

BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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October 29, 2019

10:00 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met in Special Session at 10:00 AM in the Farmer's Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Jim Benjaminson, Nick Rutherford, Laverne Doyle, and Hugh Ralston. Absent: Hetty Walker.

Vice-Chairman Ralston called the meeting to order.

Appraisal hearing on foreclosed property was held at 10:00 AM. No attendance by city or township individuals. The sale of County property will be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, beginning at 11:00 AM.

Auditor presented a County-Municipal Law Enforcement Contract between Pembina County and Mountain City. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign the contract as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Chairman to sign the Request for a Duplicate Warrant received from Sirchie Finger Print Lab. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the letter of support for the proposed Cavlandic Trail Project. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign the letter of support as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Tanya Wieler, Human Resource Director, informed the Commission she placed the ad for the Public Health Director with Job Service ND, local newspapers, county website, Rural Health Network and Indeed.com. The position will be advertised for three weeks, with the application deadline set for November 8, 2019. Tanya informed the Commission that Walsh County Public Health Director, Wanda Kratchovil, would be a willing resource for the Pembina County office. Current staffing situations were discussed. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to allow the employee filling in with additional hours during the period when the department is without a Director to become a standard part-time employee and be eligible for the benefit package effective November 1, 2019. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Pembina County Emergency Declaration was presented by Andrew Kirking,
Emergency Manager.

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, a statewide flood emergency in Pembina County exists as a result of significant late summer and fall rainfall and a historic October blizzard event; and

WHEREAS, record fall precipitation levels and heavy snowfall continue to saturate soil and cause overtopped roadways as water moves into ditches and rivers, damaging critical transportation and utility infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the abnormally high runoff has resulted in atypically increased fall river and stream flows and flood stages, necessitating increased outflows from dams throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, the collective impact of these record precipitation levels and continued flooding have and will continue to inundate farmlands and cause short- and long-term catastrophic losses for farmers and ranchers, constituting serious economic hardship across the county; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the record precipitation levels and October blizzard event have overwhelmed the response and recovery capabilities of local officials; and

WHEREAS, the heavy snowfall has created a significant of downed trees and debris have incurred significant costs for the county and for townships; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is projecting higher than average precipitation from December 2019 through February 2020, creating the potential for even greater flood concerns going into spring 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Pembina County Commission do hereby declare an emergency for Pembina County, North Dakota.

This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until it is rescinded. Executed at Cavalier, North Dakota, this 29th day of October 2019.

/s/ Hugh Ralston
Commission Vice-Chair

/s/Linda Schlittenhard
Attested; Pembina County Auditor/Treasurer



Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to approve the Emergency Declaration as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Jon Markusen, Kadramas, Lee & Jackson, was unable to attend the meeting, but forwarded information via email, related to the County Road 1 project. As for winter prep, the road tapers are in, the sides are knocked down, the road is striped, and Zavoral's will be removing the traffic control signs in the near future. Zavoral's will be back to complete the project a week after spring weight limits are lifted.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.