

**August 5, 2020**

**10:00 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ellertson. Roll Call was taken and the following members were present: Commissioners Marquart, Klefstad, Fougner and Loibl.

Also present was Seth Hamre.

The board and visitors present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to approve the minutes of the July 6 and July 17, 2020 meetings. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Additions added to the agenda: Mike Lippert and Nile Drain north of Petersburg.

Seth Hamre discussed with the Commissioners about repairing four bad spots on County Road 4. He also discussed repairing a bad spot on County Road 1, located where the Michigan Drain crosses.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to repair the four bad spots on County Road 4. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to repair the bad spot on County Road 1 and to bill Nelson County Water Board, which will be an estimate of around \$13,485.00 to repair.

Seth discussed that he visited with Wayne Oien from Griggs County Highway Department regarding 1.75 miles of township road, located in Nesheim Township on the county line that is between County Road 22 in Nelson County and County Road 13 in Griggs County. Seth discussed with the Commissioners about changing the 1.75 miles from a township road to a county road that connects the two county roads.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to change the 1.75 miles of township road located in Nesheim Township to a county road. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Julie Ferry joined the meeting by phone conference and gave an update on COVID. She discussed that the numbers are increasing in Nelson County. She also discussed that there were 182 tested during the COVID drive-thru testing located at the Community Center in Lakota on July 28.

Angela Herda presented to the Commissioners the Nelson County COVID-19 Response Guidelines for the county employees.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to adopt the Nelson County COVID-19 Response Guidelines for the county employees. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed sick time for an employee who becomes ill with COVID symptoms and is tested for COVID. The employee will need a doctor's note stating they were tested and they will have to quarantine and work from home until the test results are back. If an employee is tested and has a doctor's note they will not have to use sick or annual leave.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad that while an employee is waiting for their COVID test results they will not have to use sick or annual leave, but will need a doctor's note showing that they were tested. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed closing the courthouse to the public effective August 7, 2020 due to the COVID numbers rising, but will be open by appointment and court hearings only. The public will be required to wear masks once entering the courthouse.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to close the courthouse starting August 7, 2020 to the public, but open by appointment and court hearings only until further notice. The public will be required to wear a mask once entering the courthouse. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Keith Olson discussed the Calls for Service. There were 155 calls for service in July.

Dawn Mandt from Red River Regional Council discussed the Red River Regional Council projects throughout the region. She also presented the 2021 budget and requested \$16,000.00 for the Red River Regional Council and 4 mills for Nelson County Job Development.

Michelle Linstad presented abatements on parcels #20-0000-06009-000 and #31-0000-08781-000.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the abatements on parcels #20-0000-06009-000 and 31-0000-08781-000. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to transfer \$597.00 from the Weed fund, \$3,040.00 from the Veterans Service fund and \$6,880.00 from the County Agent fund to the

County General fund according to the cost allocation audit. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to transfer \$20,000.00 from the County General fund to the Courthouse Repair fund. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to pay all the bills as listed. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Meeting recessed.

**August 6, 2020 - 9:00 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ellertson. Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Commissioners Loibl, Marquart, Klefstad and Fougner.

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commissioners discussed salary increases for all Nelson County employees for the year of 2021. The Commissioners also discussed the increase on health insurance that will be going up starting July 1, 2021. The County Auditor will hopefully have an amount from NDPERS on the increase of health insurance by September.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to give Nelson County employees a 2% raise depending on the increase of the health insurance. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed a salary increase for Nelson County Commissioners and if they should get a 2% raise or no raise for 2021.

Moved by Commissioners Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Marquart that Nelson County Commissioners will not be getting a raise for 2021. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre reviewed the Road & Bridge, Weed Control and Farm to Market budgets.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to increase Seth Hamre, Nelson County Highway Superintendent's annual salary from \$56,100.00 to \$63,300.00. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Mary Langley reviewed the Human Services Zone budget that is with the State. She also reviewed the Human Services Zone indirect cost, which is covered under the County General fund. Mary requested a ½ mill from the county to cover the indirect costs.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to approve a ½ mill for the Human Services Zone indirect cost, which is under the County General fund. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to approve \$16,000.00 for Red Regional Council and 4 mills for Nelson County Job Development. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Jenny Wigen reviewed the Auditor, Employee Benefits, Technology and Non-Departmental budgets.

The board reviewed the Stump Lake Park budget.

Jeff Ritteman reviewed the Janitor and Building & Grounds budgets.

The board reviewed the State Attorney budget.

The board reviewed the Recorder/Clerk of Court and Document Preservation budgets.

Bernadette Matejcek reviewed the Treasurer's budget.

Michelle Linstad reviewed the Tax Director budget.

Angela Herda reviewed the Disaster Emergency Manager, Superintendent of Schools, Incident Command Response Unit, Hazardous Chemicals and Homeland Security budgets.

Keith Olson reviewed the Sheriff, Contract Police and LLE Block Grant budgets. The Commissioners discussed the salary increase for the Sheriff's Department and made the decision to give the Sheriff's Department a 3% raise instead of 2% raise.

Commissioners Klefstad and Fougner left the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to approve the preliminary departmental and fund budgets. Roll call was taken and Commissioners Loibl, Marquart and Ellertson voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

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Jenny Wigen  
Nelson County Auditor

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Bruce Ellertson, Chairman  
Nelson County Commissioners

