

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

October 21, 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 Knauf, to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2014 County Commission meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #5237-5529 in the amount of \$898,984.62 and purchasing card transactions of \$22,808.71; employee status changes for Philip Malevich, Raquel Lindseth, Michael Hons, Nicholas Toso, Eric Hagen, Derek Bogenreif and Daniel Gibson; County Deeds on parcel #42-1604-00026-000 and #44-3004-00134-000; Game of Chance Permit for Wsa Morale Club, Air Force Sergeant Association Chapter 964 and Airman Activity Council; and State/County Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, was directed to send an email to all managers requesting a reason for employee resignation be listed on the Employee Status Change form.

George Schlossberg, Kutak Rock LLP, attorney representing Grand Forks County for the Enhanced Use Lease gave an update on the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease.

Tom Sowyer, Grand Sky Developer Company President, addressed the board.

Ed Nierode, Director of Administration, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to acknowledge and accept the Air Force extension of the term until April 24, 2015 of that certain Agreement to Lease for the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease Project at Grand Forks Air Force Base. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Knauf, to authorize John Schmisek, or such other individual as the County Commission may designate, to execute the proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Development Agreement for the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease Project at Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota, by and between the County of Grand Forks and Grand Sky Development Company, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to authorize John Schmisek, or such other individual as the County Commission may designate, with support from the County staff and the State's Attorney and outside consultants, to submit to the Air Force Base an application for a Joint Use Agreement at Grand Forks Air Force Base in substantially the form provided to the Commission, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Pic, to authorize John Schmisek, or such other individual as the County Commission may designate, with support from the County staff and the State's Attorney and outside consultants, to submit to the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") and/or the State of North Dakota, as appropriate, Application(s) to enable the establishment of an airport at Grand Forks Air Force Base for us by tenants of the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease Project, if such application(s) are necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Schmisek, to authorize John Schmisek, or such other individual as the County Commission may designate, with support from the County staff and the State's Attorney and outside consultants, to (i) explore the feasibility of creating an independent airport authority for purposes of prosecuting such JUA and FAA Application in furtherance of the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease Project, and (ii) making a recommendation to the Commission as to the desirability of establishing such independent airport authority in furtherance of the Grand Sky Enhanced Use Lease Project. Motion carried with Murphy, Knauf, Schmisek and Pic voting aye and Malm voting nay.

Dean Dahl, Information Technology Director, reviewed the bids received on the Grand Forks County Corrections Surveillance Project. The decision on the bids will be tabled until the next Commission meeting on November 5, 2014.

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the application of Paul Bernardy for the Plat of Bernardy Subdivision consisting of 1 lot on 5 acres, located in section 35, Elm Grove Township. Motion carried unanimously.

Bret Burkholder, Correctional Center Administrator, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Knauf, to allow Mr. Burkholder to purchase a transport vehicle for \$35,645 for the Correctional Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Schmisek, seconded by Pic, to approve the Prisoner Detention Agreement, by and between Grand Forks County and Walsh County. Motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Rost addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Malm, to approve the North Dakota Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Grand Forks County Sheriff's Department has an auction scheduled for October 29, 2014 at 10:00am at the Grand Forks County Highway Department, 1700 N. Columbia Road.

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

The 2014 Property Appraisal Hearing was held. No objections were heard.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the minimum sale prices on the county tax deed properties and set the property sale for November 18, 2014 at 2:00 pm in the County Commission Room, County Office Building. Terms of sale are cash or check only. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Schmisek, to approve the Notices of Intent to Evict. Motion carried unanimously.

Peter Welte, States Attorney, said the ND Supreme Court issued an order that Judgeships No. 1 and No. 2 at Grand Forks in the Northeast Central Judicial District be filled.

Mr. Welte said Presiding Judge Jahnke has appointed Lighthouse Associate, Inc., Northwood ND as guardian for the 34 pending cases in Grand Forks County through December 31, 2014.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, gave the history on the salary compression issue.

Commissioner Knauf said the definition on salary compression that we were using is, when the pay of one or more employees is very close to the pay of a more experienced employee in the same job.

Vicky Hendrickson, Payroll and Human Resource Assistant, explained the following recommended compression option:

The 2.3% market increase for all steps January 1, 2015.

Employees with a position date of 2013 or earlier will receive one step on their anniversary date.

Employees who have not completed 2 full years in position should be at a minimum of step one on the salary scale.

Employees with more than 2 full years but less than 4 full years in position should be at a minimum of step two on the salary scale.

Employees who have complete more than 4 full years in position should be at a minimum of step three on the salary scale.

Nick West, County Engineer, said this compression option would help the Highway Department.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to approve the recommended compression option for 2015. The additional cost of \$20,000 for this option that has not been budgeted in the 2015 budget will be taken from the cash carry forward of the General Fund. A committee will be established early in 2015 to draft policies that will further assist in eliminating compression. Motion carried unanimously.

Russell Penn, Bergstrom Electric, protested the Marco GF County Correctional Center surveillance camera bid due to irregularities in the bid.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Malm, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:56pm. The next meeting will be held on November 5, 2014 at 4:00pm.

William Murphy, Chairman
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor