

February 4, 2021

10:00 A.M.

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

Also present were Seth Hamre, Jayme Tenneson and Robyn Ward.

Present by phone conference were Paul Bjornson from KLJ and Jenny Wigen.

The board and visitors present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Addition to the agenda: letter from Butler Machinery.

Seth Hamre discussed that Kenny Schuh will be retiring from the Nelson County Highway Department in April 2021. He also discussed that another employee, located in the McVille shop, resigned from the Nelson County Highway Department.

Seth discussed that the washboards on the county gravel roads are slowly getting better with the snowfall that the county has received.

Paul Bjornson from KLJ discussed the CARES Relief Fund that the Nelson County Highway Department received. Nelson County received \$57,644.14 which the county can use for future road projects. He also discussed that the county has until 2024 to use the money.

Seth discussed that the Weed Board has some equipment that they are looking at selling.

Chairman Marquart discussed the new Commissioner Portfolios, in which each commissioner will cover certain departments in the county. The new Commissioner Portfolio will be on the Nelson County website for the public to view.

Chairman Marquart discussed the Carnegie Regional Library Agreement, which is between Nelson County, Walsh County and the City of Grafton. This agreement is to allow Nelson County to step out of the agreement and waive the two year contract with Carnegie Regional Library.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to sign the agreement regarding Nelson County to step out of the

agreement and waive the two year contract with Carnegie Regional Library. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Chairman Marquart discussed the new changes that were made to the MOU & Agreement to serve as the fiscal agent for the Nelson County Municipal Libraries that will need to be signed. She also discussed that the Lakota City Library Board will represent the new Nelson County Library Board.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to accept and sign the updated MOU & Agreement to serve as the fiscal agent for the Nelson County Municipal Libraries. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the liquor and beer licenses for Farmers Union Oil Company located in McVille. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Julie Ferry joined by phone conference and gave an update on COVID throughout Nelson County. As of February 4, 2021 there were no COVID cases in the county. She also discussed that the Nelson County Health System has been busy giving COVID vaccine shots.

The Commissioners discussed that the mask mandate throughout Nelson County will stay in effect until further notice.

The Commissioners discussed reopening the courthouse. The board decided to keep the courthouse doors locked and open by appointment only until further notice.

Angela Herda discussed that the county received \$3,356.00 for the CESF Grant (Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funds). She also discussed that she will use this money to purchase PPE supplies, fogger and an iPad for the county.

Angela gave an update on COVID in Nelson County. She also discussed that there will be BinaxNOW testing in rural communities throughout Nelson County with the first one being held in Lakota on February 10, 2021.

No public comments.

Ben Varnson, Todd Whitman, David Sateren, Lee Dahl, Ken Dahl, Randy Miller, Matt Miller, Seth Hamre, Jayme Tenneson and Angela Herda joined the meeting.

Ben Varnson discussed with the Commissioners regarding the snag and clear projects throughout Nelson County.

Commissioner Loibl left the meeting.

Ben discussed the Nelson County Commission Resolution of Necessity for the Clara-Bartlett Watershed Snag & Clear project and for the North and South Beaver Creek project. Ben also discussed that on both of the Resolution of Necessity forms it states that the Nelson County Commission does not have any financial interest in these projects and is also not a partner in the projects. He also discussed that the Nelson County Water Resource District Board will take care of all permits and are responsible for these projects.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Forde to sign the Nelson County Commission Resolution of Necessity form for the Clara-Bartlett Watershed Snag & Clear project. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to sign the Nelson County Commission Resolution of Necessity form for the North and South Beaver Creek project. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Ben Varnson, Todd Whitman, David Sateren, Lee Dahl, Ken Dahl, Randy Miller, Matt Miller, Seth Hamre and Angela Herda left the meeting.

Keith Olson presented the calls for service. There were 142 calls for service for the month of January. Keith also discussed that Deputy Kurt Schwind is attending the post class for certification as a police officer.

Michelle Linstad presented abatements on parcels 15-0000-08001-100, 21-0001-46139-000, 21-0001-46415-000, 23-0000-07064-100 and 17-0000-05003-000.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Forde to approve the abatements on parcels 15-0000-08001-100, 21-0001-46139-000, 21-0001-46415-000, 23-0000-07064-100 and 17-0000-05003-000. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to cancel the mobile home property taxes on parcel 15-0000-08001-100. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Fougner to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Jenny Wigen
Nelson County Auditor

Nancy Marquart, Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

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