

PROCEEDINGS OF PIERCE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 4, 2023

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on April 4, 2023. Chairman Hoffert called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with members Bohl, Christenson, Bednarz, and Migler present.

Chairman Hoffert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve the consent agenda, with two additions, Christenson wanted to talk about the leased tractor and Bohl wanted to talk about the roof at the Wolford Shop. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to accept the March minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, with the exception of the Souris Basin Planning bill. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to table that bill until they get more information about what the membership entails. Motion carried.

Board reviewed Officer fee reports and hourly workers time sheets.

Board reviewed March report from Heart of America Community Service Program from Lisa Coffman, Community Service Coordinator. Open cases 17, new cases 5, closed compliant 2, fees received \$660.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz, to approve Treasurer's checks #6307 -#6311, in the amount of \$8,234.99, for the month of March. Motion carried.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson to accept the financial report for the month of March. Motion carried.

Josh Siegler, Pierce County Sheriff, and Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, joined the meeting.

Josh Siegler, Sheriff, met and gave the Board a report for the month of March, for his department. Total calls-28; Medical Calls-1; Fire Calls-0; Traffic Accidents-1; Assist Other Agencies-2; Prisoner Transports-8; Arrests-1 (Driving under suspension,7 Warrants); Citations-3; Papers Served-2; Warrants Served-7. No personnel changes. Siegler asked if a new salary study could be done. They want to remain competitive. Graner said he had an applicant interested but the wages weren't competitive enough. Wages are front and center. Siegler said the loyalty isn't there like it was previously. Some places are offering sign on bonuses. Graner said instead of just focusing on starting wages, how do we take care of our current employees and the ones that have been loyal. Graner also said that when the correctional officers get certified that could lead to better wages.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of March. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bednarz to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of March, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for March, which was 77 (ADP). Current inmate count is 79. High of 84 for March. Bookings 51, Releases 38. Pierce County inmate population for March was 8. Deficit of \$58,028.77, for the month of February. Personnel 22/24 officers, 2 hired. Graner reported that the DOCR inspection went well. They had a couple of items that need corrective actions to be in full compliance. Graner informed the Board that there is a Covid Grant that they received for \$11,000. It applies to PPE. Graner informed the Board that 6 of the outdated firearms were sold internally for \$250 each. Graner said he's starting to see an increase in bookings and an increase in ADP, which should result in an increase in revenue. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve the financial report for the month of February, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 9:20 A.M. with all members present.

As the hour of 9:00 A.M. was past, bids were opened for the 2006 Ford Expedition, from the HACTC, that was for sale. Three bids were received: Rick Koenig:\$1001.00, Cory Amyotte:\$1650.00, & Jack Bylsma II: \$3120.00 Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bohl to accept the bid from Jack Bylsma for \$3120.00. Motion carried.

Steve Jacobson, B & J Excavating Inc. joined the meeting.

As the hour of 9:30 A.M. was past, the chairman called for the opening of the bids for Clay and Graveling and Machine Hire, for the 2023 construction season. After reviewing the bids for Claying and Graveling and Machine Hire, moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to accept all bids. Motion carried.

Jacobson left the meeting.

Board discussed having the salary study done. Board informed Auditor Migler to contact Tanya Wieler, HR Consultant, about doing a study with counties comparable to ours and if someone had more than one duty, to factor that in for their department. Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Bohl to request an updated salary study. Motion carried.

Jesse Brandvold, Wold Engineering, joined the meeting. Brandvold brought in contracts for the Selz Project CP3548 (023) Pierce County, for the re-shaping and re-graveling from the McHenry Co. line, East 7 miles, South 1 mile, thence East 5 miles to NDSH3.

Brandvold left the meeting.

Board discussed putting the 143H spare motorgrader up for bids, as it isn't being used. When there is a break down with the motor graders, RDO usually provides them with a loaner to use while it's being repaired. Board instructed Auditor Migler to advertise the 2006 143H motorgrader for sale. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz. Motion carried.

Christenson talked about the lease on the tractor for 2023. It is an 8 month lease for \$5250., from Gooseneck Implement. Chairman will need to sign the lease when it's ready.

As the hour of 10:45 was past, the Chairman called for the opening of culvert bids. No bids were received.

Bohl told the Board that the Wolford Shop's roof is leaking. It has ruined a door opener and will deteriorate if nothing is done. Board suggested that he talk to some contractors and see what the best solution will be to get it fixed right.

Board reviewed correspondence from ND Insurance Reserve Fund, pertaining to electing a representative, to serve on the Board of Directors. Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Bohl authorizing the chairman to cast a proxy vote, to elect Burdell Johnson and Sonya Larson to the Board of Directors, to represent counties on the ND Insurance Reserve Fund. Motion carried.

Board briefly discussed the draft of guidelines from the Elmer Jesme Board. They all agreed to go along with the draft, which would rotate the chair and secretary each year.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler, that annual payment be made from the Road Districts to Road & Bridge Fund, for blading and snow removal, for township roads with motorgrader. Motion carried.

Board reviewed abatement application submitted by Jason Martin for tax year 2022 (2023-36) on the following described property as parcel #05386000 - NW1/4NE1/4, Lot 1, located in section 23 Township 152N-74W. Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Christenson, to approve the abatement application for tax year 2022, to lower the true and full value from \$135,982 to \$27,280, as recommended by the Tax Director, as it qualifies for Farm Residence Exemption. Motion carried.

Board reviewed abatement applications submitted by Columbus Club for tax years 2021 & 2022 (2023-37, 2023-38, 2023-39, 2023-40, 2023-41, 2023-42, 2023-43, 2023-44) on the following described property as parcel 10192000- S140' Lot 14 less W2' & E14', Block 2 Sikes 1<sup>st</sup> Addition; parcel 10193000- E14' Lot 14 less N28'; W37 1/2' Lot 15, Block 2 Sikes 1<sup>st</sup> Addition; parcel 10194000-W5' Lot 16, E37 1/2' Lot 15, Block 2 Sikes 1<sup>st</sup> Addition; parcel 10195000- E61' Lot 16, W16' Lot 17, Block 2 Sikes 1<sup>st</sup> Addition, located in the City of Rugby. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bednarz to approve the abatement applications for tax years 2021 & 2022, as recommended by the Tax Director, as they qualify for tax exemption, provided that the City of Rugby approves them. Motion carried.

David Bednarz discussed with the Board that the Human Service Zone has updated their plan. The zones throughout the state are losing employees, so duties are being shifted around. The local office has lost 2 employees, but one person has been hired. Other information he shared was that the State had 300

burials this past year and adoption rules have changed. Bednarz will inform the Board as more details come out on the updated plan.

There being no further business to transact, moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler, to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 A.M. Motion carried.

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Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer  
Pierce County, North Dakota

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Terry Hoffert, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

## MARCH EXPENDITURES

ND Child Support \$81.50, Northern Plains Electric \$211, NDTC \$1603.88, Quadient Leasing \$182.97, JP Morgan \$1955.34, NDTC \$777.84, Pierce County Payroll \$60373.77, \$17427.98, \$35.94, Pierce County Treasurer \$681.32, Family Support Registry \$782, Pierce County Payroll \$77763.23, \$22046.40, \$38.04, Pierce County Treasurer \$820.60, AFLAC \$1204.36, Security Benefit \$1747.27, Nationwide \$1230, \$1928.03, Colonial Life & Accident \$31.25, EBIX \$29.76, Otter Tail \$9495.04, \$5774.38, ND Child Support \$846, Otter Tail \$258.73, ND PERS \$26057.63, ND PHIT \$65285.41, Job Service ND \$574.21, Pierce County Payroll \$30885.96, \$8919.79, \$64.40, Pierce County Treasurer \$360.12, HACTC Bills \$42832.07, Bohl, Joe \$111.35, Christenson, Mike \$113.32, Migler, Dave \$191.26, Migler, Karen \$65.50, Miron, Lori \$78.60, Thomas Law Firm \$300, Mack Law Office \$767.40, Advanced Business Methods \$208.61, Pro IT \$125, B & M Laundry \$105.62, Circle Sanitation \$156, Dakota Fire Extinguishers \$52.36, Rugby Hardware Hank \$125.06, Pierce County Tribune \$795.33, Gaffaney's \$295.50, Computer Store \$145.99, North Central Printing \$61, Rugby Insurance \$51854, ITD \$3867.13, Light & Siren \$398.96, HACTC \$1750, Redwood Toxicology \$53.68, City of Balta \$700, Computer Express \$1450, Isolved \$266.17, ND Association of Counties \$89.08, Butler Machinery \$1373.72, RDO \$3555.12, City of Balta \$396, Rugby Service Center \$1204.54, Home of Economy \$6.99, Wold Engineers \$41470.50, NDTC \$203.66, Polar Communications \$3, ND Community Corrections Association \$110.25, Coffman, Lisa \$233.84, Rugby Lumber \$16.85, Quality Inn \$176.40, City of Rugby \$605.97, Zeien, Paul \$172.27, Stein's \$246.30, Johnson's Plumbing \$187.20, City of Wolford \$404, Linde Gas & Equip. \$139.15, Office of Attorney General \$45, Pierce County Treasurer \$31.34, Quadient Leasing \$1035, Parsons, Donald \$71.36, Portraits by Misti \$429, Maddock Construction \$315, Envision \$61.24, City of Rugby \$1975.26, HACTC Resident Fund \$856, Envision \$21649.42, Pierce County Treasurer \$51750, \$59800      Grand Total \$634957.52