RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – September 17, 2024

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

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

Minutes: from previous regular scheduled commission meeting on September 3, 2024 were reviewed. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to approve the commission minutes from September 3, 2024 as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Commission Audit Listing- in the amount of $35,000 were reviewed. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the $35,000. Mathern, Gilbert, Schwab, and Bishop were in favor and Olerud approved under protest. All aye. Motion carried.

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| 13462 | 9/11/2024 | VOGEL LAW FIRM | 35,000.00 |
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|  |  | Total | 35,000.00 |

Commission Audit Listing- in the amount of $373,568.27 was considered. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern to approve the bills in the amount of $373,568.27. All aye. Motion carried.

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| 9745 | 9/19/2024 | ASCHE, HOLLIE | 192.43 |
| 9746 | 9/19/2024 | GILBERT, KIRSTEN | 394.00 |
| 9747 | 9/19/2024 | HEGLE, KELSEY | 121.27 |
| 9748 | 9/19/2024 | JONES, CHELSEY | 26.80 |
| 9749 | 9/19/2024 | LARSON, MEGHAN | 133.36 |
| 9750 | 9/19/2024 | WELTON, BRENNA | 271.00 |
| 9751 | 9/19/2024 | WILTSE,CAYLA | 343.93 |
| 9752 | 9/19/2024 | ZIMPRICH, BRIAN | 157.29 |
| 13504 | 9/19/2024 | BEAR CREEK GRAVEL | 3,549.15 |
| 13505 | 9/19/2024 | CAMAS SAND & GRAVEL | 925.05 |
| 13506 | 9/19/2024 | CARDINAL HEALTH 110, INC. | 34,261.91 |
| 13507 | 9/19/2024 | CHAMP SOFTWARE, INC. | 14,081.00 |
| 13508 | 9/19/2024 | COMPUTER EXPRESS | 7,057.94 |
| 13509 | 9/19/2024 | COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY | 3,031.00 |
| 13510 | 9/19/2024 | CROSSROADS ELECTRIC, INC | 103.12 |
| 13511 | 9/19/2024 | D. EXCAVATING | 10,490.00 |
| 13512 | 9/19/2024 | DAKOTA PLAINS AG- GWINNER | 182.00 |
| 13513 | 9/19/2024 | DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS | 56.00 |
| 13514 | 9/19/2024 | DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC. | 1,488.34 |
| 13515 | 9/19/2024 | FLOWERS ETC. | 75.00 |
| 13516 | 9/19/2024 | GILBERT, SHANE & MELISSA | 600.00 |
| 13517 | 9/19/2024 | GORDY'S GRILL & FILL | 20.00 |
| 13518 | 9/19/2024 | HEFTY SEED COMPANY | 5,231.88 |
| 13519 | 9/19/2024 | HOENHAUSE, JODY | 1,533.64 |
| 13520 | 9/19/2024 | HUETHER,SCOTT | 1,791.67 |
| 13521 | 9/19/2024 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. | 2,119.20 |
| 13522 | 9/19/2024 | INTERCOMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY | 75.00 |
| 13523 | 9/19/2024 | KLJ ENGINEERING LLC | 77,512.37 |
| 13524 | 9/19/2024 | LESMEISTER GRAVEL | 155,194.60 |
| 13525 | 9/19/2024 | LISBON POSTMASTER | 110.00 |
| 13526 | 9/19/2024 | MAIRS, RICK & JULIE | 300.00 |
| 13527 | 9/19/2024 | NAPA PARTS SUPPLY-LISBON | 349.99 |
| 13528 | 9/19/2024 | NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE-7510 | 15,824.93 |
| 13529 | 9/19/2024 | NORTHERN IMPROVEMENT CO | 4,116.68 |
| 13530 | 9/19/2024 | PLAINS GRAIN & AGRONOMY LLC | 3,140.25 |
| 13531 | 9/19/2024 | RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE | 565.48 |
| 13532 | 9/19/2024 | RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO | 150.58 |
| 13533 | 9/19/2024 | RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT | 1,675.81 |
| 13534 | 9/19/2024 | RIVERSIDE BUILDING CENTER | 138.36 |
| 13535 | 9/19/2024 | SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT | 1,198.20 |
| 13536 | 9/19/2024 | STARION BOND SERVICES | 20,133.75 |
| 13537 | 9/19/2024 | TANYA WIELER | 3,000.00 |
| 13538 | 9/19/2024 | THOMPSON,TERRY | 358.33 |
| 13539 | 9/19/2024 | TRIZETTO PROVIDER SOLUTIONS | 97.71 |
| 13540 | 9/19/2024 | TRUENORTH STEEL | 191.30 |
| 13541 | 9/19/2024 | WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE | 234.95 |
| 13542 | 9/19/2024 | WEX HEALTH, INC. | 63.00 |
| 13543 | 9/19/2024 | WOOD, LARRY & DONNA | 900.00 |
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|  |  | Total | 373,568.27 |

Chester & Michelle Lueck appeared before the board to discuss two delinquent properties. Lueck’s had received all seven statements in one envelope but per Michelle Lueck only looked at page one. Page one was a totals page stating it included 5 parcels, also in the same envelope was an addition two parcels not included on the totals page. Lueck did not look at any page except page one and only paid the total listed on page one of the totals page. Per NDCC 57-20-07.1, #2, that “Failure of an owner to receive a statement will not relieve that owner of liability, nor extend the discount privilege past the February fifteenth deadline”.  The commission does not have the authority to remove penalties or interest due to late payment.

**Preliminary Budget Hearing at 10:00 A.M.**

Steve Kensinger, Jamie Thoennes, Jerry Hanson, Joe Holmgren, and Teresa Sorby Rottenberger arrived for the preliminary budget hearing. Joe Holmgren asked what the reason for increase in valuation was and just curious on budget increases. Sorby Rottenberger asked for copy of the budget, and about bills being published in the paper. Valuations were increased due to the new tiered acres system the state wants the tax office using. Budget increases came due to inflation of everything, gravel, machinery, technology, wages, benefits, etc.

Adam Schultz- highway superintendent appeared before the board to discuss Kristie Reinke his part time highway secretary getting sick/vacation/ and holiday pay. Discussion was had the board asked Schultz to check with Tanya Weiler the counties HR consultant. Schultz also let the board know Schroeder is getting closer to being done with the new Fox Farm Bridge. Schultz is going to keep in touch with Schroeder so as soon as the bridge is done the temporary access road will be removed.

Motor Grader Bid Award- John Deere submitted a bid for a 2025 John Deere 772G with premium circle for $460,000 or 2025 John Deere 772G without premium circle for $455,000. Schultz recommended to the board to go with the premium circle. Olerud moved, seconded by Gilbert to accept the bid for the machine with premium circle at $460,000. All aye. Motion carried. The machine should be delivered in late March or early April of 2025.

Scott Smyth appeared before the board to let them know they are still waiting on the McRitchie Bridge Adoption before any progress can go forward. Smyth also let the board know the old Fox Farm Bridge belongs to Schroeder Construction, they will have to remove that.

Grant Dick – appeared before the board at 11:10 a.m. to discuss the change in valuation to his rural property.

Gentzkow presented a MOU for Public Health from Brenna Welton. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud to allow Bishop to sign the MOU.

Stiklestead turned in an off-site alcohol permit along with the appropriate fee. Olerud moved, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

Good Shepherd WELCA turned in a local gaming permit along with the appropriate fee. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mathern. All aye. Motion carried.

Sheyenne Braves 4H Club – turned in a local gaming permit along with the appropriate fee. Gilbert moved, seconded by Olerud. Mathern, Olerud, Gilbert, and Bishop were in favor. Schwab abstained. Motion carried.

General Election – Gentzkow asked the board to approve the judges and inspectors she appoints based on the democrat and republican parties and to approve 9:00 a.m. – 7 p.m. polling hours on November 5, 2024. Mathern seconded the motion. All aye. Motion carried.

With nothing further to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. by Chair Kevin Bishop.

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| 9753 | 9/27/2024 | ND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM | 31,458.95 |
| 9754 | 9/27/2024 | NDPERS,GROUP LIFE INSURANCE | 717.22 |
| 9755 | 9/27/2024 | OFFICE OF STATE TAX COMMISSIONER | 974.00 |
| 13544 | 9/27/2024 | ASSURITY | 390.22 |
| 13545 | 9/27/2024 | BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NORTH DAKOTA | 49,193.60 |
| 13546 | 9/27/2024 | COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE | 320.96 |
| 13547 | 9/27/2024 | COMPANION LIFE | 2,603.68 |
| 13548 | 9/27/2024 | NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS,PEBSCO | 10,574.30 |
| 13549 | 9/27/2024 | UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA | 378.72 |
| 13550 | 9/27/2024 | WEX HEALTH, INC. | 1,465.17 |
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|  |  | Total | 98,076.82 |