

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

The first regular May meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Lee. Present were Commissioners Lee, Steve Cottingham, and Barry Suydam. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Road Superintendent Jim Grey; Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen; Wold Engineering representative Mike Rivinius; and Cammie Wright of NorDak North Publishing.

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

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the minutes from the April 18, 2022, McLean County Planning & Zoning and McLean County Commission Proceedings – Joint Special Meeting. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey was present with an update on department operations including rock work on County Road (CR) 12 near Coleharbor. He requested to advertise for an Equipment Operator II position due to Assistant Road Superintendent William Carlson's upcoming leave.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve advertising for an Equipment Operator II position. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius presented the environmental study for Project BRO-0028(051), a repair on the bridge located on CR 20 northeast of Washburn. Discussion followed.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to select yes to Project BRO-0028(051). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to accept Alternate B and authorize proceeding with the bid process for BRO-0028(051). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius presented the engineering agreement for Project CP-2800(023), a paving project near Wilton and CR 17.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to accept the engineering agreement for Project CP-2800(023). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson requested a salary adjustment for the newly hired Patrol Deputy, Natasha Lucas, due to work experience. A request for an adjustment to the starting wage of \$46,327.63 with six-month probationary increase to \$47,457.45 was presented.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to approve Natasha Lucas' starting wage adjustment to \$46,327.63 with six-month probationary increase to \$47,457.45. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Turtle Lake-Mercer School District and the McLean County Sheriff's Department regarding access to their surveillance cameras. The school would like a MOU signed before allowing the Sheriff's Department access to surveillance coverage. Knutson requested authorization to enter into the MOU with Turtle Lake-Mercer School District.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the MOU between Turtle Lake-Mercer School District and McLean County Sheriff's Department. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Auditor Lori Foss joined the meeting.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve Erica Meadows as Election Inspector for the Washburn Vote Center; Leah Odden as Election Inspector for the Garrison Vote Center; Lesli Fiedler as Election Inspector for the Turtle Lake Vote Center; Delores White as Election Inspector for the Precinct 280402; and Peggy Wollmuth as Election Inspector for the Absentee Board. Roll Call: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss presented an Armor Interactive quote for a new laptop workstation including Microsoft Office 2021 for Property Assessor Ryan Oberg in the amount of \$3,800.69.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the purchase as presented in the amount of \$3,800.69. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve issuing a 2022 Class III Beer and Liquor license to Hwy 83 Lawn & Leisure dba Hwy Lawn Leisure and Tools. Background checks for outstanding violations have been completed by the Sheriff's Department and all necessary fees have been received. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a letter addressed to the Velva Volunteer Fire Department relinquishing/voiding the Gaming Site Authorization for gaming located at The Shore – Brush Lake, which had an ending date of June 30, 2022. The Shore changed ownership and the new owner requests Gorillas Wrestling Club Inc. conduct gaming at Rosies (formerly The Shore).

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve relinquishing/voiding the Velva Volunteer Fire Department's gaming site authorization for Rosies (formerly The Shore). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a Gaming Site Authorization application submitted by Gorillas Wrestling Club Inc. for gaming activities at Rosies from May 20 - June 30, 2022, including bingo, pull tab dispensing, and electronic pull tab games.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization for Gorillas Wrestling Club Inc. for Rosies. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented an additional Gaming Site Authorization submitted by Gorillas Wrestling Club Inc. for gaming activities at Rosies from July 1 through June 30, 2023, with no gaming changes from the past year.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization for Gorillas Wrestling Club Inc. for Rosies for the year starting on July 1, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension Agent/Family and Community Wellness Coordinator Courtney Hoikkala joined the meeting providing an update on department activities.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to approve the Local Raffle Permit request submitted by the McLean County 4-H Leader's Council for 50/50 drawings and raffles to be held on June 19, 2022, at the McLean County Fair Grounds. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$17,185,824.07 and the total pledged securities were \$19,690,329.00 on April 30, 2022.

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

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Office in the amount of \$8,237.30 for the month of April.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$1,103.46 for the month of April.

Knutson presented the Uncollected Tax List for years 2019-2021 showing the total amount of \$1,126,820.38.

Knutson presented the budget narrative for period ending April 30, 2022. She presented data showing property tax collections are at 92% collected including 96% with discount for 2022 or \$18,233,732.81; government reimbursement revenues totaled \$706,106.01 compared to \$776,246.07 in 2021; fees and miscellaneous revenues totaled \$546,102.44 compared to \$695,342.88 in 2021; and expenditures were at 27.28% of total budget for 2022.

Chairperson Lee recessed the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Chairperson Lee reconvened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

State's Attorney Ladd Erickson joined the meeting.

Tax Director Todd Schreiner joined the meeting.

Erickson requested tabling action on all of the McLean County Zoning Ordinance amendments and presenting all sections to the Board of County Commission when the proposed revisions have been made to ordinance.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Suydam, to table action on the proposed amendments to the McLean County Zoning Ordinance until 9:00 a.m. May 24, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Suydam, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Cottingham, to set the 2023 Preliminary Budget Hearing for 9:30 a.m. on August 2, 2022. 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: Suydam, Cottingham, and Lee. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson informed the Commission that she submitted the two Energy Conservation Grant applications for light replacements at the Garrison and Turtle Lake Highway Shops.

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <http://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Lee, Chairperson

Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor