

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

September 2, 2008 – 4:00 P.M.

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

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Malm, to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Knauf, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills submitted by the County Auditor, Check#134074-134263 in the amount of \$376,676.21; employee status change for Jessica J. Fleck; overtime and bond for check reissue. Motion carried.

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Knauf, to approve the request of Gene Brown for a Special Use Permit to construct a Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS) in section 20 of Rye Township and to grant a variance with the following condition: the structure height, including the blade, be limited to 78'. Motion carried.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to allow Ms. Wanda Vaughn until October 1, 2008 to abate the junk and inoperable motor vehicles on the property located at 2055 17th Street NE, Section 20, Rye Township, which is violation of Section 4-4-5 of the Grand Forks County Zoning Resolution - Storage of Junk, Litter, Waste and Other Materials. Grand Forks County may direct a third party to abate the violation and the actual expense shall be charged against the land of the landowner and shall be collected in the same manner as other real estate taxes are collected, and placed to the credit of the subdivisions entitled thereto if not abated by October 1, 2008. Motion carried.

Steve Johnson, Grand Forks Regional Airport Authority Executive Director, introduced Rich Becker, Chairman of the Grand Forks Regional Airport Authority Board, Clark Cronquist, Grand Forks Regional Airport Authority Board Member and Mary Jo Crystal, Grand Forks Regional Airport Authority Director of Finance/Administration.

Steve Johnson gave an update on the plans for a new passenger terminal for the Grand Forks Regional Airport.

Bret Burkholder, Correctional Center Administrator, reported he will brief the Commission on the Correctional Risk Services Inmate Insurance after he and Mr. Nierode have gathered additional information.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Kvasager, to open the bids for two used Sheriff Department vehicles. Motion carried.

The following bids were received:	Vehicle #1	Vehicle #2
Anderson Repair, 3850 22 nd Ave NE, Larimore	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00
Ryan Corbett, 2519 St. Andrews, East Grand Forks	\$2,659.99	\$2,659.99

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Knauf, to accept the high bid from Ryan Corbett for \$2,659.99

for Vehicle #1, a 2003 Ford Expedition, and \$2,659.99 for Vehicle #2, a 2003 Ford Expedition. Motion Carried.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, presented the 2009 Preliminary Budget.

Chair Triplett asked that any motion made on the 2009 Preliminary Budget be made after Ed Nierode's report.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Malm, to recess for a closed executive session, pursuant to NDCC 44-04-19.1 and 44-04-19.2. It was 4:55pm. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Malm, to close the executive session. Motion carried.

The Chair reconvened the Grand Forks County Commission meeting at 5:20pm.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, reported he had reviewed the Northlands Rescue Mission and Shelter for the Homeless Corporate Documents and Agreements and it is his opinion that we can legally enter into a Service Agreement with the Shelter for the Homeless because it is not a religious organization.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Knauf, to approve sending the Sheriff's Department Office Coordinator Accountant job description to Government Management Group for reclassification consideration. Motion carried.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Murphy, to approve sending the Juvenile Detention Administrator's job description to Government Management Group for reclassification consideration. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Knauf, to approve the pay increases, as presented, effective January 1, 2009 for the following individuals: Kenny Nelson, Janis Payne, Jerry Wilson, Judy Senne, Larry Ahles and Tom Falck based on the salary survey done by Government Management Group. These individuals will be at 90% of market after their 2.5% anniversary increase and with a 3% cost of living increase. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Murphy, to approve a \$500 bonus payment for Paulette Aaker and Rod Huot, to be paid January 15, 2009. Motion carried.

Moved by Kvasager, seconded by Knauf, to approve a 2.5% merit pay increase for Lorna Berg, Arlene Herzog, Linda Funkhouser, Kelly McLean, Larry Hoffman, Becky Swangler, Lynn Johnson and Amber Vaughn, effective January 1, 2009. Commissioner Kvasager made the motion because no anniversary step increases were given in 2008. Motion carried.

The Commission directed Debbie Nelson to remove \$2500 from the 2009 Sheriff's Department Budget that had been included for leasing space from the Grand Forks County Fair Board since the building will not be available in 2009.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Kvasager, to approve the 2009 Preliminary Budget, as amended, and to set the public hearing on the final budget for September 16, 2008 at 4:20pm. Motion carried.

Commissioner Murphy was appointed to purchase a door prize for the North Dakota Association of Counties Convention not to exceed to \$100.00.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Kvasager, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm. The next meeting will be held on September 16, 2008.

Constance Triplett, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor