

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

## BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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January 4, 2022

8:30 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met at 8:30 AM in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Jim Benjaminson, Laverne Doyle, Nick Rutherford and Andrew Cull. Available by telephone: Dave Moquist.

Linda Schlittenhard, Auditor/Treasurer, called the meeting to order and called for nominations for the 2022 Chairperson. Laverne Doyle nominated Nick Rutherford as Chairperson, seconded by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Nominations called for Vice Chairperson. Laverne Doyle nominated Jim Benjaminson as Vice Chairperson for 2022, seconded by Andrew Cull. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission expressed their thanks to Commissioner Doyle for his service as 2021 Chairperson. Chairperson Rutherford called the meeting to order.

Auditor/Treasurer, Linda Schlittenhard, presented the Pledge of Assets and List of Depositors of Pembina County funds. Motion to approve the Pledge of Assets and Depositors as presented made by Jim Benjaminson and second by Laverne Doyle. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Laverne Doyle to approve the December 21, 2021 meeting minutes with the following correction/clarification, requested by Sheriff Meidinger, for the reasons the Correction Center budget is overspent: The Correction Center budget was overspent due to employee raises, hiring of additional employees, having to replace the Correction Center control center after the Dispatch Center was relocated and that all departments need to watch their budgets closely. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the list of accounts receivable for year-end 2021. Outstanding amounts owed by townships comes to \$452.19 and the amount owed by cities comes to \$29,860.74. Outstanding receivables for private work totals \$1,526.85. The total outstanding as of December 30, 2021 is \$31,839.78. Discussion followed on the final

notice sent to Austfjord Construction in January 2021. No response was received. Discussion followed on options to collect the receivable. Motion made by Andrew Cull to add the outstanding amount owed by Austfjord Construction as a special assessment on his 2022 taxes. Second by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the ND Department of Transportation Certification of Local Match for Bridge Inspection/Load Rating form for Project BRC-BRS-0099(011) PNC 22818 – NE Region Bridge Inspection/Load Rating. The form certifies that Pembina County provided non-federal funds from the Road and Bridge Levy to cover the 19.07% match for the amount Pembina County was obligated to pay. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to authorize the Chairperson to sign the certification as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission discussed 2022 Board appointments. The following appointments have been returned since the December 21, 2021 meeting:

Housing Authority Board – Edna Sharp

Pembina County JDA – Kathy Stremick

Water Resource Board – Richard Kendall

Reorganization Committee: Greta Whelan

Auditor contacted Vickie Lenz to see if she was able to find an individual to fill the unexpired term of Krista Muhaw. Ms. Lenz has not responded. Auditor contacted Danne Hartje to see if he was still interested in serving on the reorganization committee, and he informed her that he is not interested in the reappointment. No information has been received regarding appointments/reappointments to the JDA Board. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to appoint Andrew Cull to the Reorganization Committee. All voting in favor; motion carried. Discussion followed on filling the unexpired term of Hugh Ralston on the Board of Health. Motion made by Andrew Cull to appoint Laverne Doyle to fill the unexpired term of Hugh Ralston to the Board of Health. Second by Jim Benjaminson. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Jeff Stevenson met with the Commission to discuss Board appointments. Jeff had requested to be appointed to the Water Resource Board in 2020, however he was not appointed at the time. Jeff then requested to have his name remain on the list of interested individuals for future appointments. The Auditor did not remember his previous request and apologized for not presenting his name to the Commission. Jeff would like to see representation from the western part of the county on the Water Board. Jeff reviewed NDCC 61-02-04.1, regarding conflict of interest. Jeff discussed the Tongue River Cut-off project and the area assessed for the project. Jeff feels only those definitely benefited by the project should be assessed for the project, not the entire Tongue River Watershed area. Commissioner Doyle stated a hearing was held on the proposed project. Jeff wants to let the Commission know that he is very disappointed in them as well as the Water Board for not having appointments made by districts to ensure each district has representation. Commissioner Moquist stated that he agrees on

representation by districts, however he feels the current members have the best interest of everyone in mind and work hard to be equitable in their decisions.

Motion made by Andrew Cull and seconded by Dave Moquist to approve the year end claims. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the December payroll and January 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.

Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.