

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

May 16, 2006 – 4:00 P.M.

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

Moved by Yahna, seconded by Malm, to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2006 meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to approve the order of the agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Yahna, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda include an employee status change for Joline Hughes, bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #114713 thru Check #114739, Check #114879 thru Check #114880, Check #114984 thru Check #115235 in the amount of \$1,897,312.51, overtime and Veterans Service Office Report. Motion carried.

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board regarding pursuing a Hazard Mitigation Grant for one Grand Forks County residence that was substantially damaged from flooding in the summer of 2004. Commissioner Triplett asked if the owner was still interested in the buyout. Mr. Magnuson will contact Red River Regional Management before the Grant is approved and report back to the Commission.

Robert Wood, Property and Records Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to approve the following abatement applications: Jeffrey and Joan Schiele, parcel number 44-2301-00152-000 on the 2005 True and Full Value, David Simons, parcel number 44-1343-00118-001 on the 2005 True and Full Value, Leon and Romelle Thielman, parcel number 44-2217-00136-000 on the 2004 True and Full Value and Mark Weber, parcel number 44-9991-00113-002 on the 2005 True and Full Value. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Yahna, to deny the abatement applications from Jean M. Verner, parcel number 42-1604-00009-0000 on the 2004 and 2005 True and Full Values. Motion carried.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to give preliminary approval for MIDA bonds for St. Anne's Building Corporation in the amount of \$750,000, subject to a public hearing on June 6, 2006 at 4:30. The bonds would be subject to a fee of 1% of total issuance, with a maximum of \$10,000. Motion carried.

Dan Hill, Grand Forks County Sheriff, gave a report on the Sheriff's Department.

Scott Fournier, ICON Architectural Group, addressed the board.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Triplett, to approve the change order of \$10,348.00 for a gas filled fire suppressant system to be used in the security and electronics room of the

new Correctional Center, only if the gas is nontoxic and Dean Dahl, Information Systems Director, approves. Motion carried.

Major Mike Fonder, Grand Forks County Sheriff's Department, addressed the board.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Yahna, to approve the Chair's signature on the ND Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Contract. Motion carried.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to approve the request to allow the Sheriff's Department to retain the three vehicles that would normally be sold. Motion carried.

Moved by Triplett, to deny the request to use of volunteers to staff the County Office Building, when available, to assist the Grand Forks County Sheriff's Department and the citizens of Grand Forks County. Motion dies for lack of a second.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to approve the use of volunteers to staff the County Office Building, when available, to assist the Grand Forks County Sheriff's Department and the citizens of Grand Forks County for a trial period of 3 months with a report to the County Commission each month on how it is working. Motion carried with Murphy, Malm, Yahna and Kvasager voting aye and Triplett voting nay.

Doug West addressed the board.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, gave the April 2006 financial report.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Yahna, to set the interim fund for the General Fund at 15% of the General Fund expenditures as a place to start during the budget process. Motion carried.

Chairman Kvasager directed Debbie Nelson to attach a letter to the budget lists that will be sent out early in July, stating that if their overall budget request exceeds 3% over the prior year, they will be called in to discuss this matter with the Finance Committee.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Malm, to approve the Chair's signature on a letter to Mr. Fred Kuhn, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Installations, Environmental and Logistics. Motion carried.

Chairman Kvasager directed Ed Nierode to coordinate an effort with the City of Grand Forks to follow up on the letter to Mr. Fred Kuhn.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Triplett, to have the sand pile estimated 22,000 pounds removed from the second floor of Grand Forks County Parking Ramp. Motion carried.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to refer the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp issue to the Building Committee for prompt action. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Malm, to approve the change in the Finance and Tax Audit Specialist position from a 75% position to a full-time position. Motion carried.

Moved by Triplett, seconded by Murphy, to approve the Chair's signature on the EERC Agreement; Whereas CONTRACTOR (EERC) is willing to address Red River of the North Basin management issues with the overall goal of developing a long-term watershed management strategy, and SPONSOR (Grand Forks County Commission) desires to participate in the activities of said Program. Motion carried.

Commissioner Triplett requested that the topic of management of Grand Forks County contracts be added to the agenda in six weeks.

Moved by Yahna, seconded by Triplett, to change the first Commission Meeting in July from the first Tuesday to Thursday, July 6, 2006 at 4:00pm. Motion carried.

Moved by Yahna, seconded by Triplett, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm. The next meeting will be held on June 6, 2006.

Arvin Kvasager, Chairman
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, Auditor