

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

April 1, 2003 – 4:00 P.M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment with Commissioners Murphy, Kvasager, Malm, Wood and Triplett present.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2003 meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Triplett, to approve the order of agenda with item 12c removed. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Kvasager, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #18538 thru Check #118656 in the amount of \$657,252.22, payroll in the amount of \$636,835.42, approval of overtime and employee status changes, approval of game of chance for Ducks Unlimited and approval of lost instrument bonds for Niagara Township and Grand Forks Economic Development. Motion carried.

Jim Brownlee, Director of Finance and Tax, addressed the board and gave a financial report.

Debbie Nelson, Director of Property and Records, addressed the board.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to approve the application for abatement of the 2002 taxes from Lawrence & Magdalene Weber, Lot 8 Norton's Resubdivision, Thompson City, to reduce the True and Full Value from \$63,900 to \$53,900. Motion carried.

Jim Campbell, Emergency Management Director, addressed the board. Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Murphy, to approve a grant for capability assessment for risks from weapons of mass destruction in the amount of \$44,000 with the local share of \$11,000 of in kind match. Motion carried.

Richard Onstad, Highway Superintendent, addressed the board.

Moved by Wood, seconded by Triplett, to approve the advertising for bids for 85 miles of Seal Coat on various roads. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Wood, to allow the Highway Department to hire 5 part time summer employees. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Triplett, to have Chairman, Director of Finance and Tax and States Attorney sign Maintenance Certification on County Federal Aid Project. Motion carried.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board and gave an update on providing States Attorney services to Steele County, the status of Weed Board appointments and the case load of the States Attorney's Office. Mr Welte also informed the board that a lawsuit filed by Peggy Koehler has been dismissed by the Supreme Court.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Wood, not to pay membership to the Seratoma Club for Robert Ross. Motion carried.

Representatives from Calvary Cemetery Association addressed the board. Moved by Wood, seconded by Triplett, to allow the Association to drill test borings at the Fairgrounds. This approval does not obligate the County in any way regarding the status of the County Fairgrounds.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Murphy, to approve the position of Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator for the States Attorney's Office effective April 1, 2003. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Kvasager, to approve the reclassification of Mary Ann Lindgren from a Legal Secretary, grade 6, to a Restitution Coordinator, grade 7. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Wood, to approve the Public Health Nurse at the Correction Center to become a full time position. Motion carried.

Gary Gardner, Correction Center Administrator, addressed the board and requested 5 additional Correction Officers. Motion carried with Commissioner Wood voting against the motion.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Wood, to approve the contract with Baukol Builders, Inc. for demolition work at the County Courthouse not to exceed \$16,000. Motion carried.

Mayor Michael Brown, Richard Duquette and John Schmisek, from the City of Grand Forks addressed the board on a proposal to have the City give the County a share of a sales tax increase so that the County could reduce the mill levies of the County. The city and the county will meet to work on the details of this plan.

Moved by Wood, seconded by Triplett, to approve a County Deed to Phydella Bertsch for the property located at Lot, 8 Block 12, Auditor's Subdivision #3 to the city of Grand Forks for fulfillment of a Contract of Deed. Motion carried.

The Board directed Jim Brownlee and Peter Welte to research the County Park Board and report back to the board.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Wood, to adjourn. The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2003.

Gary Malm, Chairman
Grand Forks County Commission

James Brownlee, County Auditor