

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

September 1, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment with Commissioners Knauf, Malm, Engen, Pic and Falck present.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Engen, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Malm, to approve the order of the agenda adding Grand Sky after item #5. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Falck, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #10292-10491 in the amount of \$1,546,034.34; employee status changes for Kassandra Herbst, Jessica Hartman, Jordan Dibich and Casey Black; overtime; and Game of Chance Permit for Twining Parent Teacher Organization. Motion carried unanimously.

States Attorney David Jones administered the Oath of Office to the Grand Forks County Coroner, Dr. Mary Ann Sens.

Brad Gerken and Tom Swoyer, Grand Sky Development Company addressed the board. Mr. Swoyer participated via telephone.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Falck, to accept the lowest responsible bid from Construction Engineers in the amount of \$1,466,195 for the Taxiway Reconnection, Taxiway Lights and Security Gate project at Grand Sky. Motion carried unanimously.

Amber Gudajtes, Tax Equalization Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Engen, to approve, in part, the abatement applications for Sterling Properties, LLLP on parcel number 44-1317-00005-001 and reduce the 2014 True and Full Value from \$2,363,800 to \$2,086,800 and reduce the 2013 True and Full Value from \$2,240,000 to \$1,976,200. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to deny the 2012 abatement application for Sterling Properties, LLLP on parcel number 44-1317-00005-001. Motion carried unanimously.

Bret Burkholder, Correctional Center Administrator, addressed the board.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Falck, to approve the Chair's signature on the agreement with Burke County for the detention of prisoners. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Engen, to allow Mr. Burkholder to send out an RFP for an Inmate Communication Services project. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Falck, to allow the Correctional Center to release 31 retired uniform coats to indigent inmates that are released this winter. Motion carried unanimously.

Michele Thiel, Human Resource Director, addressed the board.

The Commission agreed that Ms. Thiel should select a committee to consider other options for health insurance coverage and other voluntary insurance benefits.

Sheriff Rost addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Engen, to approve the purchase of a laptop, Draganfly Surveyor Software and Pix4D Software and training that will allow them to create 3D models of major crime and traffic accident scenes. The cost is \$4,725 and will be paid from the Sheriff's budget UAS line item. Motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, presented the 2016 Preliminary Budget.

Nick West, County Engineer, said he would prefer the benefits for the Highway Department be paid by the General Operations Fund instead of the Road Fund because it would allow him greater flexibility in the future.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to approve the 2016 Preliminary Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to set the public hearing on the final budget for September 15, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

David Jones, States Attorney, clarified open meetings.

Moved by Malm, seconded by Pic, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:12pm. The next meeting will be held on September 15, 2015 at 4:00pm.

Diane Knauf, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor