Mund who wants to put a dike on his property to get the water to flow in the ditches going north to the Milnor drain. The Board advised Schultz to send Mund to the waterboard. Schultz also let the board know he looked into ELDT training for CDL license the cost to get a CDL is $3800 for class A & B but an additional $2200 for hazmat and doubles. The training is one week online or hands on training and forty hours of theory at a facility. Schultz is wondering if the county were to pay for a new employee to get a CDL would there be a contract stating they had to work for the county for X number of years? Schultz also gave an update on the training through RDO in Coles, IL Jamie had quoted the training incorrectly it cost $1500 per day; however, Jamie was able to get the price down to $1000 per day, per guy, per machine. RDO would take care of half the hotel cost and all other travel expenses, if the board decides to commit to the training. The training wraps up in the end of October for the year so the board needs to make a decision if they want to send four guys this year. Load pass was also discussed, Schultz would be in favor of Ransom County participating in load pass. Schultz also discussed wages; he is struggling to find anyone to fill the opening at the highway department. Schultz stated other counties around Ransom are increasing the highway departments wages only to help fill vacancies.

Shelly Schwab, recorder and Bea Roach, clerk of court – appeared before the board to discuss Shelly Schwab taking over marriage license, passports, and DD214’s. Bishop moved, seconded by Olerud to allow Schwab to take over marriage license, passports, and DD214’s at the 1st of 2024. All aye. Motion carried.

RSR Board – Connie Gilbert had asked Lynn Flieth if the RSR Board would be willing to move to the Olson Accounting building if the county were to purchase the building. Flieth let Gilbert know it is up the county where the RSR board is located however, they are comfortable where they are and would like to stay if possible.

Shared sick leave request – a request for shared sick leave was asked for by an employee, per the policy the board must approve before the request is sent out to employees to donate leave. Bishop moved, seconded by Schwab to approve the shared sick leave request. Olerud abstained from the vote. All aye. Motion carried.

South East Water Users – submitted a permit to bore along with the appropriate fee. Olerud moved, seconded by Schwab. All aye. Motion carried.

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| County Highway 134 |
| Hanson Township |
| 28NW + 21SW |

An alcohol and beverage permit was submitted to the county, after looking at the permit it should have gone to Cass County for approval.

Treasurer Cash Trial balance was reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Gilbert to move $400,000 out of county nurse special to equipment and improvement. All aye. Motion carried.

Schwab moved, seconded by Biship to give a 5% COLA, along with one step, and insurance coverage at the same rate as 2023 for the 2024 preliminary budget. All aye. Motion carried.

Being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Gilbert adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

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Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission