

## GRAND FORKS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

February 6, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment with Commissioners Engen, Pic, Hagen, Rustad and Rost present. Commissioner Hagen participated via Zoom.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Pic, to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024 County Commission meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rustad, seconded by Rost, to approve the order of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Rustad, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: bills as submitted by the County Auditor, check #46384 - Otis Elevator- \$26824.68, 46385 - Circle of Friends Animal Shelter- \$10000, 46386 - GF Clerk of District Ct- \$2000, 46387 - GF Public Health Department- \$130000, 46388 - GGFYP- \$1000, 46389 - Safe Kids- \$12500, 46390 - Combined Insurance Co of America- \$521.3, 46391 - Credit Bureau of Bismarck Inc- \$13.63, 46392 - Fraternal Order of Police- \$106, 46393 - Infoarmor, Inc- \$321.65, 46394 - Ingenuity Rm, LLC- \$230.18, 46395 - ND F.O.P.- \$702, 46396 - Rodenburg Law Firm-Fargo- \$560, 46397 - Wellabe Life and Health Insurance Co.- \$106, 46398 - City of Emerado (Hwy)- \$113.22, 46399 - City of Larimore (Hwy)- \$66.76, 46400 - City of Thompson (Hwy)- \$87.02, 46401 - 1101 Dental Pllc- \$605, 46402 - A Spectrum of Care- \$370.47, 46403 - Aaa Quality Cleaners- \$652.5, 46404 - Abbco Tools LLC- \$295.93, 46405 - Advance Auto Parts- \$43.15, 46406 - Agassiz Water Users District- \$9.54, 46407 - Alerus Financial-Arb Fees- \$1500, 46408 - Altru Clinic Pharmacy- \$6, 46409 - Altru Clinic-Main- \$1102.75, 46410 - Altru Health System- \$1822, 46411 - Altru Health System 13780- \$192.75, 46412 - Amundson Funeral & Cremation Service- \$7000, 46413 - Amundson Funeral Home- \$8950, 46414 - At & T Mobility- \$149.54, 46415 - Auto Glass & Aftermarket- \$70, 46416 - Bears Home Solutions- \$1200, 46417 - Bell Insurance- \$18151, 46418 - Berg Tricia Mackenzie- \$860.02, 46419 - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mn- \$2109.1, 46420 - Bob Barker Company- \$387.9, 46421 - Border States Trophy & Awards- \$145, 46422 - Burleigh County- \$4.39, 46423 - Cartridge Center Inc- \$100, 46424 - CHS Ag Services- \$3581.58, 46425 - CHS Inc - Warren- \$2984.15, 46426 - City of Grand Forks-Water- \$484.51, 46427 - Construction Engineers- \$1128807.5, 46428 - Daydreams Specialties- \$14, 46429 - Defense Technology LLC- \$225, 46430 - Desautel, Rena- \$56, 46431 - Development Homes- \$36.25, 46432 - Embrace Pharmacy Inc.- \$11293.39, 46433 - Enterprise Rent A Car- \$1908.3, 46434 - Enterprise Rent-A -Car- \$528.9, 46435 - Ford Tom- \$406.59, 46436 - Fridgen Jennifer Tufte- \$128.68, 46437 - GF Clerk of District Ct- \$1000, 46438 - GF Cnty Treasurer- \$2503.25, 46439 - GFCVAC- \$5720, 46440 - Hawkins, Isabelle- \$28.82, 46441 - Honkola, Carolyn- \$2100, 46442 - Jennings, Dennis Wayne- \$20, 46443 - Knight Printing- \$899.76, 46444 - Knutson Printing Co- \$160, 46445 - Labcorp- \$38, 46446 - Lexisnexis Matthew Bender- \$460.01, 46447 - Linde Gas & Equipment Inc- \$75.68, 46448 - Little Falls Machine Inc- \$3614.82, 46449 - Little Keepers.- \$762.46, 46450 - Live Well Solutions- \$1688.4, 46451 - Local Ace- \$33.16, 46452 - Lunseth Plumbing & Heating- \$90, 46453 - Manvel Oil Coop- \$9793.31, 46454 - Marco Technologies LLC- \$7599.55, 46455 - Menards- \$433.59, 46456 - Midcontinent Communications- \$3752.16, 46457 - Midcontinent Communications- \$397.39, 46458 - Miller Dunwiddie- \$13164.36, 46459 - Moen Nathan C- \$77, 46460 - ND Assoc of Counties (NDACO)- \$228689.64, 46461 - ND County Auditor's Assoc- \$750, 46462 - ND County Recorder's Assoc- \$200, 46463 - ND Human Service Zone Directors- \$273.68, 46464 - ND State Radio Communications- \$600, 46465 - NDccaa- \$100, 46466 - NDIRF- \$1344, 46467 - Nelco First Aid Inc- \$160.29, 46468 - Nelson International- \$291.84, 46469 - Nodak Electric Coop- \$624.92, 46470 - Northern Plumbing Supply- \$548.33, 46471 - NSC Minerals Ltd- \$11297.8, 46472 - O'Reilly Auto Parts- \$1054.05, 46473 - Ottetail Power Co-Devils Lake- \$681.71, 46474 - Paul's Petromax Inc.- \$7.71, 46475 - Peterson, Faith- \$50.76, 46476 - Polk County Sheriff- \$55, 46477 - Post Board- \$45, 46478 - PPI Consulting- \$475, 46479 - Premium Waters, Inc- \$70.08, 46480 - R.P.A.- \$200, 46481 -

RDO Truck Center- \$162.74, 46482 - Stanley, Casandra- \$637.5, 46483 - Surplus Center Inc.- \$15.92, 46484 - Sweeney, Robert- \$2100, 46485 - Tech Check, LLC- \$665, 46486 - The Chamber of Commerce-GF- \$540, 46487 - The Service Department- \$7444.07, 46488 - The Title Team- \$450, 46489 - Thur-O-Clean- \$242.5, 46490 - Toshiba America Business Solutions- \$164.41, 46491 - Valley Vision Clinic- \$99, 46492 - Van Beek Traci- \$50, 46493 - Verizon Wireless- \$2077.47, 46494 - Verizon Wireless - Newark Nj- \$157.82, 46495 - Williams, William- \$564.6, 46496 - GF Clerk of District Ct- \$100, 46497 - GF Cnty Treasurer- \$905.19, 46498 - Grand Sky Construction Company LLC- \$44714.64, 46499 - Public Financial Mgmt Inc- \$1500, , ACH payments to - Community Violence Interventio - \$101992.5, - Greater GF Community Service - \$8000, - RRCAC - \$20000, - Acme Electric/Tool Crib of Nor - \$169.83, - Advanced Business Methods - \$152.08, - All Embracing Home Care LLC - \$452.64, - Allstate Peterbilt - \$152.1, - Balco Uniform Co - \$144.33, - Benefit Extras Inc - \$1646.95, - Business Essentials - \$10.89, - Cintas - \$250, - City of Niagara - \$575, - Cole Paper Inc. - \$11639.92, - Federal Safety Compliance - \$298.5, - Galls An Aramark Company - \$582, - Home Care Companions - \$999.57, - Home of Economy - \$1359.86, - Interstate Towing & Recovery - \$2123.86, - Ironhide Equipment Inc - \$1200, - Johnson Controls - \$545, - Norby's Work Perks - \$28800, - Northdale Oil - \$7538.64, - Northwest Tire Inc - \$252.99, - Office Depot-Chicago - \$123.92, - Phoenix Supply - \$2376.64, - Ps Door Services - \$1781.6, - RDO Trust Account #80-5800 - \$4155.87, - Rydell Chevrolet - \$227.9, - Summit Food Services LLC - \$18464.57, - Tri-County Water District - \$54.7, - Valley Truck - \$48.88, - Veoci Inc - \$27300, - Xcel Energy - Mpls - \$798.4; employee status changes for Christopher Peterson, Preston Altendorf, Katrina Fessler, Paula Solheim, Genevieve Olson, David Arvidson, Lacey King, Dakota Hahn, Tammy Leach, Michael Barrett, Desirae Klose, Chelsea Lommen, Jessica Dellava, Sonia Gonzalez, Tammy Knudson, Kimberly Defoe, Tyler Kollman, Holley M Jemtrud, Daniel Chaney, Roberto Garza, Eric Roberson, Craig Schuh, Jacob Marin, Ma Fatima Sibulo, Rebecca Stangel and Wade Bromke; and overtime. Motion carried unanimously.

Amber Gudajtes, Tax Equalization Director, addressed the board.

Ms. Gudajtes recommends no increase in agricultural land values for 2024 which keeps Grand Forks County within the state recommended tolerance at 96%.

Jay Kleven, AE2S, gave an update on the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp repair costs.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Pic, to proceed with repairs to the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp allocating up to \$3,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Motion carried with Engen, Pic and Rost voting aye and Hagen and Rustad voting nay.

The Commission agreed to continue to negotiate with Grand Forks City to exchange the Grand Forks County Parking Ramp for a lot next to the Grand Forks County Courthouse.

Nick West, County Engineer, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Rustad, to approve the Highway Department advertising for bids and administering the Michigan Township HB 1012 Township Assistance Program project. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rustad, seconded by Pic, to approve distributing SB 2183 funding to townships for the 2023 snow removal costs as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, presented the 2023 financial report.

The ATM in the County Office Building will be discussed at the next Commission meeting on February 20, 2024.

Moved by Rustad, seconded by Rost, to create a new fund within the General Fund to account for the December 31, 2023 balance of \$22,926.83 from an insurance payment for a sUAS that was damaged. The payments for the replacement will take place over several years. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rustad, seconded by Rost, to increase the hourly wage of election workers for the 2024 Elections to \$17 per hour for Judges and Clerks and \$20 per hour for Inspectors. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Hagen, seconded by Pic, to establish the following voting places for the 2024 Elections: Alerus Center Voting Center, ICON Arena/Park District Office Voting Center, Home of Economy Voting Center and Hope Church Voting Center, Gilby Presbyterian Church, Larimore Senior Center, Manvel Public School, Northwood Community Center, Thompson Community Center and Emerado Community Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Rustad, to establish an Early Voting Precinct at the Alerus Center, June 4 – June 8, 2024, the hours will be 10:00am – 6:00pm Tuesday thru Friday and 10:00am – 2:00pm on Saturday. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rustad, seconded by Rost, to establish an Absentee Ballot Precinct for the June 11, 2024 Primary Election. Motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Nelson, Finance and Tax Director, encouraged all North Dakota homeowners to apply for the Primary Residence credit. You must reside in your primary residence and apply online by March 31, 2024 to get the credit of up to \$500 on your 2024 property tax bill.

A Public Safety and Infrastructure Committee meeting was set for February 20, 2024 at 1:00pm to discuss the 2024 capital improvement project requests.

Tom Ford, County Administrator, addressed the board.

Moved by Pic, seconded by Rustad, to approve the Chair's signature on a Letter of Support for the City of East Grand Forks RAISE grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rost, seconded by Rustad, to approve payment of \$39,500 for the Grand Forks County Space Utilization Study from the General Fund miscellaneous line item. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission congratulated Gracie Lian for her nomination to attend the Air War College put on by the National Security Forum at Maxwell Airforce Base in May 2024.

Moved by Hagen, seconded by Rustad, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:25pm. The next meeting will be held on February 20, 2024 at 4:00pm.

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David A. Engen, Chairman  
Grand Forks County Commission

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Debbie Nelson, County Auditor