

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

The first regular January meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Cottingham. Present were Commissioners Cottingham, Steve Lee, and Barry Suydam. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen; Road Superintendent James Grey; and Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting held on December 27, 2023, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Auditor Lori A. Foss joined the meeting.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that repair work is being done in the shops.

Foss presented an NRG Technology Services quote for nine new computers of which six will include Microsoft Office 2021 for the total amount of \$12,590.58. The computers were budgeted for in 2024.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the purchase of the computers and software as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss informed the commission of the following promotions in the Sheriff's Department: Curtis Olson was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant; Alexander Torrez was promoted to Patrol Sergeant; and Max Sanford was promoted to Patrol Corporal. Foss presented the proposed pay increases in light of the promotion's Curtis Olson adjusted to \$75,589.42; Alexander Torrez adjusted to \$60,435.48; and Max Sanford adjusted to \$60,435.48. Foss requested equity adjustments for Patrol Corporal Tanner Altenhofen to \$62,806.35 and Patrol Corporal Raymond Copeland to \$61,620.92 with all proposed adjustments having a retroactive date of January 1, 2024. Foss stated that Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson is in approval of all the salary adjustments.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve all salary adjustments as proposed with retroactive date of January 1, 2024. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson updated the commission on the cost of new vault toilets at Sportsmen's Centennial Park.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to reappoint Lynn Oberg to County Water Resource Board for a three-year term; Garrett Krueger to the County Weed Control Board for four-year terms; Agnes Jennings to Dakota Central Human Service Zone Board for a three-year term; Todd Schreiner as Tax Director/Land Use Administrator for a one-year term; Todd Schreiner as Veterans Service Officer for a one-year term; Richard Johnson as E-911 Coordinator for a one-year term; Bonnie Bohnsack as Clerk of District Court for a one-year term; Jim Grey as Road Superintendent for a one-year term; and Noelle Kroll as Emergency Manager for a one-year term, effective January 1, 2024. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the change in mileage reimbursement for use of personal owned vehicles increasing from \$0.655 to \$0.67 as established by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) effective January 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to accept the list of depositories for county funds for the years 2024 effective January 1, 2024, which includes TruCommunity Bank of Garrison, Max, Turtle Lake, and Washburn; BNC National Bank of Garrison; Bravera Bank of Underwood; and the Union Bank of Wilton. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of November in the amount of \$8,660.12.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of November in the amount of \$2,034.02.

Knutson presented the Uncollected Tax List for years 2021-2023 showing a total of \$17,902,813.40.

Knutson presented the budget narrative for period ending December 31, 2023. She presented data showing property tax collections are at 95% collected including 99% with discount for 2023 or \$19,274,844.84; government reimbursement revenues totaled \$2,648,697.76 compared to \$2,660,314.24 in 2022; fees and miscellaneous revenues totaled \$1,987,141.92 compared to \$2,043,734.02 in 2022; and expenditures were at 84.72% of total budget for 2023.

Knutson informed the commission that funds were received from Mercer County for time covered when the Sheriff's Department assisted in coverage of Mercer County due to their department's loss of a Patrol Officer. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to return the funds received to the Mercer County Sheriff's Department. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, 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: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Cottingham, Chairperson

Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor