

GRAND FORKS COUNTY SPECIAL MEETING – April 9, 2008 – 5:00pm
Topic: Home Rule Charter Consideration

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

Chair Triplett thanked the Home Rule Charter Committee for their service on the committee.

The Chair pointed out two typographical errors that should be corrected in the Home Rule Charter. The first was in Article 2 Paragraph 2 - third line from the bottom it should be “mill” not “mills.” The second error was in Article 2 Paragraph 3 – the word “of” was printed with the “o” and the “f” on top of each other.

Commissioner Malm asked the States Attorney how the Charter would be amended after it is approved. States Attorney Peter Welte will research the answer and report back to Commissioner Malm tomorrow morning.

Commissioner Murphy asked if the Home Rule Charter would pass with a simple majority of the electorate. Peter Welte said yes.

Lloyd Omdahl, Home Rule Charter Committee Chairman, informed the board of the three public forums that were held by the Home Rule Charter Committee. The law requires only one. Mr. Omdahl reported on the contents of the Home Rule Charter and the public comments that were received at the public forums.

CT Marhula asked Lloyd Omdahl if the Home Rule Charter passes what would stop the Commission from raising the mill rate. CT Marhula said the Commission currently has the power to increase the mill rate. Lloyd said they could raise the mills without the Home Rule Charter.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to approve the adoption of the Home Rule Charter for Grand Forks County, as submitted by the Home Rule Charter Committee with the two typographical errors corrected and submit the Home Rule Charter to a vote of the people at the June 10, 2008 Primary Election. Motion carried. See attached.

Commissioner Malm asked Peter Welte to research commission districts if the Home Rule Charter passes.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Knauf, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm.

Constance Triplett, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, Auditor