

March 4, 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, Maynard Loibl and Don Fougner.

Also present were Seth Hamre and Jayme Tenneson.

Present by phone was Paul Bjornson from KLJ.

The board and visitors present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

An addition was added to the agenda: Forde Township Snag & Clear upcoming meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre discussed that he received information from the NDDOT regarding motor grader training, which a motor grader instructor will come to Nelson County and train the new highway department employees.

Jayme Tenneson discussed HB2324 with the Commissioners, this bill is regarding the stream crossing that can affect many counties and townships.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to oppose HB2324 and to have the Nelson County's States Attorney send a letter to the legislator on behalf of the Nelson County Commissioners stating that they oppose this bill. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Kent Swenson joined the meeting by phone conference regarding a hauling permit through the county.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve a hauling permit for Swenson Dairy Farm during road restrictions. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Forde to adopt the resolution for load restrictions. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners reviewed the report that Julie Ferry sent regarding COVID within the county.

Angela Herda gave an update on COVID and discussed the BinaxNOW testing that is being held in Lakota and Tolna.

Angela discussed the drought monitor for North Dakota, which Nelson County is considered in severe drought stage.

Kevin Baumgarn and Jay Slade joined the meeting by phone.

Jason Sorlien and Dave Blasey joined the meeting.

The Commissioners discussed reopening the courthouse.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to reopen the courthouse effective immediately. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed the mask mandate within Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to remove the mask mandate within Nelson County and to change it to a recommendation. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed the Resolution for Nelson County, which the Nelson County Commission recommends that masks be worn in all buildings with access by the public and at all public gatherings.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to accept and sign the Resolution. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Forde to allow the auditor the ability to issue the check to Red River Regional Council as soon as the funding makes it to the county without having to have the commission approve the checks every time. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Greg Kueber joined the meeting for public comments. Mr. Kueber discussed the drainage project with the Beaver Creek and that he does not approve of the Beaver Creek project.

Keith Olson discussed the calls for service and there were 121 calls for the month of February. He also discussed that the Sheriff's Department received five defibrillators from Hemles Foundation for the squad vehicles.

Michelle Linstad presented abatements for parcels 15-0001-23454-000 and 15-0001-23095-000.

Moved by Commissioner Forde and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the abatements on parcels 15-0001-23454-000 and 15-0001-23095-000. On a roll call voted all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Auditor Wigen discussed that one of the City Auditors reached out to her regarding the CARES Relief money the county received for Law Enforcement. The City Auditor was wondering if the cities in Nelson County will receive a percentage of the CARES Relief money. The Commissioners discussed that the CARES Relief money will be used to lower mills and pay for unexpected costs throughout the county.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Forde to use the CARES Relief Law Enforcement money that the county received for lowering the mills and pay for the unexpected costs throughout the county. On a roll call voted all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed the letter and application that the Auditor received from the ND Department of Agriculture regarding the Anhydrous Ammonia License in Dahlen. The Commissioners tabled this for a later date until they get more information regarding this letter from the ND Department of Agriculture.

Commissioner Marquart discussed the SIRN (State Interoperable Radio Network) Cost Allocation Agreement. This agreement is among Ramsey County, Benson County, Eddy County, Nelson County and the City of Devils Lake. The money will be used to upgrade the 9-1-1 Center facilities, equipment and installation of consoles.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to accept and sign the SIRN Cost Allocation Agreement. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed on dissolving the first Nelson County Library Board, which included one Commissioner and a board member from each of the four city libraries.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Forde to dissolve the first library board, along with the first MOU that was created for the new Nelson County Library. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Johnson 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 Fougner to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

**Special Commissioners Meeting
March 8, 2021 - 9:00 A.M.**

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

The Commissioners discussed the Anhydrous Ammonia License Application. The anhydrous tank is located in Dahlen and is being bought out by new owners. A new application will need to be signed for the ND Department of Agriculture.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve and sign the Anhydrous License Application located in Dahlen for the ND Department of Agriculture. On a roll call voted all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned.

**Special Commissioners Meeting
March 9, 2021 - 1:30 P.M.**

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

Also present were Mary Langley, Erin Fossen, Emily Tronson, Michelle Linstad, Angela Herda, Jayme Tenneson, Shannah Lenz and Brandi Halberg.

The Commissioners discussed about employees and the public wearing masks in the courthouse. They discussed that all employees need to follow the Nelson County COVID-19 Response Guidelines that was approved in August 2020. They also discussed that everyone is required to wear a mask in the courthouse.

Auditor Wigen discussed about issuing a check for the new sheriff's vehicle.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to issue a check for the new sheriff vehicle. On a roll call vote all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned.

**Special Commissioners Meeting
March 29, 2021 - 3:00 P.M.**

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

Also present were Angela Herda, Mary Langley and Dani Bjorlie.

Present by phone conference was Jayme Tenneson.

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

The Commissioners discussed the burn ban in Nelson County due to the dry conditions and high winds. Angela Herda discussed the Proclamation Fire & Burn Ban in Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Forde to place a fire emergency and burn ban for Nelson County for all very high, extremely high and red flag days until further notice. 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.

Jenny Wigen
Nelson County Auditor

Nancy Marquart, Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners

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