iRANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – May 6, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greg Schwab at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Todd Anderson, Neil Olerud, Sye Olson, Kevin Bishop, and Greg Schwab. Along with Auditor Nicole Gentzkow, and Lynn Kaspari from the Ransom County Gazette.

The agenda was reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Anderson to approve the additions of items in miscellaneous. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous regular scheduled commission meeting on April 15, 2025 were reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Olson to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Commission Audit Listing in the amount of $78,653.09 were reviewed. Olson moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the commission audit listing in the amount of $78,653.09. All aye. Motion carried.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14098 |  5/08/2025 | A W DIESEL SERVICE  | 504.14 |
| 14099 |  5/08/2025 | ADVANCED ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL  | 190.35 |
| 14100 |  5/08/2025 | ASSUREDPARTNERS OF MINNESOTA LLC  | 400.00 |
| 14101 |  5/08/2025 | BRUSH AND DUST PAINTING & CLEANING LLC  | 2,554.50 |
| 14102 |  5/08/2025 | COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 2,375.00 |
| 14103 |  5/08/2025 | COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY  | 3,117.00 |
| 14104 |  5/08/2025 | DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS  | 72.00 |
| 14105 |  5/08/2025 | DBS TECHNOLOGIES LLC  | 333.00 |
| 14106 |  5/08/2025 | EVERBRIDGE INC.  | 5,498.22 |
| 14107 |  5/08/2025 | FIRST MEDIC AMBULANCE  | 32,083.35 |
| 14108 |  5/08/2025 | FLOOR TO CEILING CARPENTRY & REPAIR  | 681.00 |
| 14109 |  5/08/2025 | GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 522.16 |
| 14110 |  5/08/2025 | HOLIDAY INN-FARGO  | 99.00 |
| 14111 |  5/08/2025 | HR COLLABORATIVE  | 50.00 |
| 14112 |  5/08/2025 | KOTACO  | 4,900.24 |
| 14113 |  5/08/2025 | LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 49.55 |
| 14114 |  5/08/2025 | MAIN STREET FARM AND HOME  | 74.95 |
| 14115 |  5/08/2025 | MILNOR AMBULANCE  | 3,000.00 |
| 14116 |  5/08/2025 | ND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION  | 209.50 |
| 14117 |  5/08/2025 | NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE-7510  | 14,122.63 |
| 14118 |  5/08/2025 | QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC.  | 1,916.78 |
| 14119 |  5/08/2025 | QUILL CORPORATION  | 130.25 |
| 14120 |  5/08/2025 | RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE  | 455.00 |
| 14121 |  5/08/2025 | RECORD KEEPERS, LLC  | 17.50 |
| 14122 |  5/08/2025 | RICHLAND COUNTY CORRECTIONS  | 1,105.00 |
| 14123 |  5/08/2025 | TANYA WIELER  | 3,000.00 |
| 14124 |  5/08/2025 | THE TESSMAN COMPANY  | 80.40 |
| 14125 |  5/08/2025 | TITAN MACHINERY  | 45.00 |
| 10281 |  5/08/2025 | GENTZKOW, NICOLE  | 259.00 |
| 10282 |  5/08/2025 | ZIMPRICH, BRIAN  | 807.57 |
|  |  | Total | 78,653.09 |

Manual Warrants in the amount of $28,413.92 were reviewed. Olson moved, seconded by Olerud to approve the manual warrants in the amount of $28,413.92. All aye. Motion carried.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 39.50 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 209.27 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 74.07 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 72.50 |
| LIBERTY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. | 278.99 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA | 20,153.89 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 213.79 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 50.69 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 54.00 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 46.45 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 218.82 |
| CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOP | 1,189.52 |
| LISBON, CITY OF | 16.00 |
| MARCO | 225.90 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 320.26 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 168.25 |
| MARCO | 26.00 |
| MARCO | 119.47 |
| MARCO | 10.00 |
| MARCO | 809.70 |
| MARCO | 30.00 |
| MARCO | 136.71 |
| MARCO TECH-ST LOUIS | 678.46 |
| MARCO TECH-ST LOUIS | 10.00 |
| OTTERTAIL POWER CO | 2,286.40 |
| OTTERTAIL POWER CO | 324.34 |
| OTTERTAIL POWER CO | 461.42 |
| OTTERTAIL POWER CO | 51.83 |
| OTTERTAIL POWER CO | 32.89 |
| SOUTHEAST WATER USERS | 84.80 |
| **Total** | 28,413.92 |

Gentzkow let the board know Otis Elevator came and inspected the elevator and there needs to be an active phone or a two-way communication system in the elevator for emergencies. The gentleman let the auditor’s office know that currently our elevator is not in compliance with American Society of Mechanical Engineers and they are getting stricter in the past few years. Discussion was had. Olson moved, seconded by Anderson to have Gentzkow get a quote from DRN for a phone to be installed into the elevator. All aye. Motion carried.

Budget – Gentzkow asked the board when they would like to start budget meetings. Discussion was had. The board would like to start budget meetings after the fourth of July. Budgets will go out to department heads the beginning of June and get returned to the auditor’s office by June 13, 2025.

Scott Smyth – appeared before the board to discuss the Anslem Bridge Slope project. The Army Corps of Engineers sent a letter stating the county share for the project at this time is $23,450. Once bids have been received, additional funds may be requested from Ransom County, depending on bid prices. Smyth also let the board know the Fox Farm Bridge had its final inspection. The Anslem Bridge will be closed again for the contractor to come back and pave the few spots that didn’t get done before winter. The contractor will also be reworking the gravel on the shoulder and placing the permeant guard rail.

Jamie Thoennes arrived at 9:45 for the motor grader bid opening.

**10:00 am Motor Grader Bid Opening:**

Two bids were received for the Motor Grader Bid opening. One bid was from Butler Machinery and the other from RDO. Both bids appeared to be in order. Discussion was had on if the county should purchase a new machine or buy out the lease, also on value of the current machines. Anderson moved, seconded by Olerud to table the bids and have Jamie with RDO get a trade value on all the motor graders the county currently owns. All aye. Motion carried. Schultz will review both bids to make sure they make bid specs. Bid award will be May 20, 2025 at 10:15 a.m.

Fallon Kelly arrived at 10:30 am

Aiden McCarty arrived at 10:50 am

Scott Smyth let the board know he met with Lisbon City Council member Sandy Hoff to discuss the haul road and paving Prairie View Drive. Discussion was had. The commission would like to set up a meeting with the full commission, the full city council, Fallon Kelly, Nicole Gentzkow, and Scott Smyth. The commission would like to know if the city takes any ownership of 130th avenue. If the city isn’t willing to participate in any financial responsibility of 130th avenue the county will not do any improvements as planned through the flex funding grant. Smyth let the board know a rough estimate to pave 130th avenue from highway 27 down the Will’s Road to highway 32 would be approximately $1,750,000. The Will’s Road is city/township jurisdiction, the county doesn’t feel they should take over a road that isn’t county. The county already has flex funding for a phase one which includes widening, adding six inches of gravel, and revamping the railroad crossing on 130th avenue going downs wills road to highway 32, if the city wants to participate the county could apply for a second phase to include paving the roads.

Aidan McCarty discussed doing prescribed burns within the next few days assuming the weather tolerates it. They were originally planning to burn 8000 acres the current goal is to get 2000 acres burned.

A local gaming permit was submitted along with the appropriate fee for Heart Living at Home Block Nursing Home. Olerud moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the permit. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion was had on cleaning the courthouse. A few county employees are willing to help out until a full-time person is found; however, they would like to do it after hours. Anderson moved, seconded by Olerud to allow courthouse staff to clean after hours pending Tanya Weiler approves for legality reasons. All aye. Motion carried.

North Dakota State Auditor’s submitted a change order for the 2022 – 2023 audit. Due to some additional hours that were not originally anticipated the new cost of the two-year audit will be $52,884.

Job Development was discussed. JDA met on April 16th and they did not have enough board members show up to have a quorum. Discussion was had on if they should increase the number of members or change the meeting times.

Discussion was had regarding Fallon Kelly. The board had asked him to be present for the meeting on June 2, 2025 with the City of Lisbon. Fallon had informed the board he wouldn’t be able to attend; he has the city council meeting for Enderlin. The board is frustrated that Kelly can attend other meetings he has committed to, but until recently hasn’t attended the Ransom County Commission meetings.

CPT sent the annual contract over to the board for renewal. The new contract starts August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 and will have a 3% increase annually. Olerud moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the renewal contract for CPT. All aye. Motion carried.

S/J Plumbing submitted a quote for plumbing, the quote included service work to repair toilets, supply stops, and bathroom lavatory faucets. Option 1: materials and labor to install 2 Sloan flush mate tanks for toilets, replace 20 compression supply stop which would mean having the domestic water for building shut off for a period of 3-6 hours, and repairing 4 lavatory faucets with new cartridges. Option 2: same as option #1, but instead of rebuilding lavatory faucets replace them with updated (code compliant) 4 Chicago 420T faucet with built in thermostatic mixing valve (scold or burn resistant) per plumbing code. Rate for plumber one and two $100 per plumber per hour. Plumber three rate would be $85 per hour. There is also a $1.00 per mile charge, and a 10% markup on all materials. Discussion was had. Bishop moved, seconded by Olson to approve option number two for $3000 - $3500. All aye. Motion carried.

Fallon Kelly left at 11:30 a.m.

The roll top desk sitting outside the commission room and auditor’s office was discussed. Bishop will get ahold of the Historical Society to see if they are interested. If not, the desk will be put up for bids.

Greg Schwab let the board know there would be some electrical work needed in the auditor’s office when the new front counters are installed.

Gentzkow let the board know Phil Homan from Oakes will give a quote for landscaping at the end of the month.

Anderson moved, seconded by Olson to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. All aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Nicole R. Gentzkow Greg Schwab, Chairman

Ransom County Auditor Ransom County Commission