

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

The first regular February meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:30 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 Jim Grey; Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke; and Clerk of Court Bonnie Bohnsack.

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

Chief Deputy Auditor Lori Foss joined the meeting.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that road widening is wrapping up.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the 2023 road policy as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented the bridge inspection/load rating progress billing received from North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) showing the county share for the project BRC-BRS-0099(008) PCN 22815 at \$1,907.00.

Foss presented an NRG Technology Services quote for 22 new computers which all include Microsoft Office 2021 for the total amount of \$43,520.62. The computers were budgeted for in 2023 and the quote amount is less than the budgeted line item.

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

Bohnsack updated the commission on the current status of the possibility of the Clerk of Court offices being taken over by the State of North Dakota.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson joined the meeting to present an invoice from Guardian Fleet Safety for purchase of two Dodge Durangos in the amount of \$100,736.54. Johnson requested to use forfeiture funds for this purchase.

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

Johnson also requested permission to utilize forfeiture account funds to send two Detectives to a job shadowing program in Miami, Florida, for one week. The expenses would be for lodging, travel, and meals as the job shadowing program does not have a charge attached to it.

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

Johnson requested permission to purchase a Motorola Solutions one-year service agreement for the radio siren system in the amount of \$13,534.00.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the service agreement as presented. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Sheriff J.R. Kerzmann joined the meeting.

Knutson updated the commission on the potential vehicle leasing program through Enterprise. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the federal aid contract for project BRJ-0028(051).

Knutson requested permission to transfer \$2,000,000.00 from the county's money market to its reserve account, bringing that total to a little over \$6,000,000.00. Knutson then recommended putting \$6,000,000.00 into Certificate of Deposits (CD) at TruCommunity Bank to receive a higher rate of return on the funds. The funds would be broken into \$500,000.00 CDs purchased each

month for the next 12 months. Knutson also requested permission to set up a commercial sweep account for a higher rate of return on the funds remaining in the money market. Discussion followed.

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

Knutson requested the commission to set the County Tax Equalization meeting for 10:00 a.m. on June 6, 2023.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to set the County Tax Equalization meeting for 10:00 a.m. on June 6, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$29,580,426.54 and the total pledged securities were \$31,072,067.94 on January 31, 2023.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of January in the amount of \$8,795.10

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of January in the amount of \$450.07.

Knutson presented the budget narrative for period ending January 31, 2023. She presented data showing property tax collections are at 52% collected including 54% with discount for 2023 or \$10,575,896.00; government reimbursement revenues totaled \$153,461.20 compared to \$207,828.86 in 2022; fees and miscellaneous revenues totaled \$121,202.35 compared to \$92,515.78 in 2022; and expenditures were at 6.41% of total budget for 2023.

Knutson presented the current list of delinquent tax payers owing more than \$4,000.00 showing 23 taxpayers owing \$230,200.65 in back taxes.

Knutson presented the Uncollected Tax List for years 2020-2022 showing a total of \$9,657,152.75.

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.

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: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

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Steve Cottingham, Chairperson

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Diane L Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor