

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

The second regular March meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Lee. Present were Commissioners Lee, Steve Cottingham, and Curt Olson. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Administrative Assistant/Receptionist Lynda Snyder; Director of Disaster Emergency Services Noelle Kroll; Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson; and Michael Rivinius of Wold Engineering.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 11, 2025, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Kroll requested authorization to expend two Homeland Security Grants and one Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness grant that were awarded to McLean County. The first one is fiscal year 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) for the amount of \$17,671.00 and the second one is fiscal year 2024 SHSP for the amount of \$37,488.00. The Hazardous Material Emergency Grant (HMEP) is fiscal year 2024-2025 for the amount of \$5,042.00 with an 80/20 split. This is equal to federal funds in the amount of \$4,033.60 and a \$1,008.40 county share. The grant funds would be used for hazard material awareness and SkyWARN training, tentatively set for April 23, 2025.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to authorize Kroll to expend SHSP and HMEP grants for the total of \$60,201.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius presented a resolution for the bid opening held by the ND Department of Transportation (NDDOT) on March 14, 2025 for Project SC-2800(053), a county-wide chip seal project. He stated the lowest bid received was \$1,747,229.05 from Asphalt Surface Technologies (ASTECH) and Wold Engineering recommends acceptance of the bid. He went on to say that this bid amount is \$235,693.83 under their engineer's estimate.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to approve acceptance of the ASTECH bid in the amount of \$1,747,229.05 and sign the resolution presented by the NDDOT. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

Johnson informed the commission that the Sheriff's Department's larger Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle (MRAP) is not running properly. He went on to state that Butler Machinery Company (Butler) has flushed the tanks onsite and it was determined that the repair needed was beyond the original expected issue. The MRAP will be hauled to Butler in Bismarck by the Highway Department. Johnson requested to take the funds out of the Forfeiture Fund for the repair, however he is not sure what the cost will be at this time and stated that it could be expensive if the motor has to be pulled in order to make the repair. Knutson agreed with using the forfeiture funds and stated that we have enough for the repair as there is approximately \$31,000 in the account. Discussion followed. Cottingham stated his concern about moving forward with approval without a better idea of what the cost to repair the MRAP would be. Discussion followed.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to authorize the Sheriff's Department to move forward with repair to the MRAP and request an estimated amount for repair once the MRAP is delivered to Butler. He went on to move that if this amount exceeds \$25,000, the repair will need to be presented at the next Commission meeting for approval. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion Carried

Johnson requested permission to advertise internally for the Lieutenant position at the jail that is open as a result of Jordan Schumacher accepting a Patrol Deputy position.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to advertise in-house for the Lieutenant position in the jail. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson informed the Commission that the floor in dispatch area needs to be replaced. He stated that Building Maintenance Supervisor Curt Malo has researched ways to repair the floor but has found that it needs to be replaced and is beyond repair. He went on to inform them that the air ducts in the same area need to be professionally cleaned. The maintenance crew has been vacuuming the vents to prevent the dust problem but this is not working any longer.

Chairperson Lee requested that Malo get an estimate for both of these repairs and return to the commission for approval.

Knutson presented a Gaming Site Authorization Application submitted by American Legion Post 91, for bingo, pull tab dispensing, and electronic pull tab activities at Totten Trail Bar & Grill of Coleharbor from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization Application as submitted by American Legion Post 91. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Local Raffle Permit Application submitted by Sakakawea Fence Stretchers for a raffle to be held at Garrison Golf Course on July 7, 2025, with prizes listed as Delton AR-15.5.56 rifle, Savage 243 rifle, Stevens 308 rifle, Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, Savage 17HMR, American tactical AR-15.5.56, Medora package, 36 inch Blackstone, Makita gas chainsaw, Amsoil package; and three \$100.00 gift cards with total prize value of \$4,190.15 Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Olson, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Assistant Director of Tax Equalization Elizabeth Patterson joined the meeting

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to support signing a proclamation designating July 2, 2025, as a day to honor The Lawrence Welk Show. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson requested a public hearing be set for a petition that has been filed with the McLean County Commission to vacate the following described access way:

Being all of the "public lake access" shown on the original plat of "Schock's Resort Addition to McLean County, North Dakota in the W½ of Section 17, Township 147 North, Range 79 West" (document number 3337133), and is more particularly described as follows.

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of Lot 1 of said Schock's Resort Addition; thence on the southeasterly right of way line of Schock's Road on a curve to the left, said curve having an arc length of 153.54'; a radius of 167.15 feet, a delta angle of 52°37'52.4", a chord bearing of N26°03'08.8"E, a chord distance of 148.20 feet to a point on the north/south quarter line of said Section 17; thence on said north/south quarter line, S00°15'47.4"E a distance of 333.16 feet; thence S64°13'46.2"W a distance of 229.21 feet to the point of beginning. Said "public lake access" to be vacated contains 16211 square feet, more or less. Discussion followed.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Cottingham, to schedule the public hearing on the presented petition for April 22, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the McLean County Commission Room. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Patterson presented an application from the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting held on March 17, 2025.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Olson, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve a variance submitted by Bradley Jossart of Bismarck, involving land located in Lot 22, Crooked Lake Subdivision, Township 148 North, Range 80 West. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Olson, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a distinguished service certificate to be signed recognizing the retirement of Terri Guderjahn in April.

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

Knutson stated that the Park Board Meeting is scheduled before the next meeting at 8:00 a.m. on April 8, 2025. Discussion followed.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Lee, Chairperson

Lynda Snyder, Administrative Assistant