

Commissioner Meeting
January 7, 2020

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.

Additions to the agenda

Pheasant Lake and Elm Township

E-mail from National Weather Service

Sand made a motion to approve the minutes from December 17th and 27th with corrections. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Hamar reviewed the e-mail received from John Paul Martin, from the National Weather Service, concerning the assistance of Charlie Russell during the last winter storm. The letter is a commendation for Russell's work and the assistance Russell gave to them.

Phone calls have been received from Elm Township residents concerning the county's plan to not contract to clean the road out at Pheasant Lake. The Commission again stated that it is not economical for the county and our equipment is too big for the area. The road was opened after the last storm, which concluded the contract with Elm Township for 2019.

With no other business from 2019, Hokana moved to adjourn the final 2019 business meeting at 9:17.

Auditor Sheppard called the 2020 Reorganization Meeting to order at 9:18 and asked for nominations for Commissioner Chairman. Simek nominated Mark Roberts. Sand seconded. Hamar made a motion to cease nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for Marke Roberts. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Roberts thanked Hamar for a job well done the last two years as Chairperson.

Roberts asked for a motion for Vice Chairman. Hamar nominated John Hokana. Simek seconded. Sand made a motion to cease nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for John Hokana. Hamar seconded. Motion carried.

The current county portfolios were discussed. Hokana made a motion to keep the portfolios the same. Hamar seconded. Motion carried.

The list of county board appointments that need to be appointed were reviewed. A position for the Water Board, Weed Board, and the Park Board are open. Sheppard will send an advertisement to the paper requesting applicants as well as a letter out to the board members that expired in 2019. Appointments will be reviewed at the next Commissioner meeting.

Hokana made a motion to dissolve the Social Services Board, due to the change in legislation and the formation of the South Country Human Services Zone Board. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Sand made a motion to dissolve the Detailed Soils Board, as it is already in place and is established. Hamar seconded. Motion carried.

Simek made a motion to approve the vouchers. Hokana seconded. Motion carried.

Roberts presented a Gaming Site Authorization form from the Hole in One Foundation. Hokana made a motion to approve the application and to waive the fee. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Health District Administrator Roxanne Holm joined the meeting at 10:15 to discuss the use of the automobiles originally used by Social Services by a Health District employee who is attending training in Bismarck next week. Sand made a motion to allow the use of the vehicle for this employee. Based on the expired policy of Social Services Hamar seconded. Motion carried. Sheppard and Holm will work with information from Social Services to develop a policy and to research a calendar that could be used by all interested employees for scheduling of the automobiles.

Environmental Services employees Scott Peterson and Dan Blondo joined the meeting at 10:29 to discuss with the Commissioners concerning the new lawn mower budgeted in 2020 for the Courthouse. Peterson will check with the vendor to verify price, as the quote is 6 months old, and a possible delivery timeframe.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen and Deputy Recorder Kelly Schmidt joined the meeting at 10:42.

Sheppard presented three Quit Claim deeds for property sold or deeded to the City at the tax sale in November. Hamar made a motion to sign the deeds on parcel numbers #11428000 in Monango, #08462000 in Ellendale, and #11021000 in Forbes. Simek seconded. Motion carried. Schmidt notarized the signatures on the deeds.

The meeting went into recess and reconvened at 10:51. Sheriff Chris Estes joined the meeting.

Hagen informed the Commission that the Oshkosh truck and snowblower should be delivered Thursday, depending on the weather. Hagen stated he had received calls from a few farmers that had assisted in removing snow last year, offering to assist again. Hagen approved them to assist with blowing snow on then Glover road and on County Road 3C after this last storm.

Estes updated the Commission on the use of the new side-by-side with rescuing of individuals in the last storm. The individuals rescued were people living outside of the state.

Sand made a motion to approve the PAT software agreement. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Simek made a motion to sign the yearly agreement with South Central Dakota Regional Council. Hokana seconded. Motion carried. Sheppard will ask for more information and the guidelines of what services they offer so the county and cities in the county can use these resources provided by this agreement.

Hamar made a motion to sign the software license agreement with Vanguard Appraisals. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Sheppard requested a change in venue for the February 4th Commissioner meeting, due to the Commissioner Room being used at that time. A decision was made to request the use of the meeting room at Oakes City Hall. Sheppard will reserve the room.

Sand spoke of the need for residents to express their opinions to the State of North Dakota on the use of Legacy fund money. Discussion followed concerning the installation of natural gas in other areas and that would be an excellent use of those funds.

Hokana made a motion to adjourn at 11:51.