

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

BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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September 7, 2021

8:30 AM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met at 8:30 AM in the Farmers Room of the Pembina County Courthouse with the following members present: Nick Rutherford, Jim Benjaminson and Hugh Ralston. Absent: Laverne Doyle and Hetty Walker.

Vice-Chairperson Rutherford called the meeting to order at 8:51 AM.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to postpone the abatement hearings set for today to Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 10:00 AM (special meeting). All voting in favor, motion carried.

Changes and additions to September 7, 2021 published agenda items: Abatement hearings and soils committee will be addressed at special meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 10:00 AM; Jeff Daley and County Highway Superintendent Devin Johnson will attend September 21, 2021 commission meeting at 10:30 AM regarding the county federal aid program; Pembina County Public Health Director, Pembina County States Attorney and Pembina County Sheriff added to September 7, 2021 agenda.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to approve the August 17, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the August 26, 2021 special meeting minutes as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

The ND Office of the State Auditor 2020 audit report for Pembina County was included in commissioner packets. Commission will review report with Pembina County Auditor/Treasurer at a future meeting.

Commission discussed House Bill 1015, Section 4 which created a special one-time township distribution to non-oil-producing counties. Half of the distribution called for an equal allocation among all eligible townships while the other half called for a split based on road mileage. A distribution of \$551,892.32 for

Pembina County townships was received and will be disbursed to the townships the first part of September.

Formation of a Pembina County soils committee was advertised with an application deadline of August 30, 2021. Committee was conceptualized to consist of five members and two alternates. Only three applications were received. Soils committee will be tabled and discussed at the special meeting to be held on September 28, 2021 at 10:00 AM, as Tax Equalization Director will be present.

County Deeds for sale of county property, Parcel # 32-1070020 and Parcel # 35-0820000, previously addressed at the August 17, 2021 meeting, were signed by Vice-Chairperson Rutherford.

Samantha Diemert, Emergency Manager/Weed Officer, discussed an overpayment of FEMA funds made to Joliette Township. The payment of \$54,095.70 received on March 24, 2021 was sent to Joliette Township, and should have been split between Joliette Township, Lincoln Township and Drayton Township. Ms. Diemert has contacted Joliette Township to request reimbursement to the county of \$31,200.95 overpaid to that township to be redistributed to Lincoln Township (\$19,098.65) and Drayton Township (\$12,102.30).

Revel Sapa, Veterans Services/Human Resources, presented a Memorandum of Understanding between Pembina County and Grand Forks County regarding use of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) van and transportation program. Transportation of veterans and use of the van is coordinated by Pembina County, and similar agreements will be entered into with Walsh County and Traill County. Pembina County will bill these other counties as they utilize the van for their veterans. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to enter into and sign agreements with Grand Forks, Walsh and Traill counties regarding the DAV transportation program. All voting in favor; motion carried. Ms. Sapa will present all three agreements for signature when prepared.

Julie Hardy, Pembina County Public Health Director, provided Commission with an update regarding Covid-19 in Pembina County. The county is following CDC recommendations and guidance. Discussion regarding county employees who test positive for Covid-19. Department heads/supervisors will determine whether it would be appropriate to allow employees under their supervision to work from home, with telecommuting agreements to be entered into with such employees on a case by case basis.

Rebecca Flanders, Pembina County States Attorney, requested permission to attend NDAA Career Course-The Evolution of Prosecution, October 4-7, 2021, in Louisville, Kentucky (national district attorneys association career prosecutor training), with any associated costs to be paid from county drug asset forfeiture

funds. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to approve States Attorney's attendance and travel to Louisville, Kentucky for NDAA Career Course-The Evolution of Prosecution, with any expenses to be paid from asset forfeiture funds. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Terry Meidinger, Pembina County Sheriff, requested permission for his department to send an officer to the 2021 Street Cop Conference 5-Day Seminar, October 4-8, 2021, in Atlantic City, New Jersey; no county funds will be expended, with costs to be paid by the Grand Forks Narcotics Task Force. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to allow Pembina County sheriff's department officer to attend training and travel to Atlantic City, New Jersey for 2021 Street Cop Conference 5-Day Seminar. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Devin Johnson, Pembina County Highway Superintendent, presented an Application for Drainage Permit submitted by Mahar Farms to clean silt along County Road 3 in Section 12, Lodema Township. Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to approve Mahar Farms' drainage permit application. All voting in favor; motion carried.

As instructed at the August 17, 2021 commission meeting, County Highway Superintendent Johnson obtained a bid from Pastorek Construction to repair the overhead door slab at the county shop in addition to the bids he presented August 17th from Bordertown Construction, Inc. and Pastorek Construction for repair/replacement of floor drains and surrounding concrete slabs at the county shop and Bordertown's bid regarding the overhead door slab. Bids for both projects are as follows:

Bordertown Construction

Floor Drains Project \$25,840.00; Overhead Door Slab Project \$4,920.00

Pastorek Construction

Floor Drains Project \$19,400.00; Overhead Door Slab Project \$4,600.00

Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to accept the bids from Pastorek Construction to complete the floor drains and overhead door slab projects at the county shop. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Commission reviewed the August 2021 payroll and claims submitted for payment. Motion made by Hugh Ralston and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the consent agenda as presented. All voting in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hugh Ralston to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.