

The following are "unofficial minutes" subject to change at the next meeting.

BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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August 16, 2022

8:30 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse. Chairperson Rutherford called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. Roll call: Jim Benjaminson, Laverne Doyle, Nick Rutherford, Dave Moquist, and Andrew Cull. A quorum was declared.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Dave Moquist to approve the agenda with the following additions/changes: date and time for first meeting of September, Vanguard contract, raffle permit request and Devin Johnson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Dave Moquist and seconded by Andrew Cull to approve the August 2, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Dave Moquist and seconded by Laverne Doyle to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Request for a Duplicate Warrant received from Mavis A. Johnson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the January, March, April and May JDA minutes.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Dave Moquist to change the date of the first meeting of September from September 6th to September 7th with the meeting starting at 9:00 AM. A Zoning Board meeting is set for 8:00 AM that morning. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Raffle permit request received from St Joseph's Preservation Society. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the request as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent, presented quotes, from TK McCurdy LLC, for two used vehicles. The quote for the 2019 Ford Super Duty F250 SRW is \$50,000.00 and the quote for the 2012 GMC Sierra 2500 HD SLE Crew Cab is \$20,000.00. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the purchase of the two vehicles as long as it is within the budget. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Mikka Willits was unable to attend the meeting today. She requested the Auditor present the license agreement, service contract and create contract for the CAMA software, with Vanguard Appraisals, Inc., for signature. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement and contracts as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the July financial statement and claims submitted for payment. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Revel Sapa, Human Resource, and Sara Carter, Public Health RN, visited with the Commission. Per Pembina County Policy 408 – Outside Employment, an employee must disclose outside employment circumstances. An employee may hold a position with another non-competing organization as long as they satisfactorily perform their job responsibilities with the County. Sara discussed the additional positions she is currently holding, which include working flex time at the hospital approximately 4 times per month, pharmacy nurse approximately once a year, home health care once a month and she is a Cavalier City Council Member. Sara is requesting to continue with these positions as none would interfere with her work schedule with the county. Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize Sara's request as long as it does not interfere with her county position. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Water Board members Rick Kendall, Don Kemp, Bill Gunderson, Randall Emanuelson and Ted Juhl met with the Commission. Also attending were LuAnn Kemp, Water Board Secretary, Rob Fleming, Water Board Attorney, Zach Hermann and Paul LaClaire, Houston Engineering. LuAnn updated the Commission on the Drain 82 bid openings this morning. Zach informed the Commission that the cost share for the Snagging and Clearing project has been approved by the State Water Commission. Zach gave updates on the Tongue River Cutoff project, and Bourbonis Dam, Olson Dam and Senator Young Dam projects. A public meeting to discuss alternative development of the three dams is scheduled for Thursday, August 25th at 9:00 AM at the Pembina County Water Resource District office. Houston Engineering has been assisting the Water Board with the FEMA paperwork by quantifying sediment removals in the drains, with the big focus being the area east of Interstate 29. They are also assisting with FEMA paperwork for Drain 81. Zach also discussed the Cart Creek retention project.

Tanya Wieler, Human Resource, and Allen Anderson, Walsh County Health District Director, met with the Commission to discuss the option of Pembina County Public Health joining the Walsh County Health District. Available by phone was Rachel Ramsay, Public Health Interim Director. Others attending were Revel Sapa, Denise Dame, Sara Cook and Deb Stark. Mr. Anderson discussed NDCC 23-35-05 which explains how Health Districts are formed and discussed the advantages of a Health District. Health Districts are a separate entity from the county, allowing them to budget up to 5 mills for the department. Public Health employees presented a list of questions

and thoughts for discussion. Denise Dame, PH Administrative Assistant, asked what the driving force was to suggest the merger and if the merger is actually needed. Some of the pros and cons of the possible merger were discussed. The merger would remove some of the Commission governance of the Public Health Unit. Mr. Anderson requested the list of questions and thoughts for discussion be emailed to him to allow him time to review and respond. No decision made at this time.

John Morrison informed the Commission of the mess the contractors left when working on the County Road #1 project. Jeff Daley, Kadramas, Lee & Jackson, and Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent, also in attendance. John said the debris left along the roadside is a danger to the public and needs to be cleaned up soon. John informed the Commission of the accident his brother was involved in due to the debris left along the roadside. John is very angry that the contractor has not returned to finish the project. Jeff stated the paving was completed on the 28th of July and the contractor was to come back to clean up the shoulder and roadside. Jeff has contacted the contractor several times over the past three weeks requesting them to return and clean the debris. Jeff received an email from the contractor stating they would be on site today. Jeff verified they are currently on site working on the clean-up along the roadway. Discussion followed on time line options that could be included in future contracts.

Jeff updated the Commission on the two structure replacements on County Road 4, HB 1505 bridge funding for the 17 bridge rehabs, and the emergency repair work on County Road 12, County Road 3 and County Road 55 caused from the spring flooding. Jeff also discussed the additional funding available through the federal bridge program. Pembina County submitted requests for 7 structures and received funding for 4 structures. With additional funding remaining the state is requesting counties to submit additional projects to utilize the remaining funding. Discussion followed on potential funding from the Prairie Dog Funding Buckets.

Julie Hardy met with the Commission to discuss concerns related to her dismissal. Julie stated she has received several calls from State personnel and community members asking why she was dismissed. Julie would like to know what the concerns were and when meetings were held discussing the concerns. Ms. Hardy received a packet with the information when she was dismissed. Commissioner Rutherford stated there will be no debating and no discussion on the matter. Commissioner Rutherford commented any further discussion would need to be handled through the State's Attorney's Office.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.