RANSOM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting – May 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Schwab. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Todd Anderson, Sye Olson, Kevin Bishop, Greg Schwab. Absent: Neil Olerud. Also present: Auditor Nicole Gentzkow.

The agenda was reviewed. Anderson moved, seconded by Olson to approve the agenda with the addition of tax office. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the special meeting on April 11, 2025 were reviewed. Anderson moved, seconded by Olson to approve the minutes with the removal of an item discussing the tax department. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the special meeting on May 2, 2025 were reviewed. Olson moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the minutes with corrections. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the regular scheduled commission meeting on May 5, 2025 were reviewed. Olson moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the minutes as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Minutes from the special commission meeting on May 6, 2025 were reviewed. Olson moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the minutes as presented. All aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Kaspari from the Ransom County Gazette arrived at 9:16am.

Commission Audit Listing in the amount of $105,377.59 were reviewed. Bishop moved, seconded by Anderson to approve the commission audit listing in the amount of $105,377.59. All aye. Motion carried.

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| **Vendor Name** | **Amount** |
| A W DIESEL SERVICE  | 66.90 |
| AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE  | 4,631.92 |
| ASCHE, HOLLIE  | 130.20 |
| BEAR CREEK GRAVEL  | 2,223.81 |
| BRISS,MICHAELA  | 180.00 |
| BRUSH AND DUST PAINTING & CLEANING LLC  | 638.00 |
| CARDINAL HEALTH 110, INC.  | 4,520.76 |
| CASS COUNTY GOVERNMENT  | 340.00 |
| CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  | 49.00 |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS  | 4,003.95 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHOLOGY  | 3,615.00 |
| CROCKETT,OLIVIA  | 250.00 |
| DAHLSTROM FUNERAL HOME  | 372.50 |
| DAKOTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS  | 34.00 |
| DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  | 23,450.00 |
| DICKEY RURAL NETWORK INC.  | 1,210.18 |
| FAT MAN TRASH  | 220.50 |
| FFF ENTERPRISES  | 2,569.05 |
| GILBERT, KIRSTEN  | 50.00 |
| GORDY'S GRILL & FILL  | 1,918.41 |
| HEGLE, KELSEY  | 255.50 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  | 2,121.95 |
| JOHNSON, BRYAN  | 3,000.00 |
| JONES, CHELSEY  | 39.90 |
| KELLER, MALLORY  | 1,000.00 |
| KELLY, FALLON M.  | 1,611.47 |
| LARSON, MEGHAN  | 161.35 |
| LISBON POSTMASTER  | 882.00 |
| LISBON TRUE VALUE  | 61.98 |
| MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS,INC  | 400.68 |
| OFFICE OF ADJUTANT GENERAL  | 383.00 |
| PIERI,GRANT  | 250.00 |
| QUAL, ANGELA  | 250.00 |
| RANSOM COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION  | 300.00 |
| RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE  | 718.32 |
| RANSOM COUNTY SADD CHAPTER  | 500.00 |
| RDO EQUIPMENT-FARGO  | 12,177.01 |
| RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  | 3,401.62 |
| SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT  | 1,354.37 |
| STRYKER SALES, LLC  | 750.00 |
| STUTSMAN COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER  | 1,463.35 |
| TRIZETTO PROVIDER SOLUTIONS  | 90.00 |
| TRUENORTH STEEL  | 21,554.24 |
| TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC.  | 1,125.00 |
| VESTIS  | 225.37 |
| WELTON, BRENNA  | 100.00 |
| WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE  | 40.00 |
| WEX HEALTH, INC.  | 50.00 |
| WILTSE,CAYLA  | 457.80 |
| ZIMPRICH, BRIAN  | 178.50 |
|  |  |
| Total | 105,377.59 |

Neil Olerud arrived at 9:30am.

Post office boxes were discussed. The board would like to see if the Courthouse could get a box outside the building to save some money.

Shelly Schwab, Nickela Runck, Maria Langland, and Katie Erickson joined the meeting at 9:35am.

Gentzkow requested to get standup desk for courthouse employees. Vari desk is currently offering $500 off a purchase of $2000. Many offices have been interested in getting desk where the entire desk lifts up, and the current promotion is a larger savings than the 10% discount Vari typically offers the county. Gentzkow estimated that stand up desk, new chairs, and a mat would cost right around $30,000 for all offices in the building to get. Bishop moved, seconded by Olson to all county employees to get a stand-up desk, chair, and mat out of equipment and improvement. Olerud, Olson, Bishop, and Schwab were in favor. Anderson opposed. Motion passed.

Josh Differding arrived at 10:00am

**10:00 Sheldon Shop Bid Opening**

One bid was received for a wood shop from Differding Construction. Bid bond, and contractor’s license were present. Quote came in over $200,000 which requires the county to get the shop engineered. Anderson moved, seconded by Olson to table the bid and attempt to save the engineering cost. All aye. Motion carried.

Jamie Thoennes and Jeff Christianson with RDO joined the meeting at 10:03 am along with Christopher Hubrig from Butler.

**10:15 Motor Grader Bid Award**

RDO gave an appraisal price of $85,000 on the county’s spare machine. Butler gave an appraisal of $72,000 on the county’s spare machine. The board asked the representatives questions comparing the John Deere to the Butler grader. Bishop moved, seconded by Olson to reject both bids and rewrite the bid specs so the board can compare the machines on an equally. Roll call vote was taken Anderson – yes, Olson – yes, Olerud – yes, Bishop – yes, and Schwab – yes. Motion carried.

The board took a break at 10:50am

Road crew overtime was discussed. Schultz let the board know the blade operators have worked some extra hours to take advantage of the moisture.

Banking was discussed. Todd Anderson got a call from Mike Schaffer from American Bank and Trust they would like to have some more of our business. Currently the county is banking with American Bank and Trust, Stock Growers, Bremer, and Bell Bank. The county switched to Bell Bank in 2022 for the ICS checking account. Kathie Erickson, Treasurer, Nicole Gentzkow, Auditor, and Andrew Beerman, Commissioner met with checked locally and no one could offer the interest and benefits Bell could. Anderson moved, seconded by Olson to invite local Banks to send investment service packets to the board. All aye. Motion carried.

Sheriff Darren Benneweis appeared before the board to ask for approval for the k9 dog the county owns. Benneweis let the board know there was a lot of community support wanting to get a dog, the sheriff’s department has received many donations. Olerud moved, seconded by Bishop to approve the k9. All aye. Motion carried. Schwab asked Benneweis if the board can get a demonstration at an upcoming date.

Cayla Wiltse, tobacco coordinator appeared before the board to ask for permission to travel to Montana for a summer institute. The travel would all be paid for with grants. Olerud moved, seconded by Bishop to approve Wiltse to travel to Montana for an institute. All aye. Motion carried.

Fallon Kelly advised the board to get a resolution drawn up regarding SB2180. SB2180 allows for anyone in the audience to speak at the commission meeting even if not on the agenda. A resolution will help control what and how long an individual can speak.

The City of Sheldon submitted a letter to the commission to annex in PGA. The board has no objections.

American Legion Bullis submitted a gaming permit for electronic pull tab machines, along with the appropriate fee. Discussion was had. Bishop moved to approve the gaming permit. Schwab called for a second three times, motion died for lack of a second. Anderson moved, seconded by Olerud to decline the motion as Olerud’s still own the Silver Prairie Saloon. All aye. Motion carried.

The next 5 county meeting will be held in Lamoure on July 10, 2025.

The county commission will be meeting with The City of Lisbon to discuss 130th Ave on June 2, at 6pm.

The tax assessor’s office is rotating days of the week off and working four ten-hour days for the summer. Todd Anderson is the portfolio holder and he will check in with the tax office to discuss the summer hours.

JDA was discussed. The board would like to look at options of dissolving the JDA board due to not being able to get a quorum most nights. The board asked Fallon Kelly to look into this.

With nothing further to come before the board Bishop moved to adjourn at 12:40 pm, seconded by Olson. All aye Motion carried.