RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – June 6, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Connie Gilbert. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Joe Mathern, Neil Olerud, Kevin Bishop, Greg Schwab, and Connie Gilbert. Also present: Heid Engquist, Shelly Schwab, Tiffany Bunn, Bea Roach, Kathie Erickson, Nickela Runck, Jenna Hieggelke, Jenna Olerud, Brenna Welton, Darla Haecherl, Lonnie Rotenberger, Kirsten Gilbert, Joe Wisnewski, Ron Carlson, and Terry Thompson.

Agenda - Was reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Olerud to approve the agenda with additions. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes – From the previous regular scheduled meeting on May 16, 2023 were reviewed. Bishop made the motion to approve with corrections. Mathern seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Commissioners Audit Listing – were reviewed in the amount of $114,871.98. Bishop moved, seconded by Olerud to approve commissioners audit listing for the amount of $114,871.98. All aye. Motion carried.

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| **Vendor Name** | **Amount** |  |
| A W DIESEL SERVICE  | 453.09 |  |
| ABUSE RESOURCE NETWORK  | 1,500.00 |  |
| ADVANCED ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL  | 70.50 |  |
| AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS  | 211.18 |  |
| ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES  | 492.64 |  |
| BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER  | 85.00 |  |
| BUNN, MIKE  | 23.58 |  |
| CAMAS SAND & GRAVEL  | 7,905.61 |  |
| CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  | 36.00 |  |
| CASUAL LIVING  | 42.00 |  |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 2,333.96 |  |
| DAKOTA PLAINS AG- GWINNER  | 22.97 |  |
| DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS  | 80.00 |  |
| DICK, CHRISTY  | 650.00 |  |
| DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC.  | 671.88 |  |
| FAT MAN TRASH  | 210.00 |  |
| GALLAGHER, RANDY  | 116.10 |  |
| GILBERT, CONNIE  | 146.11 |  |
| GILBERT, SCOTT  | 11.80 |  |
| GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 1,014.43 |  |
| GREEN IRON EQUIPMENT  | 239.65 |  |
| INTERCOMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY  | 75.00 |  |
| JOHN DEERE CREDIT  | 40,354.98 |  |
| KELLY, FALLON M.  | 767.69 |  |
| LESMEISTER GRAVEL  | 3,762.90 |  |
| LISBON BODY SHOP  | 150.00 |  |
| LISBON OIL COMPANY  | 15,432.08 |  |
| LISBON POSTMASTER  | 240.00 |  |
| LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 400.63 |  |
| MARCO  | 405.54 |  |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS  | 600.81 |  |
| MARCO TECHNOLOGIES, LLC  | 132.50 |  |
| MIDWEST MANAGEMENT,INC.  | 500.00 |  |
| MLGC  | 569.88 |  |
| NAPA PARTS SUPPLY-LISBON  | 45.44 |  |
| NEWMAN SIGNS  | 1,284.63 |  |
| OHNSTAD TWICHELL, PC  | 126.50 |  |
| QUAL, ANGELA  | 250.00 |  |
| RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE  | 924.92 |  |
| RDO EQUIPMENT CO.- MOORHEAD  | 30,000.00 |  |
| RDO EQUIPMENT-LISBON  | 217.78 |  |
| RECORD KEEPERS, LLC  | 37.50 |  |
| RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  | 1,000.00 |  |
| SKRAMSTAD, RONDA  | 210.00 |  |
| STURDEVANT'S INC  | 256.67 |  |
| TITAN MACHINERY  | 24.40 |  |
| TRUENORTH STEEL  | 339.88 |  |
| WELTON,LAINEY  | 80.00 |  |
| WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE  | 65.75 |  |
| WILTSE,CAYLA  | 300.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | **114,871.98** |  |

Manual Warrants – In the amount of $17,342.62 were reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the manual warrants in the amount of $17,342.62. All aye. Motion carried.

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| **Vendor Name** | **Amount** |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 46.43 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 163.57 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 16.00 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 40.16 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 68.08 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 62.50 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 47.00 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 46.56 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 430.72 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 1,695.42 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS | 181.78 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 258.09 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 7.77 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS | 54.77 |
| MARCO | 137.38 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 137.38 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 33.30 |
| MARCO | 151.98 |
| MARCO | 5.00 |
| MARCO | 198.35 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 46.69 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 1.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 46.40 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 59.94 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 59.98 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 5,357.59 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 329.10 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 379.65 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 404.89 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 478.31 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 149.90 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 11.25 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 164.90 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 967.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 97.66 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 27.71 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 42.45 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -57.45 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 0.35 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 7.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 8.28 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 4.01 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.63 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -2.63 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -4.01 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -0.35 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -8.28 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.58 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.25 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 34.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 29.42 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -16.09 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 25.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 16.49 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 13.65 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 52.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 132.56 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 16.39 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 55.85 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 81.96 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 66.97 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 76.90 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 79.46 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 14.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 14.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 42.37 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 42.37 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 99.82 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 94.75 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 94.75 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 34.92 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 531.17 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 48.67 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 176.80 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 83.53 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 56.95 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.95 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -10.95 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 157.97 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 1.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -1.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -157.97 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 5.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 53.88 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 59.92 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 37.96 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 59.84 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 101.88 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.73 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 11.88 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 33.96 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 22.96 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 13.48 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 15.19 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 23.90 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 99.95 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 8.12 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -8.12 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 49.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.79 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 29.69 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.74 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 31.96 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 34.32 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 16.52 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 16.52 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.52 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.52 |
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| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.52 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 13.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 13.98 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 5.68 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 5.68 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.12 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 4.78 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 157.97 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 157.97 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 1.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -1.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 40.01 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 599.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 7.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 29.59 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.83 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 10.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.53 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 0.59 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 9.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.46 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.19 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 6.89 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 19.55 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 7.87 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | -7.87 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 3.71 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 42.84 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 2.84 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 14.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 0.59 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 11.13 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 0.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 11.91 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 3.00 |
| MARCO | 198.35 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 211.92 |
| MARCO | 165.19 |
|   |  |
| **Total:** | **17,342.62** |

Randy Gallagher – Came before the board and let them know he got the discounted checks back from Workface Safety. Gallagher also let the board know he would like to clean the tile in the bathroom like Public Health had done in the past. Mathern also mentioned that the courthouse steps should be redone. Gallagher will get estimates for both.

Brian Zimprich – Zimprich came before the board to introduce his new hire in the NDSU Extension Office, Samantha Weidner. She will be working with family and community wellness programs.

Gaming Permits – Riding for dreams gaming permit has been submitted with the appropriate fee. Olerud made the motion to approve the permit, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

Lisbon Fire Department – Submitted a gaming site authorization permit with the appropriate fee. Bishop made a motion to approve. Mathern seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

NDSU Donation – NDSU Aging in the community submitted a thank you letter for the donation they had received.

10:00 a.m. Equalization – At 10:00 a.m., the regular scheduled commission was recessed. The county equalization meeting was brought to order and turned over to Tax Director Teresa Haecherl. See attachment for equalization changes.

Haecherl let the board know that she has changes in the city of Lisbon from what they approved with non-buildable lots. They approved obsolescence lots that have no curb, gutter, and sewer by giving residents 25% off. She is still working on the increases and decreases.

Island Park Township – The township had approved a 100% reduction for the Fox Farm bridge residents for the land and the houses. Haecheral did not agree with the 100% reduction for Fox Farm for their land and houses, and would like the commission to reverse it. Haecheral stated that the residents have access, are living in their houses, and are getting a new bridge. They did a reassessment on Island Park township 2 years ago, they excluded Fox Farm because of the bridge issue. Ron Carlson had asked for the 100% reduction as they felt they were not getting anywhere with the county. Terry Thompson stated they can’t get any services back there. Carlson along with other residents have purchased a propane truck and serviced themselves. Haecherl does not agree with the 100% reduction for all structures and land. As far as Terry Thompsons house, she put a $5000-dollar vacant exemption, but his shop should not be exempt. She had suggested a 25% reduction for the Fox Farm properties.

Olerud made a motion to make a 25% reduction on all houses back there, zero on any land. If they don’t agree they can go to the state and let the state decide. Mathern seconded. Discussion was had. Schwab does not agree with Thompsons exemption as he is not living there. Haecherl can do the $5000 dollar for vacant and will re-assess. Roll Call: Mathern- yes, Olerud- yes, Bishop- no, Schwab-no, and Gilbert- no. Motion died.

Bishop made a motion to leave ag land as is. Terry Thompsons house $5000 vacant property, and 25% reduction on everything else, not just houses. Olerud Seconded. Roll call: Gilbert- yes, Schwab-yes, Bishop-yes, Olerud-yes, and Mathern-yes. Motion passed.

Farmers - Haecherl did not receive one income sheet. This farmer will have to go to residential and be put on the tax roll. The last day to except any farm exemptions was June 6, 2023.

Ag Land Ratio – NDSU Ag Land is at 983.34 100% tolerance for the state. The county is at 862.57 which is below tolerance at 87.72%, but they don’t have to be at 100%. The county did not increase last year, but they will have to this year.

Schwab made a motion to go to 94% tolerance. Seconded by Bishop. Discussion was had, and Joe would like to see 95% (8.30 increase) instead of 94%. Roll call: Mathern-no, Olerud-no, Bishop-no, Schwab-yes, and Gilbert-no. Motion died.

Mathern made a motion to go to 95%. Olerud seconded. Roll call: Gilbert-yes, Schwab-no, Bishop-yes, Olerud-yes, and Mathern-yes. Motion carried at 95%.

Commercial – Haecherl looked at her sales ratio study and took sixteen sales from 2019, five from 2020, six from 2021, and fourteen from 2022. The average is coming at 100.3% which needs to go down for commercial since they are over 100%. Haecherl recommends going to a 96% decrease, which is a 4.3% reduction.

Olerud made a motion to use Haecherls recommendations of 96%. Mathern seconded. Discussion was had. Roll call: Mathern-yes, Olerud-yes, Bishop-yes, Schwab-yes, and Gilbert-yes. Motion passed.

The county would like to re-assess ADM sunflower plant.

Residential – Currently the residential is sitting at 91.5% and Haecherl recommends going to a 95% with a 3.5% increase.

Olerud made a motion on Haecherls recommendation of the 95% on residential. Bishop seconded. Discussion was had. Roll call: Mathern-yes, Olerud-yes, Bishop-yes, Schwab-yes, and Gilbert-yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was had about the city of Elliot.

Florian Wisnewski – Purchased five commercial lots for $80,000 and is disputing the 2021 increase evaluation that had went up from $2500 to $48,900. Haecherl, has it reduced this year because of the 25% off for obsolescence.

Bishop made a motion to go with Haecherls current assessment. Mathern seconded. Roll call: Gilbert-yes, Schwab-no, Bishop-yes, Olerud-yes, Mathern-yes. Motion carried.

Equalization ended at 11:48 a.m.

Commission meeting was back in session at 12:00 p.m.

Kirsten Gilbert – Emergency Manager Kirsten Gilbert appeared before the board to provide updates with her office. The State Homeland Security grant did not get approved for keyless entries for the courthouse, but they did approve to have the cameras updated. Gilbert brought up spring flooding and how the governor requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration, Ransom County was included in the request. Gilbert would like a program to enter the future snow bill information to make things easier for the next go around. Gilbert is working with the sheriff’s office and the schools on a table top exercise for active shooters. Gilbert and Sheriff Benneweis would still like to use Everbridge instead of Code Red.

Mathern made a motion of Gilberts recommendation to let Gilbert and Sheriff Benneweis make decisions and to use Everbridge. Seconded by Olerud. All aye. Motion carried.

Nickela Runck – The road crew went to summer hours which are four ten-hour days. Highway secretary Doris Miller also adjusted her hours so she is there when the road crew department is. Miller submitted her holiday pay for five hours instead of four since she switched her hours around to make up that extra hour she normally would work. The board agreed and Miller will receive five hours of holiday pay.

Third of July – There was discussion about the courthouse being closed to the public the third of July due to the Fourth of July being on a Tuesday this year.

Bishop made a motion to have the courthouse closed the third of July this year 2023. If the employee wants; they can work, take vacation, or use their compensation time. Mathern seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32

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Ransom County Deputy Auditor Ransom County Commission