

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

## BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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September 1, 2020

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, and Hugh Ralston. Absent: Hetty Walker.

Chairman Ralston called the meeting to order. A drainage permit request will be added to the agenda.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to approve the August 18, 2020 minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Request to purchase properties described as Lots 1 – 7, Block 24, O.T., City of Hamilton, (Parcel 30-0800000) and Lots 8 – 14, Block 9, O.T., City of Hamilton, (Parcel 30-0290000). Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Laverne Doyle to approve the sale of said property. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Request to purchase property described as Lot 8, Block 24, Emmerling's 1<sup>st</sup> Addition, City of Walhalla, (Parcel 35-1120000). Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the sale of said property. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Drainage permit received from Landis McDonald to clean the high spots in the highway ditch, due to damage done by potato harvesting equipment last fall, along County Road #1 in the NE¼ of Section 11 of North Cavalier Township. The permit has been approved by the Water Board and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Nick Rutherford to authorize the Chairman to sign the permit as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Auditor updated the Commission on the information she received from Grand Forks County Auditor, Debbie Nelson, regarding the contract the Grand Forks County Commission has with the Grand Forks Public Library. After discussing with Ms. Nelson, the Auditor contacted Rebecca Flanders, Pembina County State's Attorney, and discussed the option of contracting with one of the public libraries in the county. Ms. Flanders believes the Commission would need to have an actual library (brick and mortar building) to continue a County Library levy.

Commission reviewed an email from Abby Ebach, Public Library Specialist with the North Dakota State Library. Commission discussed the option of contracting with one of the Public Libraries in the County. Commissioner Benjaminson will contact Ms. Ebach regarding options for the county. Commission requested the Auditor contact the Library Boards from each of the three public libraries in the county to see if they would be available to attend a special meeting.

Commission discussed the "limited access" policy that is currently in force for all county offices. Motion made by Nick Rutherford to open all county offices to the public, beginning Tuesday, September 8, 2020, with the requirement that all employees and visitors wear face masks and follow social distancing recommendations. Second by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Nick Rutherford to authorize the Chairman to sign the county deed, for the sale of county property in Neche City, as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission discussed the 2020 final budget hearing and holding the September 15, 2020 regular Commission meeting in the afternoon instead of the usual morning meeting time since the budget hearing will be held later that evening. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Laverne Doyle to hold the regular meeting in the afternoon and schedule the budget hearing for Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Farmer's Room of the Courthouse. All voting in favor; motion carried.

The NDDOT Traffic Safety grants for Speed Enforcement, Alcohol Enforcement, and, Click it or Ticket were reviewed. NDDOT will reimburse Pembina County Sheriff's Department for incurred costs, not to exceed \$8,150.00. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Chairman to sign the grant paperwork as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

An Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement, between Kadramas, Lee & Jackson and Pembina County, for additional services performed by the Engineer for Project SC-3410(059) PCN 22059, County Road #1 was reviewed. Motion made by Nick Rutherford and seconded by Laverne Doyle to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the July financial statement, August payroll and claims. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.