

## McLean County Commission Proceedings

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

The final regular April meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chairperson Barry Suydam. Present were Commissioners Suydam, Steve Cottingham, and Steve Lee. Also present were Auditor Beth A. Knutson, Highway Superintendent Jim Grey, Deputy Auditor Diane L. Blumhagen, and Ralph Mancini of BHG News Service.

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

Grey was present with an update on department operations. He reported that work on County Road 4 has started. The department has completed as much of the road crack sealing as they can and shoulder work should start soon. Aggregate Construction Inc. out of Minot, ND, contacted Grey. Informing him that they had located 30,000 ton of gravel west of Garrison that can be crushed into Class 13 gravel.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to authorize Aggregate Construction Inc. to crush and stock-pile up to 40,000 tons of gravel. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Grey discussed the need for the replacement of the garage doors at the Washburn shop. The 2021 Budget included \$30,000.00 for the replacement of the doors. Grey will present a new bid to the commission at the next meeting due to the previous bid being out of date.

Land Use Administrator Todd Schreiner and County Assessor Cailey Ferber joined the meeting with recommendations from the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting held on April 19, 2021.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to concur with the Planning & Zoning Commission and approve the variance request submitted by Don and Bonnie Trueblood, of Minot, ND, requesting a variance of the setback requirements of the McLean County Zoning Ordinance involving land described as: Lot 21, Block 1 – Lakeview Estates (Township 148 North, Range 84 West). Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to concur with the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by Gregory and Sheri Heger, of Douglas, ND, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit involving 3.0 acres of land located in: SW¼SW¼ of Section 5, Township 149 North, Range 84 West, more specifically identified as Outlot A. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to concur with the Planning & Zoning Commission and approve the application submitted by Dean and Sandy Swanson, of Washburn, ND, requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit involving 1.71 acres of land located in: SW¼NW¼ of Section 29, Township 144 North, Range 83 West, more specifically identified as Outlot A. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Schreiner requested to purchase a Digi Planimeter Placom KP90N which measures acres on soil maps for \$595.00.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve purchase of the Digi Planimeter Placom KP90N for \$595.00. Discussion followed. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Richard Johnson joined the meeting.

Johnson requested advertising for one or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions in the Sheriff's Department.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve advertising for one or more Jailer/Dispatcher positions. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson discussed the McLean-Mercer Regional Library Bookmobile. Discussion followed regarding the maintenance of the bookmobile. Suydam will bring the issue to the next Library Board meeting on April 26, 2021.

Knutson presented the commission the police data information which Johnson gathered regarding the average number of calls for the last six years. This data was requested of Johnson by the commissioners at the last meeting. Discussion followed.

Knutson presented the commission a 2021 Beer and Liquor License renewal from The Shore at Brush Lake.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the 2021 Beer and Liquor License renewal for The Shore at Brush Lake, Mercer. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Recorder Heidi Anderson joined the meeting to request permission to advertise an open Clerk position in the Recorder office.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve advertising for a Clerk position in the Recorder office to be advertised in-house for one week and then move to out-of-house if the position is not filled. Lee amended his previous motion to include advertising in-house for one week before advertising out-of-house if the position is not filled. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson discussed the yearly reviews for appointed officials. Discussion followed. Cottingham requested that the performance reviews go through the Auditor. Knutson stated that she will complete the reviews in the next few weeks so they can be discussed at the upcoming meeting on May 4, 2021.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the raffle permit application from Sky Fest Over Fort Stevenson for a raffle to be held on May 31, 2021, for a kite valued at \$300.00, with the proceeds going towards the expense incurred for the kite festival. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the Special Event Permit application submitted by Hometown Tavern and Bottle Shop in Garrison for a wedding reception to be held at Cricket on the Hearth Bed and Breakfast on June 5, 2021. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson informed the commission that the signed police contract from the City of Benedict was received back which stated that the contract will be paid in full in December, 2021.

Knutson informed the commission that the signed McLean County Coroner Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) have been received.

Knutson presented to the commissioners the MOU for the NAWS Contract 61-A Snake Creek Pumping Plant Intake Modifications Geotechnical Exploration. Knutson sent the MOU to Richard Hultberg and Curtis Olson for review and both approved the MOU.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the NAWS MOU. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Knutson informed the commissioners that the completion letter has been received in regards to the audit performed by Rath and Mehrer with the final report coming mid-May. The billing will be more than the budgeted amount of \$13,000.00 due to single certification needed in regards to the amount of federal funds the county received in 2020. Discussion followed.

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

A detailed list of checks is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours in the McLean County Auditor's Office.

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

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Chairperson Suydam reconvened the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Land Use Administrator Todd Schreiner rejoined the meeting for the abatement application hearing for a request submitted by Terrell and Kylee Schuh of Wilton, for land described as the Lots 7, 8, 9, and 10, Block 23, Original Townsite, City of Wilton. The request is to lower the value of the property from \$339,600.00 to \$285,000.00 due to an updated appraisal completed on September 10, 2020.

Knutson informed the commission that the approved abatement will result in a refund in the amount of \$646.79.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to approve the abatement request from Terrell and Kylee Schuh of Wilton for land described as the Lot 7, 8, 9, and 10, Block 23, Original Townsite, City of Wilton, reducing the value from \$339,600.00 to \$285,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Schreiner presented a second abatement for an in-house abatement application request from George Kirick of Hazen for land described as Outlot B in N2S2SW4, of Section 28, Township 143 North, Range 80 West, reducing the value from \$408,700.00 to \$314,100.00.

Knutson informed the commission that the approved abatement will result in a refund in the amount of \$814.65.

Moved by Cottingham, seconded by Lee, to approve the in house abatement request from George Kirick of Hazen for land described as Outlot B in N2S2SW4, of Section 28, Township 143 North, Range 80 West, to reduce the value from \$408,700.00 to \$314,100.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Cottingham, Lee, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Chairperson Suydam reconvened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Wold Engineering representative Mike Rivinius joined the meeting.

Highway Superintendent Jim Grey rejoined the meeting.

A bid opening was held at 10:00 a.m. for Project CP-2827(021) for Mill and Overlay of County Road 9 from ND Highway 37 north to the McLean/Ward County Line. The engineer's estimate for this project is \$1,236,969.80.

The first bid opened was from Anderson Western Inc. of Bismarck, ND, in the amount of \$1,158,755.01. The second bid was from Mayo Construction Company, Inc. of Cavalier, ND, in the amount of \$1,198,370.20. The third bid was from Bechtold Paving, Inc. of Minot, ND in the amount of \$1,034,730.57, and the final bid was from Central Specialties Inc. of Alexandria, MN, in the amount of \$1,212,521.67.

Rivinius recommended awarding Project CP-2827(021) to Bechtold Paving, Inc. of Minot, ND, in the amount of \$1,034,730.57.

Moved by Lee, seconded by Cottingham, to accept the bid for Project CP-2827(021) from Bechtold Paving Inc. of Minot, ND in the amount of \$1,034,730.57. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Lee, Cottingham, and Suydam. Nay: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 04, 2021. The commission minutes and agenda can be found on the county website at <http://www.mcleancountynd.gov>.

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Barry Suydam, Chairperson

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Diane L. Blumhagen, Deputy Auditor