

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

October 20, 2009 – 4:00 P.M.

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

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, 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 Angela Rose, James Dockter, Preston Engstrom, Steven Krznarich, Gabriel James Johnston and Ryan Thompson; bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #142636 – 142960 in the amount of \$743,329.35; overtime and County Deed on parcel number 14-3707-00105-000. Motion carried.

Brian Osowski, Osowski Business Consulting, addressed the board regarding the Recovery Zone Bond Policy.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to amend the presented Recovery Zone Bond Policy as follows: (1) add “The County Commission reserves the right to ask for additional information, if needed.” after the last sentence in paragraph three on page 9 (2) change the word on page 9, fourth paragraph from “will announce the applicants” to “may announce the applicants” and (3) add the following sentence to page 12, fourth paragraph “The applicants must be current on any fees or other taxes owed to any local government located in the Grand Forks County Recovery Zone.” Motion carried.

Commissioner Schmisek said that the Grand Forks County Recovery Zone Bond Program Application Form will need to be modified on page 7 to include the fees and other taxes owed to any local government in addition to the property taxes.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Knauf, to amend the presented Recovery Zone Bond Policy by changing page 10, paragraph four to “ A check for one-half (1/2) of the allocation fee is due at the time the application is submitted to the County”. Motion carried.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the Recovery Zone Bond Policy, as amended. Motion carried.

Amber Vaughn, Tax Equalization Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the abatement application for Generations Learning Center parcel number 49-1801-00032-001 and reduce the 2008 True and Full Value from \$10,700 to \$0. Motion carried.

Diane Blair, Base Realignment Impact Committee, addressed the board.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Malm, to approve the Office of Economic Adjustment grant application and the \$8,027 cash match. Motion carried.

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

The 2009 Property Appraisal Hearing was held. No objections were heard.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the minimum sale prices on the county tax deed properties adding \$900 to the sale price on parcel number 45-2301-00021-000 and set the property sale for November 17, 2009 at 2:00 pm in the County Commission Room, County Office Building. Terms of sale are cash or check only. Motion carried.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Ed Nierode was directed to draft a letter for the Chair's signature to the responsible party on the parking ramp project requesting a meeting with the Building Committee regarding the drain that was on the original plan for the parking ramp but was never installed.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to authorize the Building Committee to sign a change order with ICS, Inc. of approximately \$16,000 for an additional drain in the parking ramp. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to authorize the Building Committee to approve any future change orders associated with the additional drain in the parking ramp. Motion carried.

Commissioner Pic reported that Debbie Swanson, Grand Forks Public Health Nurse, has been awarded the 2009 American Public Health Association Award for Excellence for the work she has done with the North Dakota Public Health Association. The Award also includes a \$58,000 grant that will go to the North Dakota Public Health Association.

Commissioner Pic would also like to recognize Don Shields, Public Health Director, and his staff for the pandemic plan they have put into place.

Commissioner Knauf would like to recognize Barb Zavala, Veterans Service Officer and her staff for the excellent job with the Northern Valley Honor Flight.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to increase the threshold of our fixed assets to any asset greater than \$1,000 should be included on our fixed asset list. Motion carried.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Malm, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:27pm. The next meeting will be held on November 3, 2009.

William Murphy, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor