

McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

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, Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen, Road Superintendent James Grey, Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke, McLean County Water Resource Board Member Lynn Oberg, Director of Emergency Services Noelle Kroll, Jerry Blotter, Shannon Torgerson, Taylor Wray and Jennifer Heck of RDO Equipment Company, and Lowell Malard of Butler Machinery Company.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on September 19, 2023, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Kroll discussed the Homeland Security Grant which was applied for in the amount of \$26,450.00. The grant has been awarded including \$8,500.00 for a full-scale exercise, \$8,500.00 for security film, \$4,900.00 for medical bag with supplies, and \$4,550.00 for IFAK brand tourniquet kits.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the awarded Homeland Security Grant of \$26,450.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey and Verke discussed the bids received at the September 19, 2023, meeting. Discussion followed with Grey recommending to award the three motor graders bid from RDO Equipment Co. (RDO) in the amount of \$447,950.00 each.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the bid from RDO as previously presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee and Cottingham. Nay: Suydam. Motion carried.

Grey went on to present an update on department operations that graveling and mowing continues. Dylan Nerem has been hired to fill the Equipment Operator I position for the Garrison area.

Shannon Torgerson, of Max, was present to discuss possible sale of his gravel pit with the commission. Discussion followed.

Jerry Blotter, of Coleharbor, was present to discuss the previously approved section line closing south of his homestead. Discussion followed with Blotter requesting support for installation of culvert.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to send a resolution of support as follows:

Resolution

Be it resolved that due to the section line impeding on the natural flow of water to the current landowners crops and the need for water access in order to irrigate those crops on adjacent farm land.

Therefore, the McLean County Commission this 3rd day of October, 2023, resolves to support the installation of a culvert at the historic level on the south section line of the SW¼ of Section 12, Township 148, Range 82 within McLean County, North Dakota.

Whereas, the initial permit has expired and for future needs a new permit has been filed for. The McLean County Commission has no control over the approval or denial of the installation of the culvert.

Steve Cottingham, Chairman
October 3, 2023

Beth A. Knutson, Auditor
October 3, 2023

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension Agents Sarah Bedgar and Kamile Moderegger joined the meeting.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the McLean County budget for 2024 as presented including the salary adjustments for 2024 as follows:

The final budget for McLean County is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Bedgar and Moderegger presented the NDSU Extension quarterly report to the commission. Moderegger requested approval to purchase office equipment to be paid out of the Travel Budget line item.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the requests as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson discussed the appointment of Kathy Neumiller as the 2023 ND State Fair Delegate. Bedgar suggested appointing Amanda Heuttl as alternate delegate if needed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to appoint Kathy Neumiller as the 2023 ND State Fair Delegate with Amanda Heuttl as alternate. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$23,386,342.82 and the total pledged securities were \$23,445,376.68 on September 30, 2023.

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.

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 2023. The sale will be held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 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 21, 2023, 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 2020 Taxes

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

Benedict City

72-0001-00004-010, Lot 3 Blk 3 Original Townsite, \$56.07, \$111.34

Butte City

73-0001-10468-000, Lot 2 & S2 Lot 3 Blk 15 Original Townsite, \$181.21, \$504.97

Garrison City

75-0202-00036-000, Lot 1R Blk 5 Bicentennial Rearrangement Addition, \$4,738.50, \$16,693.53

Max City

76-0001-00002-000, Lots 5-6 Blk 2 Original Townsite, \$465.32, \$13,301.01

76-0001-00003-000, Lot 7 Blk 2 Original Townsite, \$274.72, \$12,635.99

Turtle Lake City

79-0001-00016-000, N 3/5's Lot 17, All Lots 18-19 Blk 5 Original Townsite, \$684.37, \$2,518.77

Given pursuant to authority of law this 3rd day of October, 2023 at Washburn, ND

/S/ Beth A. Knutson

Beth A. Knutson

McLean County Auditor

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the appraised value of property taken for delinquent 2020 taxes. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to set the Delinquent Properties Hearing for 9:00 a.m. during the regular commission meeting set for November 7, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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: 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 presented a request to provide School Resource Officer David Kamp a Sheriff's Department issued cell phone which will be paid out of the department's forfeiture funds. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve adding the additional cell phone as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, 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 \$8,262.40.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of September in the amount of \$1,150.96.

Knutson presented the budget narrative for period ending September 30, 2023. She presented data showing property tax collections are at 93% collected including 97% with discount for 2023 or \$19,000,472.37; government reimbursement revenues totaled \$2,177,265.26 compared to \$2,071,206.62 in 2022; fees and miscellaneous revenues totaled \$1,452,723.41 compared to \$1,251,708.45 in 2022; and expenditures were at 65.24% of total budget for 2023.

Knutson presented the Uncollected Tax List for years 2020-2022 showing a total of \$859,339.11.

Knutson presented the current list of delinquent tax payers owing more than \$4,000.00 showing 29 taxpayers owing \$315,276.27 in back taxes.

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

Knutson discussed the 2024 commission meeting schedule with the commissioners. Discussion followed which included the schedule be reviewed at the next meeting on October 17, 2023.

Knutson requested permission to designate Friday, July 5, 2024, as a paid holiday. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to designate Friday, July 5, 2024, as a paid holiday. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

Steve Cottingham, Chairperson

Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor