

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

April 17, 2012 – 4:00 P.M.

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

Moved by Malm, seconded by Knauf, to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2012 meeting. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Pic, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #159614-159884 in the amount of \$460,082.74 and purchasing card transactions of \$18,443.18; employee status changes for Lee R. Finstad, Deanne M. Gifford, Daniel Gibson and Anna Dorward; Game of Chance Permit for St. Olaf Lutheran Church WELCA; out-of-state travel for Social Services; and Gaming Site Authorization for Ashley Lions Club. Motion carried.

The public hearing for the Application for Property Tax Incentives for New or Expanding Business for Britton Transport, Inc. was opened.

Eric Icard, Grand Forks Regional Economic Development Corporation, addressed the board.

The public hearing was closed.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to approve a New or Expanding Business Exemption for Britton Transport, Inc. for five years as follows: 100% for the first year, 80% for the second year, 60% for the third year, 40% for the fourth year and 20% for the final year, beginning in 2012. Motion carried.

Mandy Burbank, Grand Forks Public Health, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to support a farmer's market on the County Office Building grounds to be held on four consecutive Thursday's in July and August, from 4-6 pm. The States Attorney will approve the vendor agreements. Motion carried.

Ms. Burbank invited the County Commissioners to the Grand Forks City & County Employee Wellness Fair in October.

Ed Christ, Social Services Director, addressed the board.

The two items requested by the Social Services Director will be referred to the next Administrative Services Committee meeting.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Knauf, to become a sponsor for an Enhanced Use Lease at the Grand Forks Air Force Base. Any commitment by the County will be based on a confirmed interest by the Air Force to utilize this lease for mission growth at the base. Based on an Air Force commitment and risk analysis the County will be prepared to enter into the next phase of the EUL process. Motion carried.

Sheila Bruhn, Base Realignment Impact Committee Coordinator, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to approve the Base Realignment Impact Committee (BRIC) Coordinator Agreement, effective March 1, 2012 – February 28, 2013. Motion carried.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Pic, to approve the Chair's signature on a Lease Amendment with the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation, extending the term from December 31, 2011 to February 29, 2012. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the Chair's signature on a Lease Agreement with the Grand Forks Region Economic Development Corporation, effective March 1, 2012 to February 28, 2013. Motion carried.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to table discussion on the privatization of housing on the Grand Forks Air Force Base until the May 1st Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Sheriff Rost presented a Fire Emergency and Burn Ban resolution. Mr. Welte will review the North Dakota Century Code to see if the Commission can delegate a statutory duty to the Sheriff, allowing him to cancel or reinstate the burn ban as needed. Mr. Welte will make a recommendation later in the meeting.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to approve the Chair's signature on the US Department of Justice United States Marshal Service Modification of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Grand Forks County Juvenile Detention Center approving a per diem rate \$150 per day. Motion carried.

Mr. Welte said according to NDCC 37-17.1-05, a local disaster or emergency may be declared only by the principal executive officer of the county or city, therefore, the statutory authority of the principal executive cannot be transfer to the Sheriff.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to extend the Fire Emergency and Burn Ban until May 15, 2012 at 6:00pm. Motion carried.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Murphy, to accept the proposal to purchase property located at 115 S. 5th St. for \$175,000. The property is located next to the Grand Forks County Courthouse and could be used for future expansion. Motion failed with Malm voting aye and Schmisek, Pic, Murphy and Knauf voting nay.

The proposal will be forwarded to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Committee for further discussion.

Moved by Murphy, seconded by Pic, to approve replacing the heating/air conditioning unit for the Juvenile Detention Center at cost of \$15,000, pending approval of the States Attorney. Motion carried.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:11pm. The next meeting will be held on May 1, 2012.

Cynthia Pic, Vice-Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor