**RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Regular Meeting – August 6, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin Bishop at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Joe Mathern, Connie Gilbert, Neil Olerud, Greg Schwab and Kevin Bishop. Along with Auditor Nicole Gentzkow.

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

Minutes – from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on July 16, 2024 were reviewed. Mathern moved, seconded by Schwab to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Adam Schultz arrived at 9:15 a.m.

Manual Warrants – from June were reviewed. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the June manual warrants in the amount of $28,786.01. All Aye. Motion carried.

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| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 202.14 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 42.18 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 48.38 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 274.59 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 344.92 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 5.00 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 23,841.79 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 66.50 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 39.50 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 176.00 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 16.00 |
| MARCO | 211.16 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 303.86 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 23.38 |
| MARCO | 118.50 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 162.22 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 631.57 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 10.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 250.57 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 1,014.26 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 44.69 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 107.58 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 38.69 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS | 167.48 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 381.89 |
| BELL BANK | 58.59 |
| BELL BANK | 26.41 |
| BELL BANK | 50.16 |
| BELL BANK | 78.00 |
| BELL BANK | 20.00 |
| **Total** | **28,786.01** |

Manual warrants from July were reviewed. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve July manual warrants in the amount of $21.131.79. All aye. Motion carried.

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| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 461.83 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 243.17 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 39.50 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 172.68 |
| MARCO | 211.16 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 50.88 |
| MARCO | 162.22 |
| MARCO | 303.86 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 18.90 |
| MARCO | 2.48 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 66.50 |
| BELL BANK | 47.62 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 36.62 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 80.90 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER CO | 39.34 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 40.32 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 5.00 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 48.14 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 248.20 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 47.18 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 164.61 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 119.53 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS | 60.44 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 631.57 |
| MARCO TECH- ST LOUIS | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 128.50 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 17,670.64 |
| Total | **21,131.79** |

Brandy Rolland for Fallon Kelly’s office arrived at 9:30 a.m. along with Kirsten Gilbert, Emergency Manager.

Commission Audit Listing – in the amount of $105,331.48 was reviewed. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the commission audit listing for $105,331.48. All aye. Motion carried.

Randy Gallagher arrived at 9:50 a.m.

Adam Schultz – highway superintendent appeared before the board to discuss the upcoming lease. Schultz let the board know he got a rough quote from RDO and new machines are coming in around the $450,000 price range. The blade that was just turned in had $17,000 worth of damage, Schultz went up to RDO and negotiated and got $3500 taken off of the $17,000 damage repair bill. Discussion was had. The board told Schultz to have the bid for a new blade written for a lease or purchase option. Schultz also let the board know he has quotes back from Riverside on the new outshops. The Sheldon outshop which is going to be 40 x 60 quote came in at $65,144.57 for just materials. The Fort Ransom/Engelvale shop came in at $96,434.40 for a 50 x 70. Schultz is still working with Neil Walton on trying to get land to put the Fort Ransom/Engelvale Shop at the corner of HWY 27 and the Fort Ransom corner. Schwab moved, seconded by Mathern to get bids for materials and construction for the Sheldon shop. All aye. Motion carried.

Road Haul Agreement – State’s Attorney Fallon Kelly had sent a copy of the road haul agreement Ransom County put in place in 2007 to Adam Schultz, the commissioners, and auditor Nicole Gentzkow, discussion was had. The board would like to see all gravel pit owners sign the road haul agreement.

Kirsten Gilbert – Emergency manager appeared before the board to discuss what was approved through the homeland security grant. Kirsten Gilbert let the board know that the camera upgrades and the keyless entry system for the social service building and the old county shop had been approved. However, the lighting system for the courthouse grounds had not been approved. However, Kirsten Gilbert did mention the lighting has been brought up on multiple threat assessments the county has had, including the most recent one with Kenneth Griechen from Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Mathern moved, seconded by Schwab to go ahead with the exterior lighting for safety and security of the courthouse. All aye. Motion carried. Kirsten Gilbert let the board know the keyless entry system install will be starting in the next few days and will take roughly thirty days for install. Kirsten Gilbert also asked the board for access to a master key so when individuals who have one are not around, she can let Electro Watchman into rooms they need access for installing the keyless entry system.

Scott Smyth – with KLJ appeared before the board to let them know that the beams were delivered for the Fox Farm Bridge. The concrete decking will be being poured in the next couple of days, and everything is going as planned. Anslem bridge has run into a hiccup, they found a giant concrete structure twenty to twenty-five feet below the road where one of the pilings is suppose to go. Currently KLJ is working with ND DOT bridge department on a redesign to see what can be done. As of right now the changes will roughly cost an additional forty to fifty thousand dollars for redesign and change order. The haul road 130th Ave was discussed, the board decided to hold off at this time.

Darren Benneweis – sheriff appeared before the board to ask permission for out of state travel. Benneweis is planning to attend a CJIS conference in Pittsburg, PA August 20-23, 2024. Benneweis let the board know that the majority of the cost would be paid for by CJIS. Schwab moved, seconded by Gilbert to allow Benneweis to go to Pittsburg. All aye. Motion carried.

A utility permit was submitted by DRN along with the appropriate fees. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the DRN utility permit. All aye. Motion carried.

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| County Highway Number: | 54 |
| Township: | T134 and T133 N of R54W |
| Sections:  | T134N (9,16,21,28,33)T133N (4,9,16,21,28,33) |

Motor Vehicle Contract – is up for renewal July 1, 2025 for another 5 years if the board would like. Kathie Erickson recommended renewing the contract. Mathern moved, seconded by Olerud to renew the contact. All aye. Motion carried.

With nothing further to come before the board they adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

ATTEST:

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Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission