

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

The second regular September meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:35 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, and Road Superintendent James Grey.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on September 5, 2023, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey presented an update on department operations reporting that graveling and mowing continues in the county.

Lowell Malard of Butler Machinery Company (Butler) along with Taylor Wray and Jennifer Heck of RDO Equipment Company (RDO) joined the meeting.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the Dakota Central Human Service Zone (DCHSZ) Transfer of Funds Resolutions and the McLean County Auditor's Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolution. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

DCHSZ Transfer of Funds Resolutions and the McLean County Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolutions are on file in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 8:51 a.m.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. for the motor grader bid opening.

RDO bid three new motor graders at \$447,950.00 each.

Butler bid three new motor graders at \$459,000.00 each.

Grey requested time to review bid proposals and will return with a recommendation.

Marty Malachowski, representative of Garrison Creek Cottage Association of Garrison, ND, joined the meeting to ask the county to be the sponsor for a grant application. The grant would aid the Garrison Creek Cottage Association in the cost of placing stairs and railing for public access down to the water. Malachowski stated that there would not be any cost to the county or other liability on the project. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve sponsorship of the grant as presented with no cost to the county or other liability. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson joined the meeting to request permission to advertise for one or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to authorizing advertising to fill one or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 9:17 a.m.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. for the McLean County Budget Hearing.

Linda Wohlk of Washburn joined the meeting.

Sheriff J.R. Kerzmann, Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson, Clerk of Court Bonnie Bohnsack, Director of Emergency Services/Risk Manager Noelle Kroll, Chief Deputy Auditor/Computer Operations Director Lori A. Foss, Road Superintendent James Grey, Recorder Heidi Anderson, Building Maintenance Supervisor Curt Malo, Tax Director/Land Use Administrator/Veteran Services Officer Todd Schreiner, and NDSU Extension Agent Sarah Bedgar joined the meeting.

Chairperson Cottingham invited Wohlk to address her concerns regarding increase on property taxes. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the 2024 salary increases as presented. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Commissioners requested Knutson make budget adjustments as requested and bring to the October 3, 2023, meeting for final approval.

With no additional attendees from the public and no further discussion on the 2024 budget, Chairperson Cottingham closed the budget hearing at 11:10 a.m. and immediately reconvened the commission meeting.

Grey requested permission to order two 2024 GMC pickups for the Highway Department which would come out of the 2024 budget. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the purchase of two 2024 GMC pickups not to exceed a total of \$100,000.00 with a 2024 purchase and delivery. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.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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Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor