Ransom County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting – December 19, 2023

The meeting was call to order by chairman Kevin Bishop at 10:15 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Joe Mathern, Connie Gilbert, Greg Schwab, and Kevin Bishop. Absent: Olerud.

Greg Schwab addressed the board that he has been in contact with Aaron Birst from NDACo and if two or more commissioners discuss business outside of the commission, they are breaking Open Records laws and Roberts Rules. Birst let Schwab know that it is not ethical for outside business/decisions to be made by two or three commissioners. If this sort of business continues to happen Birst let Schwab know he can assist him in pursuing this with the Attorney General’s office.

Agenda – was reviewed. Mathern asked for the 911 tower to be added to the agenda. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the agenda with the addition. All aye. Motion carried.

Olerud arrived at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes – from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on December 5, 2023 were reviewed. Schwab moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the December 5, 2023 minutes. All aye. Motion carried.

Bills- were reviewed in the amount of $93,875.60. Gilbert moved to approve the bills in the amount of $93,875.60, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

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| ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES  | 98.44 |
| ASCHE, HOLLIE  | 65.50 |
| BURNS, MICHAEL J.; ARCHITECT  | 4,497.50 |
| CARDINAL HEALTH 110, INC.  | 16,221.95 |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 10,826.97 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY  | 2,945.00 |
| DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS  | 64.00 |
| DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC.  | 4,109.71 |
| EDISON, HEATHER  | 120.00 |
| ESSENTIA HEALTH  | 25.00 |
| FFF ENTERPRISES  | 15,033.72 |
| GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 241.54 |
| HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.  | 133.45 |
| HEGLE, KELSEY  | 98.92 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  | 1,907.90 |
| JONES, CHELSEY  | 26.20 |
| KLJ ENGINEERING LLC  | 20,725.36 |
| LANGLAND,MARIA  | 50.00 |
| LARSON, MEGHAN  | 123.18 |
| LESMEISTER GRAVEL  | 9,467.43 |
| LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 67.23 |
| MEDTOX LABORATORIES, INC.  | 11.82 |
| NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  | 450.00 |
| ND POST BOARD  | 150.00 |
| NDAAEA  | 75.00 |
| OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL-1250  | 1,350.00 |
| OLERUD, SCOTT  | 120.00 |
| QUILL CORPORATION  | 40.17 |
| RANSOM COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION  | 450.00 |
| RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE  | 207.40 |
| REINKE, JOSEPH  | 292.90 |
| RUNCK, NICKELA  | 30.00 |
| SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT  | 536.07 |
| SHOP 'N FUEL  | 75.00 |
| TITAN MACHINERY  | 47.80 |
| TOBACCO FREE NORTH DAKOTA  | 2,000.00 |
| TRIZETTO PROVIDER SOLUTIONS  | 379.20 |
| WELTON, BRENNA  | 505.99 |
| WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE  | 111.75 |
| WEX HEALTH, INC.  | 58.50 |
| WILTSE,CAYLA  | 135.00 |
| Total | 93,875.60 |

Randy Gallaher – appeared before the board to discuss added security for the social service/VSO building. Gallagher got a quote from DRN to put the fob system on the front and back door for the social service/VSO building and it came in at $6,644.62. Schwab asked Gallagher to look for a grant to help cover the cost of adding the fob system to that building. Mathern moved, to add extra security through the door fob system to the social service/VSO building. Mathern would like to see grant options looked into. However, if no grant go ahead with the DRN quote and get it done. Schwab seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

Liquor Pigs – turned in two local gaming permits along with the appropriate fee. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve the permits. All aye. Motion carried.

Kirsten Gilbert – appeared before the board along with a representative from the National Weather Service. The gentleman from the National Weather Service wanted to recognize the hard work of Ransom County’s Emergency Manager Kirsten Gilbert. K. Gilbert has completed the courses for Ransom County to be recognized as “Storm Ready” Gilbert was presented with an award.

Scott Smyth – with KLJ appeared before the board and let them know he is working with Dwight Krueger on right of way for land next to the Anslem Bridge. Smyth let the board know that the Anslem bridge is scheduled to be removed in the middle of May 2024. The slope project is estimated to be completed by September 2025. Smyth also let the board know he got estimates for the lagoon road and 130th ave/county road 6 if they are selected by the DOT as “haul roads” the county would be responsible for 20% of the project cost. Smyth quoted $750,000 with the county responsibility $200,0000 for the lagoon road and 130th ave/county road 6. This would made both roads 28ft wide, the cost includes construction, engineering, and everything needed. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve the “haul” roads with the county paying 20%. All aye. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension – Brian Zimprich, Samantha Weidner, and Lesley Lubenow appeared before the board to discuss NDSU Extension needing to go on the ballot in 2024. Discussion was had.

Pay study – was discussed. Mathern moved, seconded by Olerud to appoint Greg Schwab, Nicole Gentzkow, and Heather Bergemann to the pay study committee. The committee will review applications, resumes, and determine a starting wage based off the pay study and the employees experience. All aye. Motion carried.

Handbook – was discussed. Everything looked good, except the day after Thanksgiving needs to be added to paid days off. Gentzkow will contact Cathy Heidt to get corrected. The handbook will be discussed at the next department head meeting.

911 building – was discussed. Mathern had a quote for a 14 x 20 building. Kirsten Gilbert, emergency manager suggested having everyone who has equipment in the building involved so no needs are missed if a new building gets built. Gilbert will look into who charges rent for entities housing equipment in the 911 building, and the amount of rent. Olerud suggested using a storage container versus building a new building. Olerud will look into cost of storage containers.

Olerud misc – Olerud got a complaint that the county is paying for all the bills that are published in the paper each month. All bills are required to be published in the paper per century code. Olerud also received a complaint that wages are not in the paper.

Being nothing further to come before the board, Chairman Bishop adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission