

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

The second regular December meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Lee. Present were Commissioners Lee, Steve Cottingham, and Barry Suydam. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson, Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen, Chief Deputy Auditor Lori Foss, Highway Superintendent Jim Grey, Building and Maintenance Supervisor Curt Malo, and Ralph Mancini of BHG News Service.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the Redistricting Board meeting from November 30, 2021, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss and Grey presented the commission with salary increase information for the proposed promotion of Joshua Eide to Equipment Operator III. The annual salary increase requested was \$50,938.63 with no increase after six months.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the promotion and salary adjustment for Joshua Eide as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey requested approval to hire an Equipment Operator II from the existing pool of Equipment Operator III applicants utilizing the under fill option.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to hire an Equipment Operator II from the existing pool of applicants. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented his department update, reporting that snow removal work continues.

Grey requested approval to purchase a 2018 Chevrolet ¾-ton pickup from McLean Sheridan Rural Water in the amount of \$26,000.00.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve purchase of the 2018 Chevrolet ¾-ton pickup from McLean Sheridan Rural Water in the amount of \$26,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented the commissioners with nine utility permit requests from WBI Energy Transmission Inc. (WBI) of Glendive, Montana. WBI is requesting an 8" steel pipeline to be trenched under the following section lines: Crossing #1 between Sections 20 and 21, Township 145 North, Range 82 West; Crossing #2 between Sections 21 and 22, Township 145 North, Range 82 West; Crossing #3 between Sections 23 and 24, Township 145 North, Range 82 West; Crossing #4 between Sections 19 and 24, Township 145 North, Range 81 West and Range 82 West; Crossing #5 between Sections 20 and 21, Township 145 North, Range 81 West; and Crossing #6 between Sections 22 and 23, Township 145 North, Range 81 West. They also request to bore under 21st Avenue in Sections 21 and 22, Township 145 North, Range 81 West, Washburn, ND, with an 8" steel pipeline; 26th Avenue in Sections 22 and 23, Township 145 North, Range 82 West, Washburn, ND, with an 8" steel pipeline; and 3rd Street SW in Sections 17 and 20, Township 145 North, Range 82 West, Washburn, ND, with an 8" steel pipeline.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the nine permits as presented on behalf of WBI Energy Transmission Inc., of Glendive, Montana. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Malo requested approval to purchase a backup generator from Eggers Electric Motor Co., of Bismarck, ND, for the amount of \$42,500.00. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve purchasing backup generator from Eggers Electric Motor Co., of Bismarck, ND, for the amount of \$42,500.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss rejoined the meeting.

The board conducted the second reading of proposed changes to the following Personnel *Policy 1300 Volunteer Firefighter*.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the changes to *Policy 1300 Volunteer Firefighter*. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Assistant Jail Administrator Wade Krohmer joined the meeting requesting approval to hire three Federal Prisoner Transport Officers from the existing pool of applicants.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve hiring three Federal Prisoner Transport Officers from the existing pool of applicants. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson and Assistant Jail Administrator Casey Howe joined the meeting requesting approval to advertise for four or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve advertising for four or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the 2022 Beer and Liquor License renewal applications from Painted Woods Recreation Area, Garrison Country Club, and Strawberry Kooler.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the three 2022 Beer and Liquor License renewal applications as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the Local Raffle Permit Application submitted by the Bis Man Reel & Rec for a raffle to be held at Totten Trail Bar and Grill, Coleharbor, on February 20, 2022, with a total prize value set at \$1,900.00, proceeds directed toward the Take A Kid Fishing program. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson and Cottingham discussed the Underwood Area Economic Development Corporation has a grant application for the Main Street initiative. They are requesting a letter of support from the county for the project.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve sending the requested letter of support to the Underwood Area Economic Development Corporation. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson requested approval to transfer funds in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 from Farmers Security Bank to Garrison State Bank & Trust for a better rate of return. Lee requested to check account interest rates again.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to allow the Auditor to transfer \$3,000,000.00 to Garrison State Bank & Trust. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the following vouchers for payment:

A detailed list of checks is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the police contract from the City of Max to the commission for signing.

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 04, 2022. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <http://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Cottingham, Vice-Chairperson

Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor