

May 6, 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 were Seth Hamre, Angela Herda and Paul Bjornson.

On phone conference were: Jayme Tenneson, Rodney Brossart, Susan Brossart and Jacob Brossart.

The board and visitors present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2020 meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Additions added to the agenda: NDSU Extension Office, Kloten flooding and a letter for ND Commerce.

Jayme Tenneson discussed with the Commissioners about the abatements that Rodney and Susan Brossart filed with the County Auditor regarding the special assessments of \$9,500.00 that was applied to their two parcels located in Central Township, W ½ of the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of Section 18, Township 151, Range 59.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to deny the abatements that Rodney and Susan Brossart filed with the County Auditor on the special assessments of \$9,500.00 that was applied to their two parcels located in Central Township, W ½ of the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of Section 18, Township 151, Range 59. On a roll call voted all members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre and Angela Herda discussed the Kloten flooding with the Commissioners.

The Commissioners discussed that they will look into the Kloten flooding, along with the Nelson County Water Board.

Angela Herda discussed with the Commissioners about declaring an emergency in Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to declare an emergency in Nelson County. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre and Paul Bjornson discussed that the Galde Bridge project was placed on hold until the road restrictions are lifted,

which they are hoping by June. Seth discussed that Swingen Construction is ahead of schedule on the bridge and still looking at completion on the bridge in August.

Seth discussed that some of the county's gravel roads are closed due to water running over the roads. He also discussed that the Highway Department has received some more culverts.

Seth discussed that Marvin Narum's term was up for the Nelson County Weed Board.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to reappoint Marvin Narum to the Nelson County Weed Board. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Seth Hamre discussed with the Commissioners regarding a Highway Department employee who got picked up for a DUI. The Commissioners discussed to have the States Attorney and Risk Manager of Nelson County do an investigation and have Seth Hamre do a breathalyzer on the employee until the investigation is completed.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to have the States Attorney and Risk Manager of Nelson County do an investigation and have Seth Hamre do a breathalyzer on the employee until the investigation is completed. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Paul Bjornson discussed with the Commissioners about the Amendment No. 1 for the County Road 22 Drainage Survey with Soil Scientists. Paul discussed that KLJ can do the soil survey at the location on County Road 22 for \$5,600.00 and send the results to the State of North Dakota.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to sign the Amendment No. 1 for the County Road 22 Drainage Survey with Soil Scientists and have KLJ do the soil survey for the amount of \$5,600.00. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Angela Herda, Michelle Linstad, Erin Fossen and Mary Langley joined the meeting.

Julie Ferry joined the meeting by phone conference.

Angela discussed with the Commissioners on businesses that are opening up around Nelson County,

Michelle Linstad discussed with the Commissioners on how many views Nelson County Facebook page has received since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jenny Wigen discussed with the Commissioners a quote from The Glass Shop that she received on sneeze guards for the departments at the Courthouse and Highway Department.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to have Jenny Wigen order sneeze guards for the departments. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl to extend the closure of the courthouse to the public because of the COVID-19 pandemic until the June Commissioner meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Julie Ferry gave an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. She also discussed that Nelson County had one positive COVID-19 case so far.

Julie Ferry, Angela Herda, Michelle Linstad, Erin Fossen and Mary Langley left the meeting.

There were no public comments.

Keith Olson presented the Calls of Service. There were 92 calls for the month of April. Keith also discussed that he received a grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 from Enbridge for the radio system.

Alan and Gayle Klefstad requested a variance to plant trees along the south side of County Road 16. The proposed plan is to plant a row 2,000 feet long beginning at the Pekin Cemetery and going west. The existing row is around 200 feet from the center line of County Road 16 and runs from the cemetery about 2,300 feet to the west. The proposed row is 15 feet north of the existing row, therefore, it would be 175 feet south of the center line. The property is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ in Section 28, Township 150, Range 60.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to approve Alan and Gayle Klefstad the variance to plant trees located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ in Section 28, Township 150, Range 60. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Ben Varnson, Seth Hamre and Angela Herda joined the meeting.

David Sateren and Todd Whitman joined the meeting by phone conference.

Ben Varnson discussed the Klotten flooding with the Commissioners and will look into what the next step they will need to do to drain the water from Klotten.

Moved by Commissioner Fougner and seconded by Commissioner Loibl that the County will pay 1/3 of the cost with Nelson County Water

Board on draining the water from Kloten. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Ben Varnson, David Sateren, Todd Whitman, Seth Hamre and Angela Herda left the meeting.

The Commissioners discussed the starting salary for the new NDSU Extension Agent position that is open in Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Klefstad to offer the new Extension Agent a starting salary at \$58,000.00 with a variation up to \$60,000.00. Motion failed due to no second.

The Commissioners discussed the starting salary again for the new NDSU Extension Agent position with Nelson County.

Moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Fougner to offer a starting salary at \$58,000.00 for the new Extension Agent. On a roll call vote Commissioners Klefstad and Marquart voted "No", Commissioners Loibl, Fougner and Ellertson voted "Yes". Motion carried.

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

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Loibl and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to recess the meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Meeting recessed.

**Special Commissioners Meeting
May 22, 2020 - 9:00 A.M.**

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

Also present were Jayme Tenneson, Robyn Ward, Bernadette Matejcek, Lori Schuh, Erin Fossen, Emily Tronson, Jessica Dias, Shelby Obermueller, Michelle Linstad, Angela Herda, Kristi Matejcek, Keith Olson, Mark Dudgeon, Brandi Halberg, Shannah Lenz and Jenny Wigen.

On phone conference were Mary Langley, Kathy Berdal, Danielle Bjorlie, Jesse Madche, Dalton Knapper and Debbie Trostad.

A special Commissioner meeting was convened with all Nelson County employees regarding sneeze guards that were ordered for all the departments in the Courthouse and Highway Department.

States Attorney Jayme Tenneson discussed the safety measures in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and the safety of all employees by installing sneeze guards in all departments at the Courthouse and Highway Department per the County Commissioners directive.

Moved by Commissioner Marquart and seconded by Commissioner Klefstad to require all sneeze guards purchased to be used for everyone's safety. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Commissioner Marquart provided handouts to all employees identifying the job duties of the elected and appointed officials and the chain of command.

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Klefstad and seconded by Commissioner Marquart to adjourn the meeting. All members voted "Yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Jenny Wigen
Nelson County Auditor

Bruce Ellertson, Chairman
Nelson County Commissioners