

January 5, 2017
10:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Loibl with Commissioners Ellertson, Klefstad, Fougner and Marquart present.

Also present were Jayme Tenneson, Anthony Herman and Tim Lee.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the minutes as distributed. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Tim Lee reported on the snow accumulation on county roads. He also presented pictures of many of the county roads that were blocked or impassable. He requested purchasing a Snowblast snow blower that will attach to the new tractor for \$24,500.00.

Moved by Commissioner Ellertson and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to buy the Snowblast snow blower attachment for \$24,500.00. Roll call vote was taken with all voting "Yes". Motion carried.

There was a discussion about the protocol for closing the courthouse on stormy days. If there is a snow storm with "no travel advised" the Auditor will contact the Chairman for authorization to close the courthouse. The Highway Department will not always close when the courthouse is closed because the weather could be different between McVille and Lakota. Because of the type of work that is done at the Highway Department, their services may be needed in the event of a storm.

Tim discussed the blowing of snow using the new snow blower attachment on private property and township roads. When using the new Snowblast snow blower, there will be a charge of \$150.00 an hour. County roads will have priority over township roads or private property.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to charge \$150.00 an hour for snow blowing. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Anthony Herman from KLJ gave the Board an update on County Road 23 through Tolna and informed them that it was not finalized yet. Final acceptance of the project will be in a couple of months. Knife River has to fix the striping first before final acceptance.

After the project is finalized and all bills are paid by Nelson County, Tolna will be billed for their share of the project. Anthony presented a Request for Reimbursement to be signed by the Auditor for County Road 23.

Michelle Linstad discussed the agricultural values per acre that was calculated by NDSU compared to what the current

agricultural values are in Nelson County. Nelson County is in the tolerance level with the State Tax Department of 10%. Michelle is recommending a 2% increase in agricultural values. She stated that inundated land accounts for approximately 2%. If we don't do the increase now, the state could increase it more to get it up to tolerance.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Ellertson to increase agricultural values by 2%. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the abatement for parcels 18-0001-35213-000, 18-0001-35211-000, 15-0001-23450-000, and 15-0003-24032-000. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Sharon Young distributed the 2016-2017 Nelson County School Officer Manual. She discussed the different reports and listings throughout the manual.

Sharon discussed the year-end moisture report from Jeff Frith, Manager of the Devils Lake Joint Water Resource Board. He reported that 2016 ended with about 27" of snow on the ground.

Sharon discussed the Incident Command Response Unit and the maintenance work that has recently been done with the trailer and equipment. A checklist for regular inspection of the equipment and trailer will be developed. Electricity has been restored to the storage building and the Incident Command Response Unit is plugged in. Snow removal at the building was also discussed.

Keith Olson presented the Calls for Service. There was a discussion about the deputies.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to approve a liquor and beer license to Dwight Elfman. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to approve a liquor and beer license providing it is received in the Auditor's office by 4:00 P.M. Friday, January 6, 2017.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Ellertson to appoint Janice Mills to the Carnegie Regional Library Board. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Ellertson and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to appoint Maynard Loibl to the Nelson County Planning Commission. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to appoint Ed Pawlikowski and re-appoint Ron Wheeler, Todd Whitman and Jim Vasichek to the Nelson County Planning Commission. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Katelyn Hain informed the Board that she has been doing training and traveling for the past 2 months. She currently is attending the North Central Ag and Natural Resources Academy. She will soon be participating in a program in Omaha, NE on Evaluating Risk.

Katelyn also had an Ag in the Classroom in November when she brought a sheep to Dakota Prairie. She also talked about some of the upcoming events such as Soil Health Café Talks held at the Sunlac Inn, the 2nd Annual Beef Cattle Update and pesticide training.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to reapprove the following pledged securities: State Bank of Lakota - \$950,000.00; Farmers & Merchants of Tolna - \$580,000.00; and Farmers & Merchants of McVille - \$288,308.60. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Ellertson and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to cancel the taxes on county owned property parcels 4-0000-1006-000, 1-000-00083-800, 31-0000-8926-000, 31-0000-9029-000, 31-0000-9032-000, 6-0000-1528-000, 27-0001-67829-000, 21-2-46458-100, 21-0002-46461-000, 13-0000-02797-000, and 13-0000-02799-000. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Board examined the vouchers and instructed the Auditor to pay all bills as listed.

Meeting recessed.

January 11, 2017 - 10:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Loibl with Commissioners Ellertson, Marquart, Fougner and Klefstad present.

The Board reviewed and discussed the changes that were made to the Veteran's Service Joint Agreement between Nelson, Ramsey and Benson Counties. Commissioner Marquart distributed a statistic sheet showing how the percentage split would affect Nelson County.

There was a discussion about the hours that would be allotted per week to Nelson County and the pay that the Veteran's Service Officer would be getting. Ramsey County also provided a fact sheet with a couple of options with percentages.

It was decided that the Board would meet with the Ramsey County Commissioners at their next regular meeting on January 17, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the contract.

There was a discussion about redoing the county credit card so it would also include Social Services, the Sheriff's Department and County General. Currently, the Highway Department is the only one with access to the county credit card.

Meeting recessed.

January 17, 2017 - 6:30 P.M.

Commissioners Marquart, Klefstad and Fougner attended a meeting at Ramsey County to discuss the Veteran's Service Officer Agreement.

Commissioner Marquart presented fact sheets on percentages for the Veteran Service Officer Joint Powers Agreement to the Ramsey County Commission. She stated reasons why a 30% share of expenses was too high for Nelson County. Hours that the Veteran's Officer would be in Nelson County were also discussed. Stacy Twete stated that 3 ½ hours per week was an adequate amount of time to service veteran's in Nelson County.

Stacy provided a fact sheet from the ND Department of Veterans Affairs showing the number of veteran's living in each of the counties in North Dakota. There is a total of 1622 veteran's living in Ramsey, Benson and Nelson Counties. Nelson County has 341, which is approximately 21% of the veteran's within the 3 counties. Many veteran's go to Grand Forks, Fargo or Devils Lake for their services.

A 20% split was offered by Ramsey County. The Nelson County Commissioners will discuss the contract and get back to the Ramsey County Commissioners with their decision.

After some discussion, the Nelson County Commission had made their decision.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to accept the Veteran's Service Officer's Joint Powers Agreement with a 20% split of expenses. All voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Sheila Fisk
Nelson County Auditor

Maynard Loibl, Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

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