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BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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October 17, 2017

9:00 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met at 9:00 AM in the Commission Meeting Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Jim Benjaminson, Laverne Doyle, Nick Rutherford, Hugh Ralston and Hetty Walker.

Chairperson Rutherford called the meeting to order.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the October 3, 2017 regular meeting minutes and October 3, 2017 Budget Hearing minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Pembina County Housing Authority Board minutes of September 12th & 14th, 2017 were reviewed.

The NDDOT annual Maintenance Certification for County Federal Aid projects was reviewed. The certification states that Pembina County is properly maintaining the projects that had federal aid for construction. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Hetty Walker to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Bids were received from the following to provide Pembina County with a new Skidsteer with a trade in of a 2008 New Holland L185:

Ironhide - \$45,978.00

John Deere - \$52,251.00

Butler Machinery - \$42,225.00

Titan Machinery - \$49,975.00

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Hetty Walker to award the bid to Butler Machinery. Discussion followed on the specs for the equipment. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Laverne Doyle – yes; Hugh Ralston – yes; Hetty Walker – yes. Motion carried.

Drainage applications received from Bob Olson to remove silt from the ditch along County Road #3 in the NE¼ of Section 7, SE¼ of Section 6, and the S½ of Section 5 of North Midland Township. The application has been approved by the Water Board and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by Hugh Ralston to approve the request. Second by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Drainage application received from McColl Farms to restore the ditch to original grade along the north side of County Road #1 in the SE¼ of Section 2 in Bathgate Township. The application has been approved by Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by James Benjaminson to approve the request. Second by Laverne Doyle. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Drainage application received from Wilwand Farms to clean the ditch to original grade along the north side of County Road #1 in the S½ of Section 2 of North Carlisle Township. The application has been approved by the Water Board and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by Laverne Doyle to approve the request. Second by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Culvert request received from Felson Township to replace a damaged culvert in the SE¼ of Section 19 of Felson Township. The application has been signed by two township officers and approved by the Water Board and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Hetty Walker to approve the request as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Devin informed the Commission that the stream bank restoration project is completed.

Water Board informed the Commission that several Legal Drain cleaning projects are occurring now that harvest is done. The state will be coming out to inspect Herzog Dam and Willow Coulee and the dams will be lowered so they can handle excess spring water. An interagency meeting for the Tongue River Watershed Planning effort is scheduled for November 21, 2017 beginning at 1:00PM at the Emergency Operations Center in Cavalier. Discussion was held on the Pembina River.

Kelly Brown requested an update on the plans to repair County Road #1 from Bathgate to Interstate 29. The Commission met with the NDDOT at the NDACo conference last week and the County Federal Aid project is set to be bid in April 2018 for a Texas underseal on the 11 miles from Bathgate to Interstate. Kelly stated that the 4 miles from Highway 18 to Bathgate is also in need of repairs. The Commission will request the additional 4 miles be included in the bid.

Kyle Gagner, Rachel Morrison, Bill Crosby and Justin Robinson, representing a group called the Cavlandic Trail Association, met to discuss the future of the bike path. The bike path is in need of major repairs and the group is working on grant applications and fundraiser ideas to raise the required funding. Kyle discussed the Transportation Alternative (TA) program offered through the NDDOT which provides funding for projects like the bike path. Cities below the 5,000 population must apply for funding through a Board of County Commissioners. The group is requesting the Board consider the County be the pass through entity for the

application. The group will prepare the paperwork for submission and do all of the legwork for the project. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to sponsor the grant application. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Jill Denault, Social Service Director, Charity Stegman, Deb Hurrt and Tina Brevik, Eligibility Workers, discussed the additional workload these Eligibility Workers have had to absorb due to the loss of three Eligibility workers. Jill presented handouts showing the savings by not filling the empty positions and the additional caseload numbers. Jill is requesting salary increases for these three individuals due to the increased workload. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Hetty Walker to honor the request as presented, effective October 1, 2017. Discussion followed. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Laverne Doyle – yes; Hugh Ralston – yes; Hetty Walker – yes. Motion carried.

Commission received an application for a property tax exemption for an addition of approximately 4,575 square feet and updates on property described as all of Block 84, 1st SW Addition (Parcel 35-4650000) and Lots 1 & 2 and Lots 11 & 12 of Block 46 (Parcel 35-2100000) in the City of Walhalla. Motion made by Hugh Ralston to approve the exemption, per NDCC 57-02-08(8) – Public Charity exemption, on above described property. Motion seconded by Jim Benjaminson. Discussion followed. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission received an application for a property tax exemption for improvements on property described as the S 110' of Lot 7 and the E 30' of Lot 8 in Block 20, OT (Parcel 35-0730000) in the City of Walhalla. Motion made by Laverne Doyle to approve the 3 year remodeling exemption, per NDCC 57-02.2-03, on above described property for the years 2018 - 2020. Motion seconded by Jim Benjaminson. Discussion followed. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Mikka Willits, Tax Director, presented the findings of the State Board of Equalization. The State Board recommends a 4% increase in commercial assessments for the cities of Cavalier, Hamilton and Pembina and all townships in Pembina County.

Commission reviewed the claims and September financial statement. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Laverne Doyle to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission discussed the IMAT contract that was approved at the September 6, 2017 meeting. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to rescind the motion made at the September 6, 2017 meeting regarding the IMAT contract. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Laverne Doyle – yes; Hugh Ralston-yes; Hetty Walker-yes. Motion carried.

Commission reviewed the appraisal listing of foreclosed property. Appraised values were set for each parcel. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by

Laverne Doyle to approve the tax appraisal list as presented. All voting in favor, motion carried. Hearing has been set for 10:00AM on Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Hugh Ralston to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:20PM.