

Commissioner Meeting
April 17, 2018

Commissioner Joel Hamar called the meeting to order at 9:25. 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 increase

Dickey County 3 east of Oakes

Simek made a motion to open the bid hearing for the sale of the park 950A JD mower that was listed on BisManOnline. Roberts seconded. Motion carried. All bids were rejected as the Commission felt the high bidder was insufficient for the mower. The mower will be relisted with a set price. Bids are available at the Auditor's Office. Simek make a motion to close the bid hearing. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Assistant States Attorney Jeff Glynn joined the meeting at 9:35. Glynn is requesting the signature of Chairman Hamar and Auditor Sheppard on a corrected deed from a mistake made in 1992. Upon the recommendation of Assistant States Attorney Glynn, Sand made a motion to sign the corrected deed. Hokana seconded. Motion carried.

Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 4th meeting with corrections. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Gail Veland, Deputy Treasurer Cheryl Brokaw, Weed Board Chairman Mark Bobbe, and Weed Board Secretary Amy Sand joined the meeting at 9:45.

The Weed Board members are requesting an increase in the meeting rate the board receives for meetings they attend. They are requesting an increase of \$25 for the board members, as well as the secretary. The board has not received an increase for some time and feel that the job is requiring more time now. Chairman Hamar stated that the review of salaries is done during budget time. Discussion followed. Commission decided to look at all board salaries during the 2019 budget hearings.

Brokaw presented the Treasurer's Quarterly report for first quarter, 2018. Simek made a motion to approve the Quarterly Report. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

Roberts made a motion to approve all vouchers, except the voucher to Odyssean until Commission speak with DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

Sheriff Chris Estes and Tax Equalization Director Don Flaherty joined the meeting at 10:15.

Hokana made a motion to approve the financials for March. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Auditors office received a letter from North Dakota Highway Patrol, concerning requesting their assistance with enforcement of spring load restrictions and over-weight restrictions. Sand made a motion to submit a request to the regional office for assistance. Simek seconded. Motion carried

Roberts made a motion to sign the contract with the State of North Dakota to fund for services of the Dickey County Clerk of District Court. Sand seconded. Motion carried.

DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell, Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen, and KLJ Engineer Chad Peterson joined the meeting at 10:30. Xcel Energy representatives Sean Lawler, Amanuel Houile, and Mark Nisbet, and Wanzek Construction Pete Nelson also joined the meeting. Lawler will be the project contact for the Foxtail Wind Project. The planning kickoff meeting will be held April 30th from 5:00 – 8:00 pm at the Fireside. Nisbet is the secondary contact in case Lawler is not available. Hoile is the on-site project manager representing Xcel Energy for the project.

Wanzek Conctruction is the contractor responsible for the project and Nelson is their on-site manager. After load restrictions are lifted, work will be started on the foundations and access roads. In 2019, the components will start to arrive. The wind towers should be up and running in 2019. A job fair is scheduled for May 1st, the day after the kickoff meeting. Nelson is hoping to pick up workers through

the job fair. Nelson is also looking for housing options for the crews that will be here. Hamar asked about emergency response out at the site. Nelson stated they are working with Russell to ensure that steps are in place in case anything does happen. Russell stated that the construction trailer will have a radio so that they can call in immediately. Mock emergency calls will be used so that they can ensure that procedures in place will work, as expected. Hamar thanked Xcel Energy and Wanzek Construction representatives for coming and asked that they keep the Commissioners up to date on the project.

Chad Peterson, the new KLJ Engineer, for the county introduced himself. Peterson is taking over the job Josh Loegering was doing for the county.

Russell informed the Commission on the voucher for Odyssean. Roberts amended his motion to approve all vouchers. Simek seconded. Motion carried.

Tax Director Don Flaherty joined the meeting at 11:00. Flaherty presented the list of charges for each township that uses the County Assessor. The Commission left the billing as indicated on Flaherty's sheet, including those affected by the change in assessor.

Sand reported that he had received calls concerning values of lots out at Pheasant Lake. On recommendation of Flaherty and on approval of the Elm Township Equalization board at their annual meeting, a 25% reduction in land valuations were made in Pheasant Acres. Flaherty stated there were no complaints at the Elm Township equalization meeting. Lot values increased considerably but the sales ratio shows an increase on all the lots sold.

Steve Hansen and John Quandt joined the meeting at 11:10 to discuss the Lovell Improvement Project. A map was presented with the current plan for the project. The State Water Commission should be approving their permit late April or early May. Highway Superintendent Hagen stated that he has no concerns with the project. The last page of the handout was concerning their request for cost share of culverts for the project that are requesting assistance with payment. The handouts are on file with the Auditor's Office. Of the total projected cost for culverts of \$28,599, they are requesting the county share of \$9,533. Quandt and Hansen are meeting with the Water Board tomorrow night as well. Hagen stated it will help the county with the water table and road quality, as there is no place for the water to go at this point. Commission will wait until permitting is completed before a decision is made.

States Attorney Gary Neuharth, Administrative Assistant Holly Hokana, Sheriff Chris Estes, and Karen Neuharth joined the meeting at 11:35.

RDO representative Jeree Meyer joined the meeting at 11:40 to discuss quotes for new JD 772GP blades. There are 6 different options that were reviewed by Commission. The plan would be to get one with a ripper on the rear of the machine and one without a ripper. The new equipment will have the equipment installed that would solve the workers comp issue from earlier. The blade would be hydraulically removed. Commission discussed the different options. An appraisal on the one machine is being done today to give the Commission a trade-in value on the machine owned by the county. No decision was made.

Dickey County resident Christopher Hagen joined the meeting at 11:45. Christopher Hagen stated that he is not getting help from the States Attorney's office or the Sheriff's office. Discussion followed. As elected officials, the Commission does not feel there is anything they can do, as elected officials don't work for them. Christopher Hagen stated he was told the Commission could ask for investigation into the whole issue. Chairman Hamar asked Christopher Hagen for clarification as to what he wanted from the Commissioners. Christopher Hagen is requesting for all information that he has requested be forwarded to him. The States Attorney's office stated it has been done three times. Civil matters that were brought up are not handled by the Commission board. No action was taken.

Roberts asked for clarification from Highway Superintendent Hagen about Dickey County 3, east of Oakes. The gravel is good, but the pavement is bad, because it is breaking up again. It has been chip sealed several times. The issue is that it is not a vital vein in the county. The road has been reviewed in the past, but in order to use federal funding for the road would have to be widened and trees would

have to be removed. The removal of the trees have created concerns with residents in the past. Sand suggested that the Commission may want to look at all county roads and consider their classifications. Hagen stated he would talk to Engineer Peterson about the road.

The quote information received from RDO representative Meyers was reviewed. Roberts made a motion to lease one JD 772GP with a rear ripper and one JD 772GGP without a rear ripper, per the quote received. Sand seconded. The Commission will wait until they get the appraisal on the old blade to decide if the blade is posted on BisManOnline or accept the appraisal from RDO. Motion carried.

Auditor Sheppard presented the beer and liquor license applications received from the Kulm Country Club. The fee has been received. Estes stated there has been no issues with them. Simek made a motion to approve the application. Hokana seconded. Motion carried.

Auditor Sheppard presented a proposed Budget calendar for 2019 budget. Sheppard will send the schedule to all taxing entities and departments so they have the guidelines for the new budget year.

Commission reviewed the letter composed by Auditor Sheppard to our representatives in Congress and House of Representatives concerning the FEMA payback issue. Sheppard will make corrections and send to our Representatives. Sheppard will also request an update from Assistant States Attorney Glynn concerning the status of the appeal.

Chairman Hamar stated he received a call from Kerry Peuser of Michael Burns with an update on the basement project. His estimate would be the project costs would be approximately \$460,000.

Commission asked for an update on changing the locks at Social Services. Russell stated the electronic badges have been made at the school. Russell said that he is waiting for a quote from Dickey Rural Networks on the locks for the Court House. Russell stated there may be a chance we could get some Homeland Security money for the project.

Hokana made a motion to adjourn at 1:05.