

GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

December 15, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment with Commissioners Pic, Falck, Rost, Engen and Knauf present. Commissioners Falck and Engen participated via Zoom.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Falck, to approve the order of the agenda adding Rich Axvig, Grand Forks County Water Board after item 16. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Rost, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, check #37027 - GF Public Health Department- \$46173.75, 37028 - Indepth Inspections- \$2291.67, 37029 - Nelson Debbie- \$65.55, 37030 - Collection Center Inc- \$271.87, 37031 - Rodenburg Law Firm-Fargo- \$156.53, 37032 - United States Treasury- \$91.15, 37033 - City of Emerado (Hwy)- \$78.94, 37034 - City of Northwood (Hwy)- \$135.52, 37035 - 1101 Dental PLLC - \$725, 37036 - Aaker-Bonham Pam- \$500, 37037 - Abbco Tools LLC- \$261.56, 37038 - Advanced Engineering & Environmental Ser- \$369, 37039 - Altru Clinic-Main- \$500, 37040 - Altru Clinic-Main- \$351, 37041 - Altru Clinic-Main- \$262.15, 37042 - Altru Health System- \$1036, 37043 - Altru Health System (978)- \$1657.46, 37044 - American Bankers Insurance Co- \$4228, 37045 - Aramark- \$528.5, 37046 - Baker Funeral Home- \$2300, 37047 - Batteries Plus Bulbs #024- \$61.98, 37048 - Boudreaux, Nicole J - \$315.1, 37049 - Butler Machinery Company- \$12.69, 37050 - C & R Laundry- \$270, 37051 - Carlson Richard- \$3104.52, 37052 - Cartridge Center Inc- \$271, 37053 - CHS Ag Services- \$2567.5, 37054 - Cities Area Transit- \$293, 37055 - City of Grand Forks-Fire Dept- \$1071.95, 37056 - City of Grand Forks-Water- \$6315.79, 37057 - CNA Surety- \$50, 37058 - Daydreams Specialties- \$1335.9, 37059 - Deere Credit Inc- \$2985.58, 37060 - Dell Marketing LP- \$814.79, 37061 - Diamond Cleaning Supply- \$135, 37062 - East Central Regional Water District- \$55, 37063 - Expressway Suites-Grand Forks- \$86.4, 37064 - Fastenal- \$45.57, 37065 - First Collections Inc- \$697.72, 37066 - Fleming Makayla- \$95.53, 37067 - Forum Communications- \$6531.66, 37068 - Frontier Precision Inc- \$1000, 37069 - GF Cnty Treasurer- \$1656.96, 37070 - GF Herald (Subscriptions)- \$180.84, 37071 - GF Welding & Machine- \$764.76, 37072 - Good Friends Bar & Cafe- \$75, 37073 - Gowan Jessica- \$100, 37074 - Grand Sky Construction Company LLC- \$271957.27, 37075 - Greg's Lawn & Landscape- \$1843.55, 37076 - Guardian Fleet Safety LLC- \$21350.24, 37077 - H & L Mesabi- \$41905.42, 37078 - IBM- \$812, 37079 - Information Technology Dept- \$3283.4, 37080 - Integrity Homecare and Counseling- \$407.52, 37081 - Interstate Billing- \$199, 37082 - Interstate Power Systems Inc- \$3476.26, 37083 - J & J Spraying- \$55297.97, 37084 - Jamar Technologies Inc- \$4300, 37085 - Jirout George C- \$169.41, 37086 - Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP- \$3007.28, 37087 - JS Maintenance & Management LLC- \$200, 37088 - Keith's Security World- \$25, 37089 - Keller Jalissa Spanier- \$21.85, 37090 - Kindness Animal Hospital- \$19.65, 37091 - Knight Printing- \$685.13, 37092 - Kovarik, Wade Kelly- \$118.14, 37093 - Lakes & Prairies Community Action- \$910, 37094 - Liberty Business Systems-Fargo- \$174.23, 37095 - Lipp Carlson & Assoc Ltd- \$75, 37096 - Little Falls Machine Inc- \$3019.14, 37097 - Little Keepers.- \$574.51, 37098 - Loffler- \$83.04, 37099 - Lund Jacki- \$25.88, 37100 - Manvel Oil Coop- \$1486.1, 37101 - Marco Technologies LLC- \$1695.92, 37102 - McKesson Medical Surgical- \$2726.88, 37103 - Menards- \$120.1, 37104 - Midcontinent Communications- \$121.9, 37105 - Moore Robert- \$159.88, 37106 - Motorola- \$120694.05, 37107 - Mutch Oil Co- \$1752, 37108 - Mutch Oil Company- \$321.3, 37109 - Myles Kami Jo- \$137.18, 37110 - NACVSO - \$100, 37111 - Nate's Electric- \$79.54, 37112 - NC Transport LLC- \$4000, 37113 - ND Assoc of

Counties (NDACO)- \$1303, 37114 - ND Dept of Corrections & Rehab- \$450, 37115 - ND Dept of Health/Microbiology- \$50, 37116 - ND Dept of Public Instruction- \$138.89, 37117 - ND DHS Finance Dept- \$1651.52, 37118 - ND DHS Finance Dept- \$1022.73, 37119 - ND DHS Finance Dept- \$1519.53, 37120 - ND DHS Finance Dept- \$2350.94, 37121 - NDEMA - \$50, 37122 - NDSU Ext Serv-Dept 3110- \$370, 37123 - Nelson International- \$614.55, 37124 - Ness Press Inc.- \$25, 37125 - Networking Specialists- \$678.75, 37126 - Northern Plumbing Supply- \$356.72, 37127 - Northwood Public School- \$34090, 37128 - Nygaard-Koplin Dawn- \$174.53, 37129 - O'Reilly Auto Parts- \$150.88, 37130 - Office Depot-Chicago- \$266.61, 37131 - Olson, Denise- \$581.22, 37132 - Olson, Mikaela E - \$15.53, 37133 - Olson, Miranda- \$250, 37134 - Olson, Shannon L- \$186.3, 37135 - Ottertail Power Co-Devils Lake- \$269.24, 37136 - Peterson Medical Clinics LLC- \$50, 37137 - Praxair- \$380.59, 37138 - Presort Plus- \$14592.14, 37139 - Prom, Cynthia- \$550, 37140 - Public Financial Mgmt Inc- \$1500, 37141 - Quality Inn-Bismarck- \$432, 37142 - RDO Trust Account #80-5800- \$2379.45, 37143 - Red River Welders Supply- \$8.99, 37144 - Reliance Inmate Systems- \$600, 37145 - Sam's Clubmc/Syncb- \$522.84, 37146 - Schmitz Inc- \$94610.9, 37147 - Schumacher, Sydney M - \$21.85, 37148 - Shane Allen- \$7800, 37149 - Skip's Petroleum- \$2052.55, 37150 - Solem, Christopher W - \$29.33, 37151 - Stahlman, Christopher- \$300, 37152 - Staples Advantage- \$553.79, 37153 - Strata Corporation- \$14028.43, 37154 - Streichers- \$560.33, 37155 - Suedel Amy- \$16.03, 37156 - The Sidwell Company- \$192, 37157 - Thompson Public Schools- \$34090, 37158 - Thomson West- \$254.41, 37159 - Thur-O-Clean- \$485, 37160 - Titan Machinery-GF- \$47.76, 37161 - Traill County Sheriff- \$45, 37162 - Valley Dairy- \$50.28, 37163 - Valley Vision Clinic- \$127, 37164 - Waste Management of Wi-Mn- \$1968.71, 37165 - Winay Associates LLC- \$427.65, 37166 - Zimmer Britta Josie- \$1002.97, 37167 - Anderson Joel- \$4646.81, 37168 - Engkvist Gannon- \$32.2, 37169 - Ramsey County Sheriff-Devils L- \$1048 and ACH payments to - Schuman Law Office- \$4100, - UND Forensic Pathology- \$6662.5, - Acme Electric/Tool Crib of Nor- \$104.73, - Advanced Business Methods- \$441.37, - Advanced Business Methods- \$146.55, - All Embracing Home Care LLC- \$90.87, - All Pro Embroidery- \$910, - Auto Value-Grand Forks- \$99.95, - Auto Value-Grand Forks- \$247.14, - Auto Value-Grand Forks- \$24.15, - Badgepass Inc- \$324, - Batteries Plus Bulbs- \$132.98, - Batteries Plus Bulbs- \$278.95, - Border States Electric Supply- \$54.25, - Border States Electric Supply- \$455.64, - Border States Electric Supply- \$148.96, - Border States Electric Supply- \$108.5, - Business Essentials- \$22.99, - Business Essentials- \$8.57, - Business Essentials- \$14.99, - Business Essentials- \$40.9, - Business Essentials- \$7.18, - Charm-Tex- \$399, - Cintas- \$39.86, - Cintas- \$39.86, - Cintas- \$82.54, - Cole Paper Inc.- \$266.63, - Cole Paper Inc.- \$959.8, - Cole Paper Inc.- \$123, - Cole Paper Inc.- \$319.2, - Dakota TV- \$215, - Dakota TV- \$1129.97, - Dennie's Delivery Inc- \$143.5, - Dennie's Delivery Inc- \$100, - Embrace Pharmacy Inc.- \$20.61, - Farmers Oil Co- \$1549.56, - Farmers Oil Co- \$3762.9, - GF Fire Equipment Company- \$22.5, - Global Safety Network- \$125, - Global Safety Network- \$270.5, - Home Care Companions- \$111.84, - Home of Economy- \$102.99, - Home of Economy- \$-18, - Home of Economy- \$58.73, - Home of Economy- \$1912.29, - Orchard Oil Co- \$438.9, - Peru- \$3456, - Phoenix Supply- \$1493.62, - Phoenix Supply- \$113.58, - Phoenix Supply- \$349.99, - Polk County DAC- \$30.75, - Royal Tire Inc- \$-90, - Royal Tire Inc- \$116.61, - Rydell Chevrolet- \$62.39, - Rydell Chevrolet- \$50.98, - Rydell Chevrolet- \$99.82, - Safe Kids- \$70, - Seachange Print Innovations- \$581.46, - Simonson Lumber & Hardware-GF- \$52, - Soeby Molly- \$4295, - Stein's Inc.- \$50.88, - Stein's Inc.- \$185.54, - Stein's Inc.- \$296.74, - Stericycle Inc- \$117.23, - Stones Mobile Radio Inc- \$191.72, - Stones Security Systems- \$147.57, - Summit Food Services LLC- \$7944.41, - Summit Food Services LLC- \$7056.61, - Summit Food Services LLC- \$6929.85, - Thomson Reuters- \$1522.87, - Tri Steel Mfgr Company- \$1203.79, - VM Findley Consulting LLC- \$8000, - Xcel Energy - Mpls- \$28891.39, - Xcel Energy - Mpls- \$1573.31; overtime; County Deeds on parcels 45-2801-00002-000, 44-2301-00046-000, 44-1206-00465-000, 44-1206-00003-001, 44-2809-00133-000 and 45-1202-00002-000; Liquor/Beer

Licenses for the Hitching Post Bar and Grill and the Grand Forks Country Club; and the November financial report. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Park, Ballard Spahr LLP, and Keshav Rajpal, BioMass Solution, addressed the board regarding the Red River Biorefinery project.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Rost, to adopt the resolution relating to project under the Municipal Industrial Development Act, giving preliminary approval for the Red River Biorefinery, LLC project subject to a public hearing on January 5, 2021 at 4:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to make the following appointments beginning January 1, 2021: Jim Remer - Human Service Zone Board- 3 year term, Kenneth Inman – Public Safety Answer Point Board – 1 year term, William Perdue – Grand Forks Water Board – 3 year term, Greg McMahon – Grand Forks Weed Board – 4 year term and Robert Leake – Grand Forks Weed Board – 4 year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Meghan Compton, Altru Health Systems Chief Clinic Operations Officer, gave an update on the Altru Health Systems COVID-19 response.

Debbie Swanson, Public Health Director, gave a COVID-19 update.

Coiya Tompkins, Community Violence Intervention Center Director, gave a 2020 update.

Katelyn Landeis, NDSU Agricultural and Natural Resources Agent, requested the NDSU Extension Office be used to conduct Commercial Pesticide Applicator Renewal Trainings on January 7, January 28, March 9, March 16, March 23 and May 27, 2021 from 8:30am to 4:30pm and use the sixth floor conference room if the attendance at the training is greater than the Extension Office could safely accommodate. The Commission agreed.

Richard Ray, Grand Forks County Historical Society President, addressed the board.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to approve \$5,000 from the General Fund to be paid to the Grand Forks County Historical Society, which is allowed by NDCC § 11-11-53(1). Motion carried unanimously.

Lane Magnuson, County Planner, addressed the board.

Howard Swanson, Attorney representing Zipline International LLC, addressed the board.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to approve a Special Use Permit for Zipline International LLC for a temporary cold weather drone testing site in NE ¼ of section 29 of Washington Township with the following condition: the towers and equipment shall be removed from the site no later than June 1, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Nick West, County Engineer, addressed the board.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Engen, to apply the settlement funds from bridge 114-33.0 for the replacement of bridge 115-34.0. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Engen, to extend the contract with KLJ to perform engineering services for the replacement of bridge 115-34.0 and to advertise for bids for completion in 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to loan Americus Township \$34,001.64 in January 2021 for the 2019 Fall DR-4475 FEMA Declaration to be repaid by FEMA and the ND Department of Emergency Services in 2021. The loan will be paid from the Highway Fund, if allowed by law, or the General Fund will be used. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Ford, Director of Administration, explained we are currently working in Phase I of our Restart Plan. In Phase I, the County Offices are closed to the public, employees are encouraged to work remotely but department managers and essential staff have access to the building. The key difference between Phase I and Phase II of the Restart Plan would be, Phase II would allow members of the public to be allowed into the building by appointment only. There was a motion on 8/18/2020 to begin Phase II on January 4, 2021.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to proceed with Phase II opening of the County Office Building on January 4, 2021 and allow Judge Hager to decide when the Courthouse will begin Phase II opening. Motion failed with Rost voting aye and Falck, Engen and Knauf voting nay.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Falck, to proceed with Phase II opening of the County Office Building on January 18, 2021, no large meetings would be allowed and allow Judge Hager to decide when the Courthouse will begin Phase II opening. Motion carried with Falck, Engen and Knauf voting aye and Rost voting nay.

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

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Rost, to authorize Chair Pic to approve any bills that come in before the end of year. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Engen, to approve the following 2020 budget amendments: 2164 FEMA-2019 Spring Flooding - \$497,000, 2165 FEMA-2019 Fall Flooding - \$343,000, 2166 FEMA-2020 Spring Flooding - \$32,500, 2310 Historical Society - \$2,400, 2350 Senior Citizens - \$15,000, 2910 Emergency Fund - \$835,000, 2950 Economic Development - \$12,500, \$2,990 Asset Forfeiture \$2,000, 8001 State Tax - \$1,500, 8005 Garrison Diversion - \$5,100, 8006 Water Resource Board - \$55,700, 8007 County Library Service - \$77,100, 8008 RR Joint Management - \$17,300, 8010 Ambulance - \$85,000, 8019 Regional Airport Authority - \$18,000 and 8063 – GFC Soil Conservation District - \$7,100. All funds had offsetting non-budgeted revenues. Motion carried unanimously.

Rich Axvig, Grand Forks County Weed Board, addressed the board regarding BTAG (Border Township Associative Group) and their request for a joint powers agreement. Kari Goelz, Emergency Management Director, Tom Ford, Director of Administration, Nick West, County Engineer and Mr. Axvig will be part of the discussions with BTAG.

Tom Ford, Director of Administration, gave an update on the County Office Building/Courthouse Safety remodel project.

Haley Wamstad, State's Attorney, addressed the board.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Rost, to approve the Chair's signature on service agreement with Safe Kids Grand Forks. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to approve the Chair's signature on a Contract for Defense Services with the Schuman Law Office, January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Falck, to approve the Application for Permission to hold a Public Display of Fireworks. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to approve the request by the Weed Board to increase the pay of their two employees by 3% effective January 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Knauf, to approve hiring two interns in the State's Attorney Office starting in January 2021 rather than May of 2021 to help cover some of the work load of an Assistant State's Attorney that will be on an extended leave of absence. The cost will be covered in the State's Attorney's 2021 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to deny the request by the Recorder's Office to pay out vacation leave exceeding 240 hours on December 31, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Falck, seconded by Knauf, to allow all County employees to carryover up to 80 hours in addition to the 240 vacation hours allowed by policy, to be used by April 30, 2021. Motion failed with Pic, Rost and Knauf voting nay and Falck and Engen voting aye.

Chair Pic made the 2020/2021 Commission assignments. A list can be found on our website www.gfcountry.nd.gov or on file in the Finance and Tax Office.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Falck, to set the 2021 County Board of Equalization for June 1, 2020 at 4:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Engen, seconded by Rost, to approve the 2020 County Commission Meeting dates as the first and third Tuesday of each month. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Knauf, to approve the License Agreement for Lease & Maintenance of Public Property with 4G Farms LLP, effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2025. The consideration of this lease/license is \$100 per annum on parcel number 37-1401-00002-002. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Knauf, seconded by Rost, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:57pm. The next meeting will be held on January 5, 2021 at 4:00pm.

Cynthia Pic, Chair
Grand Forks County Commission

Debbie Nelson, County Auditor