

**McLean County Commission Proceedings  
Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

The first regular March meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Cottingham. Present were Commissioners Cottingham, Steve Lee, and Barry Suydam. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson; Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen; Road Superintendent James Grey; Director of Disaster Emergency Services Noelle Kroll; Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson; Wold Engineering Representative Mike Rivinius; and Ryley Rettle.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting held on February 21, 2024, as submitted. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Kroll discussed a burn restriction for McLean County. The burn restriction, if approved, would be effective immediately. Discussion followed.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to adopt the 2024 Fire Emergency Declaration and Burn Restriction as follows:

**2024 FIRE EMERGENCY BURN RESTRICTIONS  
for  
MCLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA**

March 5, 2024

**WHEREAS**, McLean County, North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available; and

**WHEREAS**, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

**WHEREAS**, McLean County, has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and McLean County Emergency Management Office has consulted with local fire departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the impacts of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in McLean County; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of emergency response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and the fire damages could exceed available McLean County resources; and

**WHEREAS**, McLean County, wishes to regulate activities within McLean County, which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of McLean County Commissioners declares a Fire Emergency and Automatic Burn Restriction effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is Very High, Extreme and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued for McLean County, North Dakota, effective immediately through December 31, 2024.

**What's Included (when the ND Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is Very High, Extreme and/or a Red Flag Warning)**

No Open Burning: includes burning of leaves, grass clippings, garbage/pits, ignition of farm or crop residue/land, hay land, sloughs, construction debris, fallen trees, fireworks (ground & aerial) and campfires/bonfires/recreational fires.

**What's Excluded**

Controlled Devices: only when device(s) (gas, charcoal, wood-fired/pellet grills, patio fireplaces and chimineas, gas camp stoves, and smokers/pellet grills) is/are on a hard, non-organic surface and 15' away from vegetation and an extinguisher or water is available on site.

**ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO WILLFULLY VIOLATES THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS GUILTY OF A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37-17.1-10.1; MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE), AND RESTITUTION OF FIRE SUPPRESSION COSTS MAY BE SOUGHT FROM THE COURT. THE MCLEAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE CITATIONS TO VIOLATORS.**

**Burning is Prohibited if the Fire Index is in Extreme Category as Issued by NWS (ND Administrative Code – Title 33.1 Article 15 Chapter 4)**

The North Dakota Rural Fire Danger Guide is posted on the McLean County website: [www.mcleancountynd.gov](http://www.mcleancountynd.gov) or residents can contact the McLean County Sheriff's Office at 701-462-8103.

**DATED** at Washburn, North Dakota this 5th day of March, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Cottingham, Chairman  
McLean County Commission

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Knutson  
McLean County Auditor

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Kroll discussed two Homeland Security Grants that were awarded to McLean County. The first one is fiscal year 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) for the amount of \$1,895.40, and the second one is fiscal year 2022 SHSP for the amount of \$23,164.00. For a total of \$25,059.40, with no cost share to the county. The grant funds would be used to purchase tourniquet kits, shears, AED units, and flash lights for the Sheriff's Department.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the awarded SHSP grants for the total of \$25,059.40. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Building Maintenance Supervisor Curt Malo joined the meeting.

Johnson requested approval to hire one more Jailer/Dispatcher I, in addition to the two previously requested. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the hiring of one additional Jailer/Dispatcher I from the current pool of applicants. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson requested approval to hire one Patrol Deputy due to a resignation.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the hiring of one Patrol Deputy. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Johnson requested permission to utilize forfeiture account funds to send Patrol Sergeant Cody Meadows to the August 25 through August 30, 2024, IAATI 72<sup>nd</sup> International Vehicle Crimes Training Conference in Orlando Florida. The expenses would be for conference fee, lodging, travel, and meals. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the request as presented. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Malo requested permission to purchase a shipping container for storage to be located at the Washburn shop. The cost of the container would be \$6,000.00 plus \$600.00 for delivery. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the purchase of a storage container plus delivery not to exceed \$8,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey requested to purchase 45,290 tons of Class 13 gravel at \$3.96 a ton from Sundre Sand & Gravel out of the Egger pit. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the gravel purchase at a total cost of \$179,348.40. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey discussed shifting the department to a four-day week.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to authorize the Highway Department to begin four-day work weeks at the discretion of the Road Superintendent. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey discussed a section of County Road 22 that is having slide issues again. Rivinius will present a proposal at a future meeting.

Donald Johnson of Cavalier and Matt Ketterling of Fargo joined the meeting.

Blumhagen presented an update from the February 21 meeting regarding the Gaming Site Authorization application submitted by Aggie Foundation, stating that Strawberry Lake Improvement Association is not performing gaming at DL's Strawberry Kooler this year.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization applications as submitted by Aggie Foundation for bingo, raffles, pull tab dispensing, electronic pull tab, prize board, sports pools, twenty-one, poker, and calcutta activities at DL's Strawberry Kooler of Ruso through June 30, 2025. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented a Gaming Site Authorization Application submitted by American Legion Post 91, for bingo, pull tab dispensing, and electronic pull tab activities at Totten Trail Bar & Grill of Coleharbor from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the Gaming Site Authorization Application as submitted by American Legion Post 91. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey reported that the updates to the Road Policy are still being worked on. Discussion followed which resulted in the item being tabled for an upcoming meeting.

Chairperson Cottingham recessed the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Bob Conn of Alexandria, MN, and Jason Irey of Bismarck joined the meeting.

Chairperson Cottingham reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. for the bid openings for Project CP-2800(023) and Project CP-2800(024).

The first bid opening was for Project CP-2800(023), a mill, overlay, and sliver widening project. The first bid opened was from Knife River Materials, in the amount of \$2,410,555.31. The second bid was from Mayo Construction Company, in the amount of \$2,335,805.61. The third bid was from Central Specialties, in the amount of \$2,606,103.24. The fourth bid was from Border States Paving, Inc, in the amount of \$2,431,595.25. The fifth bid was from Northern Improvement, in the amount of \$3,129,618.10.

The second bid opening was for Project CP-2800(024), a mill and overlay project. The first bid opened was from Border States Paving, Inc, in the amount of \$3,436,085.60. The second bid opened was from Knife River Materials, in the amount of \$3,671,183.65. The third bid opened was from Mayo Construction Company, in the amount of \$3,349,675.31. The fourth bid opened was from Central Specialties, in the amount of \$3,866,622.00.

Chairperson Cottingham allowed Rivinius time to verify the bids.

Knutson presented the Pledge of Securities received from TruCommunity Bank. The total public deposits were \$33,888,910.73 and the total pledged securities were \$34,157,654.00 on February 29, 2024.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to accept the Pledge of Securities from TruCommunity Bank. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson informed the commission that Sportsmen's Centennial Park Manager Leslie Hultberg has submitted his resignation to be effective May 31, 2024. Knutson presented an updated job description to commission.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve the park manager job description with the changes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the Dakota Central Human Service Zone (DCHSZ) Transfer of Funds Resolution and the McLean County Auditor's Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolution from February. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

DCHSZ Transfer of Funds Resolutions and the McLean County Sweep Account Transfer of Funds Resolutions are on file in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Recorder's Department for the month of February in the amount of \$20,839.75.

Received and ordered filed the fee collection report from the Sheriff's Department for the month of February in the amount of \$1,875.72.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to approve the following vouchers for payment:

		<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>	
<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
308773	B & F FASTENER SUPPLY CO	HEX NUTS, SCREWS	79.96
308774	MCLEAN COUNTY IMPLEMENT	PARTS	947.02
308775	NORTHERN STATES	PARTS	311.66
308776	S & J HARDWARE	PARTS	48.96
308777	WAGON WHEEL LUMBER	SCREEN, KNIFE, STAPLES	117.07
308778	WALLWORK TRUCK CENTER	REPAIRS TO 13-100, 13-101, 13-102	1,698.98
		<b>UNPAID VOUCHERS</b>	
308779	SARAH BEDGAR	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
308780	BUTTE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB	DISBURSE MILL LEVY FUNDS 2023	600.00
308781	CHASE DRUG	INMATE MEDICAL	819.79
308782	CITY OF WASHBURN	COURTHOUSE, LEC - WATER AND SEWER	159.02
308783	ASHLEY DEHAVEN	FEB NURSING HOURS	2,160.00
308784	EIDE BAILLY LLP	PROCESSING BILLING AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	20,000.00
308785	FARMERS UNION OIL	OIL CHANGE, GASOLINE	214.28
308786	FIRST DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	DISBURSE MILL LEVY FUNDS 2023	211,573.00
308787	GARRISON RURAL WATER	PARK RURAL WATER USAGE	75.00
308788	BENJAMIN GEHRING	REIMBURSE CORONER FEES	1,000.00
308789	GOETZ FUNERAL HOME	REIMBURSE CORONER FEES	1,000.00
308790	GERARD GOVEN	WATER BOARD MEETING AND MILEAGE	749.62
308791	HATZY'S REPAIR	OIL CHANGES	385.80
308792	HAZEN HEALTH PHARMACY	INMATE MEDICATIONS	14.33
308793	HR COLLABORATIVE	BLUMHAGEN - HR COLLABORATIVE CONF 2024	99.00
308794	INTOXIMETERS INC	MOUTHPIECES	400.00
308795	SHANNON JEFFERS	WATER BOARD MEETING AND MILEAGE	831.74
308796	MARCO	STANDARD PAYMENT	2,190.57
308797	MCLEAN-MERCER COUNTY MEALS	JAN 2024 AND JUNE 2023 COLLECTIONS	65,267.96
308797	MCLEAN-MERCER COUNTY MEALS	FEBRUARY 2024 COLLECTIONS	62,982.90
308798	MCLEAN CO IMPLEMENT LLC	PARTS	20.12
308799	MCLEAN COUNTY FAIR BOARD	2023 LEVY DISBURSEMENT	90,000.00
308800	MCLEAN COUNTY AUDITOR	NDSU POSTAGE	19.57
308801	KAMILE MODEREGGER	REIMBURSE FOR KIDS COOKING CLASS, GOOD NUTRITION FOR BUSY FAMILIES CLASS	166.85
308801	KAMILE MODEREGGER	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
308802	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	MARCH 2024 SUPPORT CONTRACT	3,760.00
308803	ND COUNTY RECORDER'S ASSOCIATION	CONVENTION REGISTRATION	200.00
308804	ND SHERIFFS & DEPUTIES ASSOC	DUES	500.00
308805	ND WEED CONTROL ASSOC	2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES	285.00
308806	LYNN OBERG	WATER BOARD MEETING AND MILEAGE	1,190.95
308807	OTTERTAIL POWER CO	BUTTE, TURTLE LAKE, MAX, WASHBURN SHOPS, COURTHOUSE, SHERIFF, RADIO TOWER	7,103.77
308808	GARRISON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION	2023 FINAL DISBURSEMENT	1,500.00
308809	RUSTED RAIL	NDSU FOOD FOR DESIGN YOU SUCCESSION PLAN CLINIC	868.84
308810	TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	COMPLETE DATA ANALYSIS FOR TAXWISE, CONFIGURE TAXWISE, SCHOOL ERP PRO, MILESTONE DETAILS	22,482.30
308811	UNICOM	REMOVE OLD AND INSTALL NEW LIGHTS ON S-26	416.20
308812	VANGUARD APPRAISALS	SERVICE FEES BASED ON 18842 PARCELS	5,500.00
308816	WATER PURITY INC	WATER DELIVERED	112.00
308813	WATER PURITY INC	WATER DELIVERED	24.00
308815	ROBERT WERLINGER	FEBRUARY CONTRACTED HOURS	2,800.00
		<b>DIRECT DEPOSIT PAYMENTS</b>	
<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
5117	JAN HANSON	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
5118	TERRI GUDERJAHN	REIMBURSEMENT FOR COFFEE	79.44
5119	TERRI GUDERJAHN	REIMBURSE TRAVEL TO D.O.T. IN BEULAH	48.24
5120	KAYLA OBERLANDER	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
5121	CURT MALO	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
5122	NOELLE KROLL	REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL	127.30
5123	TRAVIS VERKE	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
5124	MAX SANFORD	REIMBURSEMENT FOR BADGE ORDERED	149.00
5125	RYAN OBERG	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
5126	ELIZABETH PATTERSON	REIMBURSE CELL PHONE	30.00
		<b>PAID VOUCHERS</b>	
<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
308740	SERVPRO OF MINOT	RECONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT, CHANGE ORDER	64,248.34

308741	AFLAC	MONTHLY PREMIUM	1,801.41
308742	AVESIS	VISION INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,600.67
308743	BRAVERA WEALTH	MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS	3,801.96
308744	FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE	DUES	59.00
308745	USABLE LIFE	CANCER & ACCIDENT INSURANCE PREMIUMS	124.32
308746	ND CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	CHILD SUPPORT	4,142.00
308747	NDPERS RETIREMENT	SERVICE CREDIT PURCHASE	70.00
308760	DELTA DENTAL	DENTAL INSURANCE	5,539.42
308761	GARRISON DIVERSION DISTRICT	DISBURSE MONTHLY COLLECTIONS	32,160.93
308762	MCLEAN FAMILY RESOURCE	DISBURSE MONTHLY COLLECTIONS	308.50
308763	NDACO	DECEMBER E-911 COLLECTIONS	2.51
308764	ND STATE TREASURER	DISBURSE MONTHLY COLLECTIONS	31,208.96
308765	DACOTAH PAPER CO	CLEANERS, KLEENEXES, HAND SOAP, GLOVES, ETC	403.13
308766	EMINETH PLUMBING	REMOVED OLD TOILETS, REPAIRS, LABOR	2,524.72
308767	ATTORNEY GENERAL	MONTHLY COLLECTIONS 24/7 SOBREITY PROGRAM	1,655.00
308768	NDPERS - INSURANCE	FEB PAYROLL	191,975.94
308769	NDPERS - RETIREMENT	FEB PAYROLL	86,581.88
308770	NDPERS - DEFFERED COMP.	FEB PAYROLL	8,125.00
308771	WEX BANK	TASK FORCE GAS	261.39
308771	WEX BANK	SHERIFF'S DEPT GAS	14,071.06
	FEBRUARY PAYROLL	A DETAILED LIST OF PAYROLL FUNDS EXPENDED IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ANYTIME DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS IN THE MCLEAN COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE.	469,304.72

**PCARD FUNDED  
PURCHASES**

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
WRT	PHONE, DSL	103.40
I-STATE TRUCK CENTER	PARTS	522.44
AUTO VALUE	PARTS, OIL, GREASE, REPAIR, ETC	3,263.50
CIRCLE SANITATION	GARBAGE PICKUP AT WASHBURN, GARRISON SHOPS	465.75
JOHNSEN TRAILER SALES	PARTS	359.02
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT	WELDING SUPPLIES	524.30
MCLEAN SHERIDAN RURAL WATER	RURAL WATER	75.64
NORTHERN PLAINS EQUIPMENT	PARTS	609.40
HOLIDAY INN	FARGO HOTEL STAY FOR GREY AND VERKE	385.20
NW TIRE	TIRES, OIL	636.10
MCLEAN ELECTRIC	ROSEGLEN, UNDERWOOD, GARRISON SHOPS	791.00
RESERVATION TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE	147.95
ZORO.COM	SIGN TRUCK AIR COMPRESSOR	3,758.99
ND MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION	TITLE WORK - PLOW TRUCK, THREE PETERBILTS	100.50
SALHUS SEPTIC PUMPING & PORTA POTTY	PORTA POTTY RENTAL	1,270.00
AMAZON	WALK BEHIND SWEEPER	369.00
J & M TRUCK SALES	DOWN PAYMENT ON SEMIS	5,000.00
ND DOT	REGISTRATION & TABS FOR UNDERCOVER VEHICLES	6.00
AMAZON	CABLES, BATTERIES, STAPLERS, DVD DRIVES	287.89
RECORD KEEPERS LLC	SHREDDING SERVICE	45.00
VERIZON CONNECT	VEHICLE TRACKING SUBSCRIPTION	488.60
VERIZON WIRELESS	DATA CARDS	1,047.25
	DETECTIVE PHONES	89.00
	KERZMANN PHONE	42.00
	PATROL CELL PHONES	882.00
WRT	PHONE	94.90
VERIZON	KITTLER - HIGHWAY CELL	42.00
	KROLL - DES CELL	42.00
	GREY - HIGHWAY CELL	42.00
	ERICKSON - STATE'S ATTORNEY CELL	47.00
	OBERG - ASSESSOR JETPACK	40.01
	KROLL - DES JETPACK	40.01
NORDAK NORTH	COMMISSION MINUTES, TOWNSHIP MEETING NOTICES	994.46
WEBROOT	ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE FOR FIVE UNITS	74.89
ULTEIG ENGINEERS	LOST LAKE FISH PASSAGE	4,904.40
	TURTLE CREEK STREAM GAUGE	2,229.24
	KATZ DAM FISH PASSAGE	4,760.00
	ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES	1,436.00
KRAUSES	INMATE GROCERIES	29.36
PHARMICHEM INC	FENTANYL SCREEN, SWEAT PATCH ANALYSIS	187.25
RTC	BENEDICT, SPORTSMEN'S PARK	153.40
WRT	SHERIFF	472.84
	COURTHOUSE	1,400.48
	NDSU EXTENSION	170.56
	E-911	84.90
	JURY/PERSONAL	6.84
	PAROLE AND PROBATION	20.00
	E-911 RADIO TOWER	152.35
AMAZON	NDSU EXTENSION OFFICE SUPPLIES	111.55
RTC	MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES FOR 911	80.00

AMAZON	CORD PROTECTOR, MESSAGE BOARD, PENS, ETC	351.06
WEBROOT	ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE FOR FIVE UNITS	85.59
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	GEN PEST CONTROL PROGRAM - LEC	122.10
KRAUSES	NDSU FOOD FOR YOUTH COOKING CLASS	38.82
ULTEIG ENGINEERS	KATZ DAM FISH PASSAGE	5,886.00
MCLEAN ELECTRIC	SPORTSMEN'S CENTENNIAL PARK	58.00
	PARK BOARD	46.00
	SECURITY LIGHTS-COURTHOUSE	21.00
	SECURITY LIGHTS-PARK	109.00
	CAMPER PADS	153.00
	CENTENNIAL PARK CAMPGROUND METER	57.00
MCLEAN ELECTRIC	CIVIL DEFENSE	231.00
UNIFORM CENTER	SHIRTS, PANTS, COATS	3,174.98
NW TIRE	OIL CHANGE	92.97
AMAZON	PENS, CR1225 BATTERIES, BINDER CLIPS, ETC.	141.24
DAKOTA DUST-TEX	FLOOR MATS-COUNTY SHOP	111.75
VERIZON	TASK FORCE OFFICER	42.21
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	TAXWISE CONVERSION, SCHOOL ERP	2,210.00
FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS	2024 MCLEAN COUNTY PLAT BOOK	340.00
PREMIER HOSPITALITY	STAYBRIDGE SUITES MINOT - SHERIFF DEPT. TRAINING	1,498.00
KXNET JOBS	POSTING JOB ADS	129.00

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson presented the current list of delinquent tax payers owing more than \$4,000.00 showing 85 taxpayers owing \$739,062.31 in back taxes.

Knutson presented the Uncollected Tax List for years 2021-2023 showing a total of \$2,412,009.30.

Knutson presented the budget narrative for period ending February 29, 2024. She presented data showing property tax collections are at 87% collected including 91% with discount for 2024 or \$18,933,735.40; government reimbursement revenues totaled \$433,893.80 compared to \$340,853.98 in 2023; fees and miscellaneous revenues totaled \$208,289.30 compared to \$238,813.73 in 2023; and expenditures were at 15.82% of total budget for 2024.

Cottingham presented the application for Tax Abatement submitted by Michael Thyberg which has been amended since the original applications.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to set Tax Abatement Hearing for 9:00 a.m. on March 19, 2024. Discussion followed. Roll call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Cottingham received a grievance from a former Highway Department employee, Paul Hardy.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to set that hearing for 10:00 a.m. on March 19, 2024. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Rivinius recommended awarding Project CP-2800(023) to Mayo Construction Company, in the amount of \$2,335,805.61. Rivinius also recommended awarding Project CP-2800(024) to Mayo Construction Company, in the amount of \$3,349,675.31.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to award Project CP-2800(023), mill and overlay and sliver widening, to the low bid of Mayo Construction Company for \$2,335,805.61. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Suydam, seconded by Lee, to award Project CP-2800(024), mill and overlay, to the low bid of Mayo Construction Company for \$3,349,675.31. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Suydam, Lee, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson requested approval to use the interest made from the Certificates of Deposit (CD) at TruCommunity Bank to pay off the bond for Lakeview Estates. Discussion followed.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Suydam, to approve using the interest proceeds to pay off bond debt in the amount of \$80,000.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Suydam, and Cottingham. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Suydam discussed the proposed walking trail from Garrison to Fort Stevenson State Park. Discussion followed.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <https://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

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Steve Cottingham, Chairperson

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Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor