

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

The second regular June meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Cottingham. Present were Commissioners Cottingham, Steve Lee, and Barry Suydam. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Kayla Oberlander; Road Superintendent James Grey; Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke; Wold Engineering Representative Mike Rivinius; and Director of Disaster Emergency Services Noelle Kroll.

Grey presented the commission with the certified road miles from the organized townships for acceptance and signatures.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the certified road miles for the organized townships. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented the commission with information he received from Rainbow Energy on three different permits. He said it looked like they are just providing information at this time due to there not being any applications filled out. Cottingham suggested Grey try to get more information from Rainbow Energy.

Grey discussed an area in the Iglehart Cabin Site where tree branches are obstructing the view at the intersection of 50<sup>th</sup> Ave and 14<sup>th</sup> St. Discussion followed.

Moved by Suydam, Seconded by Lee, to place a stop sign at the intersection of 50<sup>th</sup> Ave and 14<sup>th</sup> St in the Iglehart Cabin Site. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mike Rivinius presented a change order to the commission in the amount of \$238,972.80 for the project at Wilton. This shoulder widening project is going to require more patching due to the road breaking.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to accept the change order as presented by Rivinius. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius also presented the commission with the question of whether or not to eliminate the rumble strips by the stop sign at (garrison project). The commission agreed the rumble strips should be installed according to standard.

Tax Equalization Director Todd Schreiner and Assistant Director of Tax Equalization Elizabeth Patterson joined the meeting to present the application from the Planning and Zoning Meeting held on June 17, 2024.

Moved by Lee, Seconded by Suydam, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the request for a Conditional Use Permit submitted by Paul & Melora Buchholz, of Turtle Lake, ND, requesting approval of a conditional use permit involving land located in Lot A in the SW1/4SE1/4 of Section 19, Township 148 North, Range 80 West, more specifically identified as Lot 1A (2 acres). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Schreiner presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Veterans Service, with the only changes being the Salaries line item has been left blank and Vetra Spec line item decreased from \$1,100.00 which was the initial cost to \$450.00 which is the yearly cost. Total budget presented, not including Salaries, \$3,010.00.

Schreiner presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Tax Director/Land Use, Salaries line item has been left blank, GIS Maintenance line item increase from \$778.99 to \$900.00, Training decreased from \$4,000.00 to \$2,500.00, and ESRI-license renewal (GIS) decreased from the initial cost of \$1,650.00 to the yearly cost of \$440.00. Total budget presented, not including Salaries, \$41,760.00.

Kroll presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Employee Risk Management Program, the AED line item will be moved to the Disaster Emergency Services Budget in 2025 and the Training line item decreased from \$2,000.00 to \$1,000.00. Total budget presented, \$6,500.00.

Kroll presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Disaster Emergency Services, with the being the Salaries and Overtime line items being left blank and the AED line item being added in the amount of \$2,000.00, Travel increased from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00 and Contractors/Plan Updates increased from \$8,500.00 to \$9,500.00. Total budget presented, not including Salaries and Overtime, \$68,360.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 for County Recorder, with the only change being the Salaries line item has been left blank. Total budget presented, not including Salaries, \$12,000.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Weed Board, with the benefits line items being left blank, there was an increase in the Chemicals line item from \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00, a decrease in the Capital Outlay line item from \$70,000.00 to \$20,000.00 and a line item for Drone Spraying was added in the amount of \$20,000.00 Total budget presented, not including benefits, \$199,750.00.

Bohnsack joined the meeting and presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Clerk of District Court, with the only change being the Salaries line item has been left blank. Total budget presented, not including Salaries, \$33,500.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Rescue Boat. Total budget presented, \$0.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 for Parole & Probation. Total budget presented, \$0.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 Job Promotions. Total budget presented, \$0.00.

Knutson presented the proposed budget for 2025 County Coroner, with no changes. Total budget presented, \$36,000.00.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, 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.

Knutson informed the commission that the City of Riverdale voted to not renew their police contract with McLean County.

Knutson presented the current list of delinquent tax payers owing more than \$4,000 showing 56 taxpayers owing \$540,851.11 in back taxes.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and opened the Discovery Wind Project Hearing.

Cottingham invited anyone who submitted an appeal letter to speak.

The following people spoke in support of the project and requested the Commission reconsider their vote from the Discovery Wind Hearing held on April 9, 2024:

Wayne Carlson, Dennis Cleveland, Clark Renfrow, Donna Simmons, Lowell Rothman, Dennis Kost, Susan Shearer, Robert Wagner, Wanda Cleveland, Rick Tweeten, Chris Cleveland, Mark Jennings, Denise Carlson; and Sean Stocker of Discovery Wind.

The following people all spoke against the project:

Marvin Neumiller, Alan Wager, Jason Ziemann, Larry Clark, Collette Ronderos, Shane Wagner, Pablo Ronderos Jr, Heather Lussenden, and Vern Harchenko.

Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to deny all appeals to the April 9, 2024, decision regarding the Discovery Wind Project. Lee stated the evidence is clear and there is no reason to make any changes. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. 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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Kayla Oberlander, Deputy Auditor