

## GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

September 16, 2014 – 4:00 P.M.

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

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2014 County Commission meeting, as amended, and the September 5, 2014 and September 9, 2014 County Commission Special meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Pic, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #4802-5038 in the amount of \$621,571.76 and purchasing card transaction in the amount of \$33,219.07; employee status changes for Sally Grosgebauer, Julie Heuchert, Mark Kwiatoski, Jonathon Kriegh, Timothy Peterka, Matthew Casper, Staci Nunn, Michael Krause, Casey Davidson, Alexander Moe, Dean Stoltman, Gene Paupst, and Kenneth L. Amundson; bond for check reissue; 2014-2015 County Federal Aid Program; Social Services out-of-state travel; and the August Financial Report . Motion carried unanimously.

Grand Forks City Fire Chief Pete O'Neill and Joe Lies, NE Regional Emergency Response Coordinator, addressed the board regarding regional emergency response.

Gerry Roach, Emerado Rural Volunteer Fire Department, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to mail letters of support for a Grand Forks County Emergency Response Center, approved August 5, 2014, to the Association of Counties and Mr. Roach. Motion was rescinded.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to table the letters of support, approved August 5, 2014, for a Grand Forks County Emergency Response Center. The letters will be revised for discussion at the next Commission meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration and Chief O'Neill will draft a letter of support to be considered by the full board at the October 7, 2014 Commission meeting.

Sheriff Rost addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to amend the Sheriff's Department budget moving the remaining amount, as of October 1, 2014, in the hourly employee salaries line item to the regular employee salaries line item for 2014 and move the total budgeted amount for the hourly employee salaries for 2015 to the regular employee salaries line item for 2015. The Sheriff will be hiring one full time employee grade 10, step 1, to replace four part-time employees. Motion carried with Murphy, Knauf, Schmisek and Pic voting aye and Malm voting nay,

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to approve the application of Gary Jordheim for the plat of Elm Coulee Estates, section 34, Allendale Township, with the following conditions: 1. The culvert sizing information shall be shown on the plat prior to being recorded; and 2. A financial guarantee in the amount of \$10,000 shall be submitted to the planning department prior to recording the plat. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the application of Richard and Ida Moen for a variance to allow an addition to a residential structure to be placed 52' from centerline of a township road in the village of Arvilla. Motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, presented the 2015 Preliminary Budget.

The public hearing on the 2015 Budget was opened. Comments were received from the following individuals:

Wayne Dohman, 1515 6<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Grand Forks, ND  
Romanzo Duncklee, rural Emerado, ND  
Jim Lund, west of Grand Forks, ND  
Lloyd Staveteig  
Gary Jordheim, rural Thompson, ND  
Wendell Martinson, south of Emerado, ND  
Wanda Sieg, Northwood, ND  
Allen Hobbs, Wheatfield and Strabane Townships

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Knauf, to remove \$35,000 from the 2015 Grand Forks County budget for the service agreement with Northland Rescue Mission because they will not providing the service of housing sex offenders as of January 1, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Dawn Keeley, Red River Regional Council Executive Director, addressed the board.

Brandon Baumbach, Red River Region Council, addressed the board.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Malm, to remove \$75,000 from the Red River Regional Council's 2015 budget for an additional position and study it for a year and see if that should be added in the future. Motion carried with Murphy, Knauf, Malm and Schmisek voting aye and Pic voting nay.

Ed Christ, Social Services Director, addressed the board.

Bret Burkholder, Correctional Center Administrator, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to approve the 2015 Final Budget of \$50,186,862, which includes a 2.3% salary increase on January 1, 2015 for all employees including elected officials and \$284,973 for possible additional salary adjustments to help with compression issues. The

Commission will decide how the possible salary adjustment will be implemented prior to January 1, 2015. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the final budget is on file in the County Finance and Tax Office.

Nick West, County Highway Engineer, addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Pic, to send written notice to Grand Forks City terminating the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp Maintenance Agreement as of January 1, 2015. The letter will be sent by October 1, 2014. Motion carried with Murphy, Knauf and Pic voting aye and Malm and Schmisek voting nay.

Commissioner Malm will ask Brian Purcell, Buildings and Grounds Manager, to contact snow removal vendors.

Peter Welte and Debbie Nelson will draft a RFP for parking ramp maintenance for 2015 for review at the October 7, 2014 Commission meeting.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the Kutak Rock, LLP invoice in the amount of \$13,017.20 for July and amend the Grand Sky Administrative Fee line item budget by \$19,198 to cover the amount the budget has been exceeded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the Chair's signature on a Court Facilities Improvement Grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, presented an Open Records and Meetings Opinion.

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

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. The next meeting will be held on October 7, 2014 at 4:00pm.

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William Murphy, Chairman  
Grand Forks County Commission

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Debbie Nelson, County Auditor