

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

The first regular October 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; Administrative Assistant/Receptionist Lynda Snyder; McLean County Water Resource Board Member Lynn Oberg; Road Superintendent James Grey; Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke; Chief Deputy Auditor Lori A Foss; Eide Bailly Auditors Skye Hertel and Jared Mack; Daryl and Shelly Metzger; Diane Matzke; Don Streifel; and Dan Johannes.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on September 17, 2024, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Foss presented a salary adjustment for a tentative new Equipment Operator II hire as he was previously employed by McLean County and has experience. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the salary adjustment to a starting wage of \$56,457.88. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham

Grey provided a department update stating that mowing will be finished up this week with graveling continuing in the Garrison area. Discussion followed

Grey discussed the purchase of a one-ton 2018 Dodge Ram diesel truck equipped with a boom. Grey stated that \$75,000 was budgeted for the purchase and the cost is \$44,166.00. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the purchase of this 2018 service truck for \$44,166.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham.

Grey stated that motor grader training was completed and the feedback received from training personnel was very good. Discussion followed.

Grey presented a list of items for the auction this fall. Discussion followed.

Grey presented a permit from Basin Electric Power Cooperative to install 345kV overhead electric transmission line.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve construction permit request from Basin Electric Power Cooperative as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried. Discussion followed.

Daryl Metzger discussed grading concerns in his area. Lynn Oberg was present to show maps of the area and explain concerns with two washed out portions of the road next to the river. The McLean-Sheridan Water Board will need approximately \$40,000 up front for permits and surveying of land before any work is done. Oberg stated it is possible that all permits should be received by February 2025. He also discussed the application being submitted for a 50/50 cost share grant with ND State Water Commission for the work to be completed. Discussion followed.

Mack, of Eide Bailly, presented the McLean County audit results for 2021 and 2022. He stated the financial statements are materially correct. The audit report for 2021 and 2022 is available in the Auditor's Office for review. Commissioners thanked the auditors for their time and the thorough presentation. Eide Bailly thanked Knutson and her office staff for their assistance during the audit. Discussion followed.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Knutson presented an application completed by Clerk of Court Bonnie Bohnsack for a Court Facility Improvement Grant funds to make updates to the attorney's area of the courtroom.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve signing and submitting the grant application in the amount of \$5,111.75 with the County contribution being \$1,703.91. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham

Verke and Grey rejoined meeting to address concerns expressed by Johannes with gravel and blading in his area. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$17,046,832.92 and the total pledged securities were \$17,122,561.00 on September 30, 2024.

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

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, 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: Suydam, Lee, 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.

Knutson discussed the upcoming NDACo Conference and reminded Commissioners of the NDDOT meeting on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7:45 a.m. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the new in-state lodging rate of \$99 per night retroactive to October 1, 2024.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the new in-state lodging rate of \$99 per night retroactive to October 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented final recommendations for minimum sale prices on real estate forfeited to the county. She stated that the price is the amount of taxes including specials, penalties, interest, and cost of serving notice plus the estimated taxes for 2024 tax year. The sale will be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commission Chambers of the McLean County Courthouse. The minimum sale prices recommended by Knutson are as follows:

**Notice of Sale of Real Estate Forfeited to the County
For Delinquent Taxes
Chapter 57-28 N.D.C.C.**

Notice is hereby given that the following real estate has been forfeited to the County of McLean, State of North Dakota, for delinquent taxes that said county has taken tax deed for such property and will offer it for sale at public auction beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, in the county commission chambers of the McLean County Courthouse.

Each Parcel of real estate will be offered separately and sold to the highest bidder, but not for a sum less than the minimum sale price listed below. Payment must be made in cash. The sale shall continue until such time as all parcels forfeited to McLean County have been offered for sale and/or sold.

Appraised Value of Property Taken for Delinquent 2021 Taxes

Parcel Number, Legal Description, Amount Owed, Minimum Sale Price

17-0021-02350-010, Bal of Orig. 500' x 850' Tract in pt. NW4 21-146-82 not platted as Repnow 1st Addn, \$2,093.52, \$2,646.75

24-0019-03469-010 Outlot B in NW4 19-147-83 Victoria Township, \$282.54, \$345.86

60-0029-08351-000 NE4 29-150-80 Otis Township, \$1,431.27, \$2,010.18

60-0029-08352-000 NW4 29-150-80 Otis Township, \$1,639.61, \$2,300.93

60-0029-08354-000 SE4 29-150-80 Otis Township, \$1,145.32, \$1,608.64

60-0029-08355-000 SW4 29-150-80 Otis Township, \$1,392.72, \$1,949.51

Butte City

73-0070-10569-000 Lots 1-2 Blk 18 Gower Addition, \$743.01, \$940.94

Underwood City

80-0001-00017-000 Lot 12 Blk 2 Original Townsite, \$1,521.81, \$1,806.32

80-0001-00017-010 Lot 13 Blk 2 Original Townsite, \$1,026.61, \$1,178.22

80-0001-00048-000 Lot 8 Blk 5 Original Townsite, \$887.26, \$1,112.39

80-0001-00049-000 Lot 9 Blk 5 Original Townsite, \$665.99, \$831.75

80-0001-00054-000S 70FT Lots 13 & 14 Blk 5 Original Townsite, \$2,295.16, \$2,899.74

80-0001-00154-010 Lots 7-8 Blk 15 Original Townsite, \$2,075.16, \$2,706.40

80-0001-00155-000 Lot 9 Blk 15 Original Townsite, \$2,426.39, \$3,079.45

80-0001-00159-000 Lots 5-6-7-8-9 Blk 16 Original Townsite, \$7,913.52, \$10,033.37

80-0201-00025-000 Lot 9 Blk 2 Borchardt Addition, \$1,933.33, \$2,178.76

80-0801-00016-000 Lot 16 Blk 1 and Adjacent Vacated Alley Houser Addition, \$4,946.35, \$6,362.10

80-0801-00017-000 Lot 17 Blk 1 Houser Addition, \$1,974.86, \$2,492.85

80-0801-00018-000 Lot 18 Blk 1 Houser Addition, \$710.13, \$888.10

80-0801-00019-000 Lot 19 Blk 1 and Adjacent Vacated Alley Houser Addition, \$1,249.95, \$1,515.20

80-0801-00020-000 Lot 20 Blk 1 and Adjacent Vacated Alley Houser Addition, \$938.93, \$1,178.94

City of Wilton

82-0001-00012-000 Lots 3-4 Blk 2 Original Townsite, \$3,524.82, \$4,670.92

Given pursuant to authority of law this 2nd day of October, 2024 at Washburn, ND

/S/ Beth A. Knutson

Beth A. Knutson
McLean County Auditor

Publish October 31 and November 7, 2024

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the minimum sale prices of property taken for delinquent 2021 taxes. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to set the hearing for the minimum sales prices of delinquent properties for 9:00 a.m. during the regular commission meeting set for October 15, 2023. 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 September in the amount of \$9,329.50.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of September in the amount of \$1,727.94.

Knutson presented the current list of delinquent tax payers owing more than \$4,000.00 showing 40 taxpayers owing \$496,705.68 in back taxes.

Knutson requested permission to designate Friday, December 26, 2025, as a paid holiday. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to designate Friday, December 26, 2025, as a paid holiday. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a bill for the new vault toilet installed at Sportsmen's Centennial Park and discussed the funds available to make payment. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Cottingham presented retiring Park Manager Leslie Hultberg with a distinguished service recognition certificate.

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 presented letters of interest for the Clerk of Court position. Discussion followed. Interviews will be conducted on October 15, 2024 beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Moved by Lee, second by Cottingham to schedule interviews on October 15, 2024 beginning at 11:00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Cottingham, Chairperson

Lynda Snyder, Administrative Assistant