

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

March 1, 2016 – 4:00 P.M.

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

The Chair called for any additions or corrections to the February 16, 2016 minutes, hearing none the minutes were approved as presented.

The Chair called for any changes to the agenda, hearing none the order of agenda was approved.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Engen, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, Check #13129-13319 in the amount of \$938,022.48; employee status changes for Scot Hoepfer, Shane B. Johnson, Tarek Aamold and Brenda Serrano; overtime; Social Services out-of state travel and game of chance permit for UND Wildlife Society. Motion carried unanimously.

Amber Gudajtes, Tax Equalization Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Engen, to approve the abatement on parcel number 44-2607-00007-002 and reduced the 2014 True and Full Value from \$1,345,600 to zero. The property qualifies for a payment in lieu of taxes for 2014, according to NDCC 57-02-08(43)(d). Motion carries unanimously.

Becky Ault, Public Safety Answering Point Director, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Falck, to approve the following resolution to increase the existing emergency services communication (9-1-1) fee. Motion carried unanimously.

GRAND FORKS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA  
RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE EXISTING  
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS (9-1-1) FEE

WHEREAS, the emergency services communication (9-1-1) system is critical to public safety in Grand Forks County; and

WHEREAS, the monthly fee on “assessed communications services” (telephone exchange access service, wireless service, active prepaid wireless service, and voice over internet protocol service) imposed pursuant to North Dakota Century Code 57-40.6 is essential to the operation and maintenance of the emergency services communication system (9-1-1); and

WHEREAS the current fee limited to \$1.00 per month per “communication connection” (telephone access line, wireless access line, unique voice over internet protocol service connection, or functional equivalent uniquely identifiable by a number, internet address, or other designation) was implemented by resolution of this board and approved on November 2, 2002 by the voters of Grand Forks County;

WHEREAS the revenue from the current fee is insufficient to adequately fund the maintenance and operations of the emergency services communications (9-1-1) system, it is proposed that the fee maximum be increased to \$1.50 per “assessed communication service” however the county commission could impose an amount less, but no more than that maximum; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota Century Code section 57-40.6-02 provides a process of imposing 9-1-1 fees by governing board resolution and approval of the voters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Forks County Board of Commissioners proposes an increase of the existing monthly fee, and directs that the following measure be placed on the county ballot for the statewide primary election scheduled for June 14, 2016 and shall become effective January 1, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the fee shall be collected by the “assessed communications service providers” and paid to the Grand Forks City Finance Department within thirty (30) days after collection from the subscriber or customer unless the provider has fewer than ten subscribers or customers in a jurisdiction, in which case the provider may pay the proceeds quarterly. An assessed communications service provider may retain the actual costs of administration in collection of the fee, not to exceed five percent of the fee collected.

### Grand Forks County Measure #1

Should the current emergency services communication (9-1-1) fee not to exceed \$1.00 per month per “communication connection” (telephone access line, wireless access line, unique voice over internet protocol service connection, or functional equivalent uniquely identifiable by a number, internet address, or other designation) for the operation and maintenance of the 9-1-1 emergency services communications system be increased to a maximum (not to exceed) \$1.50 per month?

Voter approval would allow a fee, not to exceed \$1.50 per month per “communication connection” to become effective January 1, 2017, with the revenue dedicated to maintaining and operating the emergency services communication (9-1-1) system as required by State law.

- YES            A “YES” vote means you approve the proposed increase of the fee to \$1.50 per month
  
- NO              A “NO” vote means you do not approve the fee increase and it would remain at \$1.00 per month

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Engen, to approve a Special Use Permit for Roland Riemers to locate a manufactured home in the NE ¼ of section 6 of Brenna Township with the following condition, the applicant must install a code compliant septic system through the County’s permitting process. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Knauf, to appoint Steve Breidenbach to the Planning and Zoning Board, for an unexpired four year term that will expire 12/31/2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Ford, Government Relations Coordinator, addressed the board via telephone.

Pete O’Neill, GF City Fire Chief, addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Pic, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Fire Suppression Services between Grand Forks City and Grand Forks County. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Falck, to approve the Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreement between Grand Sky Development Company, LLC, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. and Grand Forks County. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to allow Mr. Ford to attend the Annual National Security Forum at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, May 3 - 5, 2016. The cost will be covered by the 2015 Base Retention Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Michele Thiel, Human Resource Director, introduced Scot Hoeper the new Social Services Director.

Scot Hoeper, Social Services Director, addressed the board.

Nick West, County Engineer, addressed the board.

Robert Drees, Brenna Township Supervisor, addressed the board.

Mike Loyland, Walle Township Chair, addressed the board.

Kelly Grotte, Walle Township Treasurer, addressed the board.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to approve the presented Township/City Maintenance Agreement fee structure, effective 2017. The change would bring the fee to 75% of the actual cost. The jurisdictions that are currently paying less than the 75% will be increased 10% or 15% per year until they reach 75% of the cost. The jurisdictions that are below 40% will be increased by 15% for each of the first two years then 10% for each year following until they reach 75%. The other jurisdictions will be increased 10% each year until they reach 75% of the cost. The jurisdictions over 75% will be reduced to 75%, effective 2016. Motion carried Malm, Pic, Falck, Engen and Knauf voting aye.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Knauf, to accept the RFP from KLJ Engineering to provide construction engineering services for the Grand Forks County Highway Department. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Pic, to allow the Grand Forks County Highway Department to solicit bids for 2016 surge paving projects and bituminous seal coat projects. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved by Pic, seconded by Knauf, to approve the Election Services Agreement with Election Systems & Software, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to rescind motion made February 16, 2016 to accept quote from Dacotah Paper Co. for 400 cases of paper. Motion carried unanimously.

David Jones, State Attorney, addressed the board.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Falck, to support the building of a library with Grand Forks City finances. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Falck, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:34pm. The next meeting will be held on March 15, 2016 at 4:00pm.

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Gary Malm, Chair  
Grand Forks County Commission

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Debbie Nelson, County Auditor