

June 3, 2021
10:00 A.M.

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

Also present were Seth Hamre, Jayme Tenneson and Paul Bjornson from KLJ.

The board and visitors present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2021 meeting and May 18, 2021 special meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Addition added to the agenda: approve housing pre-application, county storage building in Lakota, ND County Commissioner Association Boards, burn ban, employee meetings, emails, Devils Lake Outlook committee and masks in the courthouse.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the June agenda. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre discussed that he is finishing up on FEMA for the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020.

Seth discussed that the county started spraying for weeds. He also discussed that if we don't get rain the wash boards on the gravel roads will start showing up more.

Seth discussed that he is running out of culverts and will have to place another culvert order.

The board discussed about re-designation of the County Treasurer and County Recorder/Clerk of Court positions.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the preliminary resolution to re-design the County Treasurer and County Recorder/Clerk of Court from an elected position to an appointed position. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The board discussed the policy on wearing masks in the courthouse.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Johnson that masks are no longer required when entering the courthouse. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Forde to appoint Kara Koski to the School District Annexation and Reorganization Committee. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Angela Herda discussed that Nelson County is in the extreme drought category. She also discussed on signing a Drought & Emergency Declaration for Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to approve and sign the Nelson County Drought & Emergency Declaration. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Angela discussed that Nelson County has an Emergency Alerting & Notification System where residents of Nelson County can register and get alerts texted to them. These alerts may include public safety threats, dangerous weather, fire ban and traffic advisories. To register for the alert, you simply text your zip code to 888777 and you will be informed and instructed when necessary.

Angela discussed that the water levels are down on Stump Lake and Devils Lake. Stump Lake is currently at 1448.13' and Devils Lake is currently at 1448.20'.

Angela presented the Mutual Aid Agreement MOU between Eddy County and Nelson County to the board.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement Mou between Eddy County and Nelson County. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

There were no public comments.

Keith Olson presented the Calls for Service. There were 305 calls for the month of May.

Robert Harms, Tammy Ibach and Dennis Haugen joined the meeting.

Tammy Ibach & Robert Harms both from North Dakotans for Comprehensive Energy Solutions discussed on how wind energy can benefit the county's revenue. They also discussed that there are 32 commercial wind farms located in 26 counties throughout North Dakota. ND ranks fourth in the nation for its share of electricity generated from wind.

Kent Hejlik joined the meeting.

Kent discussed a section line in Dodds Township that the township continues to have trouble with. He discussed the need that it be used for access to farmland by citizens of the township.

At 2:00 P.M. the County Equalization meeting began with Commissioners Johnson, Forde, Marquart, Fougner and Loibl present.

No taxpayers were present to protest their assessments.

Michelle Linstad discussed the omitted property and increase in real estate assessment on parcel number 33-0000-09479-607.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the omitted property for parcel number 33-0000-09479-607. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Michelle presented the 2021 Annual Report along with changes that have been made.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to accept and approve the 2021 Annual Report along with the changes. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Stacie Sevigny from Red River Regional Council joined the meeting.

Stacie discussed that the handicap accessibility project at the Nelson County Health Systems building has been completed.

Stacie discussed that the Housing Pre-Application for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in Nelson County has been completed.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve and sign the Housing Pre-Application for the CDBG Program in Nelson County. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Rob Johnson from LRLEC, Melandie from SAAF, Brittany Love, Jennifer Albert and Leah Hersh from CVIC.

Melandie from Safe Alternatives for Abused Families (SAAF) presented to the board on what their program offers to counties surrounding the Devils Lake area, which Nelson County is one of the counties.

Brittany Love, Jennifer Albert and Leah Hersh from Community Violence Intervention Center (CVIC) presented to the board on what their program offers. CVIV is based out of Grand Forks and also covers Nelson County.

Rob Johnson from Lake Region Law Enforcement Center (LRLEC) discussed the Lake Region 911 Dispatch & Law Enforcement Center 2022 budget with Nelson County.

Jeff Ritteman requested more fill for around the new county building located in Lakota.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to allow Jeff Ritteman to get more fill to put around the new county building in Lakota. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to pay all the bills as listed. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned.

**Special Commissioners Meeting
June 29, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nancy Marquart. Roll Call was taken and the following members were present: Commissioner Cody Johnson, and by phone conference Commissioners Nancy Marquart, Steve Forde and Don Fougner.

Also present was Angela Herda and by phone conference Jayme Tenneson.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Forde to approve the Special Meeting agenda. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The board discussed on sending a letter from the Nelson County Commissioners to Secretary United States Department of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, Governor Burgum and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring requesting that the USDA provide assistance for ranchers facing drought conditions by allowing emergency haying and grazing of all CRP acres in North Dakota prior to August 1st.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to send a letter from the Commissioners to Mr. Vilsack, Mr. Burgum and Mr. Goehring requesting emergency haying and grazing of all CRP acres in North Dakota prior to August 1st. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The board discussed shooting off fireworks in Nelson County during the dry conditions. The board also discussed on updating the Proclamation Fire Emergency & Burn Restrictions by adding fireworks to the Proclamation.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to prohibit fireworks in Nelson County when the fire danger index is Very High, Extreme or Red Flag days, and to also add fireworks to the Proclamation Fire Emergency & Burn Restrictions. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Jenny Wigen
Nelson County Auditor

Nancy Marquart, Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

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