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BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S PROCEEDINGS

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October 17, 2023

9:00 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse. Chairperson Benjaminson called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Roll call: Jim Benjaminson, Darin Otto and Andrew Cull. Absent: Laverne Doyle and Blaine W. Papenfuss. A quorum was declared.

Also in attendance are Samantha Weeks, 911/IT/GIS Coordinator, Samantha Diemert, Emergency Manager/Weed Officer, Terry Meidinger, Sheriff, and Marcus Ramsay, Chief Deputy.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to approve the agenda with the following changes/additions: the Water Board and Jeff Stevenson will not be able to attend today. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Darin Otto and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the September 19, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to approve the September 19, 2023 Special meeting minutes, to approve the 2024 budget, as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Darin Otto and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the September 26, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Pembina County JDA minutes of July 11, 2023 were reviewed.

Commission discussed the appointment of a North Dakota State Fair Delegate. Motion made by Darin Otto and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to nominate Andrew Cull as the North Dakota State Fair delegate for 2023. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the ND Department of Transportation Certifications of Local Match for Bridge Inspection/Load Rating forms for Project BRC-BRS-0099(015) PNC 23409. The forms certify that Pembina County provided non-federal funds from the

Road and Bridge Levy to cover Pembina County's 19.07% match. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to authorize the Chairperson to sign the certification as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Auditor presented a Certification of Significant Community Support from the City of Walhalla. This certification is in support of Walhalla City's Community Facility guaranteed loan, direct loan or grant to purchase a Skidsteer for the city. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Certification of Significant Community Support as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission discussed the Serve & Protect program that was approved through House Bill 1279 during the 2023 Legislative session. Gov. Doug Burgum and North Dakota Workforce Safety & Insurance (WSI) announced a new program to help counties offset the costs of medical exams for paid, full-time firefighters and law enforcement officers. House Bill 1279 expanded worker's compensation coverage, up to \$250.00 per officer, for these individuals. Discussion followed on having all Law Enforcement personnel complete a routine medical exam prior to the end of the year. Discussion followed on House Bill 1307 which allows counties to apply for dollars to be used for hiring and retention bonuses to new and current officers and correctional officers.

Construction engineering interview committee for Projects CERP-3424(057), PCN 24085; CERP-3411(063), PCN 24086; CERP-3411(064), PCN 24807; CERP-3404 (060), PCN 24088; Inslope Improvements – Sites #34-01, #34-03, #34-05 and Structure Improvement – Site #34-02, presented their recommendation to the Commission. The interview committee consisted of Devin Johnson, Laverne Doyle and Linda Schlittenhard, who are recommending Kadramas, Lee & Jackson for the projects. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to award the engineering contract to Kadramas, Lee & Jackson. Discussion followed. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Rachel Ramsay, Public Health Director, met to inform the Commission of an enclosed trailer the department would like to purchase, using CARES funding which will expire at the end of 2024. The Public Health Department would like to store the POD supplies in the trailer to expedite their response time when an emergency is declared. Discussion followed on the recurring charges such as insurance and license fees. Rachel presented a second option of building a handicap ramp on the stairs of the old jail apartment, where the supplies are currently stored, to make the loading of the supplies less difficult. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to authorize Public Health to purchase an enclosed trailer with CARES funding. Discussion followed. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Darin Otto – yes; Andrew Cull – yes. Motion carried.

Lisa Keney, Tax Director, met to discuss properties that may need to be added as Omitted Properties. Omitted Property hearings were scheduled for October 13, 2023

and only one individual appeared. The properties are no longer Farm Exempt or do not qualify for the Farm Residence Exemption. The following properties were reviewed:

Parcel 04-0480010 - Pt SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec-07 Twp-161 Rang-056

Parcel 08-0200000 - SW $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec-02 Twp-159 Rang-051

Parcel 24-3250010 - Pt NE $\frac{1}{4}$; Sec-34 Twp-164 Rang-056

Per NDCC 57-14-06 the Board of Commissioners must review and agree with adding these values to the tax rolls for tax year 2023. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to approve the addition of the above-described omitted properties for the 2023 tax year. Roll call vote: Jim Benjaminson – yes; Darin Otto – yes; Andrew Cull – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Keney informed the Commission the Soils Committee will be meeting on Monday, October 23, 2023 at 8:15 am in the Farmer's Room of the courthouse.

Dan Snider and Dan Aubol, Colonial Life representatives, discussed an employer paid long-term disability plan with the Commission. This would cost the county an average \$16.90/month per employee. Discussion followed. No decision will be made until a full board is available.

Kelly Cluchie, Maintenance, informed the Commission of a leak in the barrel underneath the boiler. The leak has slowed down significantly and the boiler is working for now. Kelly has contacted Jenson Heating & A/C to see if John could contact someone to repair or replace the boiler.

Board reviewed the September financial statement and claims. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Appraisal hearing on foreclosed property was held at 11:00 AM. No attendance by city or township individuals. The sale of County property will be held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, in the Farmer's Room of the Courthouse beginning at 11:00 AM.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Darin Otto to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.