

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

September 22, 2009 – 4:00 P.M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment with Commissioners Murphy, Knauf, Schmisek and Pic present. Commissioner Malm was absent.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the order of agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Knauf, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: employee status changes for Michelle April Hendrickson, Gabriel Johnston, Jessica Lynn Berger, Joshua Arvidson, Tanya Barron, Peggy Klockmann, Brynne Love and Lori Morgan; bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #142065 – 142372 in the amount of \$857,472.66; overtime and Grand Forks County Sheriff's Department Transport Statistics. Motion carried.

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the plat of Jolin's Subdivision in the NW ¼ of Section 14, Allendale Township with the following condition: the culvert sizing information and access easement shall be shown on the plat prior to the County Planning Department signing off on the plat. Motion carried.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the application of Lonnie Olderbak for a variance to allow a windbreak to be planted 60' from centerline of a township road in the SE ¼ of Section 22, Brenna Township with the following conditions: the applicant shall remove the two mature trees located in the 47th Avenue township right-of-way. The applicant shall maintain the 140' setback from 83rd Street, as not to create a blind intersection. Motion carried.

Mr. Magnuson reported that he will bring a zoning amendment regarding after the fact permits to the first meeting in October for Commission consideration.

Jay Kleven, EAPC, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to reject the only bid received for the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp painting project from Pedersen and Sons, based on higher than anticipated costs and on the bid irregularities. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Schmisek, to accept the bid from ICS, Inc. for the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp drains project at a cost of \$88,357. Motion carried.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Schmisek, to reject the bids received for the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp lighting project. Motion carried.

Jim Campbell, Emergency Management Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Pic, to approve the Chairman's signature on the Agreement for Joint Exercise of Governmental Powers – Emergency Management, effective September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2014. Motion carried.

Amber Vaughn, Tax Equalization Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the abatement application for Darren Mehs on parcel number 40-2302-00001-002 and reduce the 2008 True and Full Value from \$75,000 to \$23,000. Motion carried.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, addressed the board. The public hearing on the 2010 Budget was opened. No one appeared and the public hearing was closed.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the 2010 Final Budget of \$36,231,087. Motion carried. A copy of the final budget is on file in the County Finance and Tax Office.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Knauf, to approve the Service Agreements with CVIC, Lutheran Social Services, Circle of Friends Humane Society, Summer Performing Arts, Shelter for the Homeless and Greater Grand Forks Community Service and Restitution Program. Motion carried.

Keith Berger, Social Services Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to allow Grand Forks County Social Services to hire the Social Worker position that is included in the 2010 budget three months early provided there are funds available in the Social Services 2009 budget. Motion carried.

Richard Axvig, Grand Forks County Water Board Chairman, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the Chairman's signature on the North Dakota Department of Transportation Construction and Maintenance Agreement for County/State Aid Project SRF-0018(26) Larimore Dam. Motion carried.

Sheriff Dan Hill addressed the board.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the Chairman's signature on the North Dakota Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Contract for FY 2010. Motion carried.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Schmisek, to table the request to approve a STOP Grant for a Domestic Violence Investigator for the Sheriff's Department until next meeting on October 6, 2009. Motion carried.

Janeen Stenso, Red River Basin Commission Outreach Coordinator, gave an update on the Red River Basin Commission activities. The Red River Basin Commission Resolution will be considered at the next Commission meeting.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve out-of-state travel for Ed Nierode and Commissioner Schmisek to attend the Office of Economic Adjustment Conference in Orlando, Florida, November 2 -5, 2009. The travel will be funded by the Office of Economic Adjustment. Motion carried.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve out-of-state travel for Ed Nierode to attend the Airlift/Tanker Association Convention in Nashville Tennessee, October 29 – November 1, 2009. The travel will be funded by the Office of Economic Adjustment. Motion carried.

Mr. Nierode reported the air quality of the Grand Forks County Office Building has been tested and no air quality problems were found. The testing was done by Legend Technical Service, Fargo, ND and the report will be filed in the Finance and Tax Office.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the Chairman's signature on the North Dakota State Fire and Tornado Sworn Statement in Proof of Loss for water removal and mitigation with repairs for \$32,804.69. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve extending the COBRA health insurance for one month for Martin Yahna. The Commission will make the consideration to extend the COBRA health insurance beyond the federal 36 month maximum on a case-by-case basis. COBRA health insurance premiums are paid 100% by the former employee. Motion carried.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Schmisek, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:47pm. The next meeting will be held on October 6, 2009.

William Murphy, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor