

The following are "unofficial minutes", subject to change at the next meeting.

## BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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May 7, 2019

8:30 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met at 8:30 AM in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Jim Benjaminson, Laverne Doyle, Nick Rutherford, Hugh Ralston and Hetty Walker.

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order. No additions to the agenda.

Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Hugh Ralston to approve the April 16, 2019 minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

The NDDOT Construction and Maintenance Agreement for Project BRC-3428(056), the structure replacement 2½ miles north of ND Hwy 66, was reviewed. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the Rule of 85 Retirement Agreement between Pembina County and Fred Marquardt. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Request for a raffle permit received from Cavalier Country Club. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the request. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Memorandum of Agreements, for the administration of the Public Assistance (PA) Program, between Pembina County and the organized townships of Midland and Thingvalla were presented for signature. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Hugh Ralston to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreements as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Nick Rutherford to authorize the Chairman to sign the Request for a Duplicate Warrant received from Jill Denault. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Culvert request received from Lindsey Moe in the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 1 of LaMoure Township. The request is to relocate an approach and culvert to the quarter mile, to line up with the approach on the south side of County Road #1. The old approach and culvert will be removed and the new approach and culvert will be extended from a 30' culvert to a 40' culvert to widen the approach. The application has been signed by two township officers and reviewed by the Water Board and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the request as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the April payroll and claims. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Eric Gauthier, Veteran's Service Officer, informed the entire Commission of his resignation, effective May 8, 2019. Tanya Wieler, Human Resource Director, also present. Commissioner Doyle asked about the scheduling of the Veteran's Service van. Discussion followed. Tanya informed the Commission that the Walsh County Veteran's Service Officer is willing to assist Pembina County during the interim. Commission will discuss rehiring plans and visit with Tanya later.

Mikka Willits, Tax Director, Lisa Wieler, GIS Specialist, and William Hanson, present for abatement hearing. The application is for abatement on property described as W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Lot 4 & E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Lot 5, Block 8, OT, City of Cavalier – Parcel 27-1330000. Mr. Hanson is requesting the true and full value be lowered from \$92,140 to \$80,000. Mr. Hanson discussed what he feels is a high volume of traffic that goes by his home. The Commission reviewed the notes from the Cavalier City assessor and the Cavalier City abatement hearing minutes. The abatement request was denied by Cavalier City. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to deny the request as presented. Discussion followed. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Laverne Doyle – yes; Nick Rutherford – yes; Hugh Ralston – yes. Motion carried.

Mikka Willits, Tax Director, representing Orville Simundson, present for abatement hearing. The application is for abatement on property described as Pt NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> (427' x 514') in Section 7, Township 161, Range 56 of Beaulieu Township– Parcel 04-0430010. The request is to lower the true and full value from \$41,923 to a value not to exceed \$20,000. Beaulieu Township approved a decrease in valuation to \$2,200, which is the land value only. Mr. Simundson's plan is to demolish the remaining buildings. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to lower the valuation from \$41,923 to \$20,000 and the request can be reviewed once the remaining buildings are demolished. Discussion followed. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Laverne Doyle – yes; Nick Rutherford – yes; Hugh Ralston – yes. Motion carried.

Andrew Kirking, Emergency Manager, discussed a security assessment for County buildings. Andrew suggested a training for all employees on the best

practices to diffuse volatile situations and how to handle the situation if it would escalate. Andrew will be attending security trainings which he would be able to use to train employees. Several options for additional security measures were discussed. Andrew will research options and report back at a later meeting.

Lacey Hinkle, Cavalier City Mayor, visited with the Commission regarding the request for Cavalier City to pay attorney fees for a case brought against Pembina County Deputy Swift, which was dismissed. Mayor Hinkle informed the Commission that Cavalier City is not legally bound to pay the attorney fees and the City Council voted not to pay the attorney fees. Pembina County State's Attorney, Rebecca Flanders, also present. Discussion followed on resolving the issue of payment of the attorney fees. No decision at this time.

Sheriff Terry Meidinger and Chief Deputy Marcus Ramsay introduced new Correctional Center officers Cal Cluchie and Melissa Vannett, who began their duties on May 1, 2019.

Sheriff Meidinger discussed the proposal by Walhalla City to share an officer with the county. Discussion followed on contract options between Walhalla City and Pembina County. Commissioner Benjaminson will contact Steve Gapp for contract option expectations from Walhalla City. Commission will review and discuss further at budget time.

Tanya Wieler returned to discuss options for the replacement of the Veteran's Service Officer. Commissioner Benjaminson informed Tanya he had been contacted by a Veteran that was willing to volunteer his time to take messages during the interim. The option of sharing a Veteran's Service Officer with Walsh County was discussed. Tanya will bring the proposal to the Walsh County Commission and report at a later meeting.

Motion by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:15PM.