

Commissioner Meeting
February 5, 2019

Commissioner Joel Hamar called the meeting to order at 9:00. Present were Thor Sand, John Hokana, Marke Roberts, Dean Simek and Chairman Joel Hamar. The media was not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Hokana made a motion to approve the minutes from January 15, 2019. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Sand made a motion to approve the vouchers with a change of voucher to Nuvation Health Services in the amount of \$2,174.88, decreasing the voucher to \$450.00. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

The maintenance agreement with VanGuard Appraisals was reviewed. Tax Director Flaherty will clarify with VanGuard on the issue of the number of remote access that the county currently is using. Flaherty will also speak with IT Consultant Jamie Nelson. Flaherty will verify the information and either return the original agreement or get a corrected agreement for the Commissioners to sign.

The yearly maintenance agreement with Software Solutions for PAT software services was reviewed. Simek made a motion to sign the agreement and pay the fixed fee of \$2,500. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

Sheriff Chris Estes and Administrative Assistant Andrea Massee joined the meeting at 9:50. Estes stated the new vehicle has been delivered to the dealership. Estes spoke of the difficulty he is having hiring a new deputy, as there are many deputy jobs open in the whole state.

Hokana made a motion to pay the bill for the new vehicle in the amount of \$22,890.56 to Nelson Auto Center. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

Environmental Services Scott Peterson and Ray Peterson joined the meeting at 9:54. On Martin Luther King Day, S Peterson checked the courthouse and the compressor motor had tipped over and was not shutting off. The request is to purchase a spare compressor motor as a backup. Discussion followed concerning the options. Simek will check to see if he has a compressor that could be used as a backup.

DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell joined the meeting at 10:15. Russell reminded the Commission of the Hazard Mitigation meetings on February 12th in Ellendale and February 19th in Oakes.

Tax Director Don Flaherty and Deputy Tax Director Denise Olson joined the meeting at 10:25 to discuss ag land values received from the state. To continue to maintain the percentage of 93% of the state value, the average increase for 2019 would need to be 3.75%. Discussion followed concerning the breakdown between cropland and non-cropland. Flaherty is requesting a percentage to the state level that the Commission would like to maintain. Flaherty stated that the parcel splits should be done towards the end of February or first part of March. Once those are finished, Flaherty will be able to report to the Commission the affect of maintaining the 93% average. Commission opted at this time to stay with the 93%, at the recommendation of Flaherty.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen, Interstate Engineering's Michael May and Daren Peterko joined the meeting at 11:00. May presented the construction engineering services agreement in the amount of \$76,428.16 for the bridge project to be signed and sent to the ND DOT office. Sand made a motion to sign the construction services agreement. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Commission reviewed the positions open in the County Park Board, Water Board, and County Coroner.

Sand made a motion to reappoint Cary Wertz to the County Park Board. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Simek made a motion to reappoint Perry Hoven as County Coroner. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion followed concerning the two positions on the Water Board. Keith Hauck has served on the Water Board has served for many years and is willing to serve. Current board member Kyle Courtney did not express interest in serving another term. Two residents have expressed interest in serving. After discussion, Roberts made a motion to reappoint Keith Hauck and appoint Steve Hansen to the County Water Board. Hokana seconded. Motion carried. A letter to the other interested party will be sent and a thank you to Kyle Courtney for his years of service will be sent out by Sheppard.

Hokana made a motion to adjourn at 11:51.