

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

July 5, 2023

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on July 5, 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 Migler and seconded by Christenson to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to accept the June minutes and Board of Equalization 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. Motion carried.

Board reviewed Officer fee reports and hourly workers time sheets.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve Treasurer's checks #6320-#6323, in the amount of \$19,787.08, for the month of June. Motion carried.

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

Rick Srur joined the meeting.

Lisa Coffman, Community Service Coordinator, joined the meeting. She gave a report on the program for the month of June. There are 15 open cases, 5 new cases, 2 closed compliant, and 3 closed noncompliant cases, fees received \$238. She reported that the jail is assisting in helping inmates get their hours completed. They have some things that have worked. Bednarz asked if there was anyone to work at the Fairgrounds. Coffman said there was one volunteer and one that is signed up to help.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, joined the meeting.

Mike Graner gave the Board a report for the month of June, for the Sheriff's department. Total calls-53; Medical Calls-4; Fire Calls-1; Traffic Accidents-4; Assist Other Agencies-10: Prisoner Transports-4; Arrests 10 (5 Warrants, 2-Driving Under Suspension, 1-Driving Under the Influence, 1-Possession of a Controlled Substance, 1-Possession of Narcotics Paraphernalia) Citations-15; Papers Served-21; Warrants Served-5.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of June. Graner reported that there were repairs to the stove, knobs and elements were replaced. He also reported that the Ford Expedition needed new tires and a water pump. Also, the A/C on the rooftop had to get repaired, 2 compressors were changed out previously, now the other 2 needed to be changed. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of June, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for June, which was 78 (ADP). Current inmate count is 84. High of 83 for June. Bookings 44, Releases 46. Pierce County inmate population for June was 6. Deficit of \$26,379.85, for the month of May. Personnel 20/24 officers. There was 1 resignation and 1 officer will be retiring July 6th. Graner expects one officer to return and one officer is out on military leave and may return in September. Graner reported that staffing continues to be an issue. Graner reported that there are two capital expenses, a kitchen steamer and the chiller compressors. Bednarz asked if it would be a possibility to start a treatment program. Graner said they would have to get relicensed and would need to get a contract. Staffing would be an issue as well. Graner said currently anyone that needs those services, an evaluation is done with the prisoner, they find a bed and find them treatment. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve the financial report for the month of May, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 9:08 A.M. with all members present.

Rick Srur left the meeting.

Briselda Hernandez, Executive Director, Souris Basin, joined the meeting. She reported that locally, Ashley Berg is serving on the Board and will continue to give us updates on what is happening with the organization. Hernandez reported on the AmeriCorps program, which helped 38 organizations and communities. Members receive a stipend and serve public/non-profit organizations. Locally, Prairie Village Museum had an AmeriCorp member helping out. Hernandez said their organization can also help out with grant writing. They strive for grants that can benefit an entire region. They can provide assistance for anyone wanting to expand their business or wanting to start up a business. Recently they helped Pierce County with securing funding for USDA housing for low income units.

Board recessed at 10:00 A.M. to sit on the County Park Board.

Board reconvened at 10:30 A.M., with all members present.

Bohl informed the rest of the Board that he would be trying to meet with the Rolette County Commissioners, to see if we could get an agreement with them, on a 10 ½ mile stretch of road, that is shared with Rolette County. He said that road usually gets first priority. He would like to have an agreement with them for the gaveling and blading of that 10 ½ miles.

Auditor-Treasurer Migler, presented the Pledge of Assets from Merchants Bank, Bremer Bank, First United Bank, and First Intl. Bank & Trust. Board reviewed the bank balances as of June 30, 2023. Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Bohl to approve the Pledge of Assets, as presented. Motion carried.

Board reviewed abatement application submitted by Eldon Curtis Ekren for tax year 2022 (2023-50) on the following described property, W87.6' x 120' of Lot 1, Blk. 1, School Addition, City of Rugby. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve the abatement application for tax year 2022, as recommended by the Tax Director, as Homestead Credit filed. Motion carried.

Board reviewed the Fire Emergency Declaration and Burn Restrictions submitted by Kelsey Siegler, Emergency Mgr. Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Christenson to rescind the previous burn ban and issue the Fire Emergency Declaration and Burn Restrictions Ban for Pierce County, effective immediately. This includes the restriction of recreational burning, open burning (any burning that takes place in an unenclosed space. Includes the burning of leaves, grass clippings, garbage & pits, construction debris, fallen trees, crop residue or hay land, sloughs and bonfires.) also, restricting the use of fire to demolish structures when the ND Fire Danger Index is in the "High, Very High, or Extreme" Index and/or a "Red Flag Warning" has been issued for Pierce County. These restrictions do not ban the use of grills or commercially sold enclosed firepits, but it is required that grills or enclosed fire devices be on a hard non-organic surface and be a minimum of 15 feet away from any dry vegetation when the Fire Danger Index is High, Very High, or Extreme. The use of Fireworks is prohibited when the fire index rating is High, Very High or Extreme or a "Red Flag Warning" has been issued. Be it also required that any controlled burn occurring within the limits of Pierce County be reported to the Law Enforcement Center at 701-776-5245 and supplying the name of the responsible party, contact number and location of the burn along with any other requested information. These burn restrictions are in effect for Pierce County, but do not apply to the incorporated cities of Balta, Rugby or Wolford. These restrictions have been issued for Pierce County, ND, expiring on October 31, 2023. Upon roll call vote, Bednarz "Yes", Christenson "Yes", Bohl "No", Migler "No", & Hoffert "Yes". Motion carried. Declaration is on file in the Auditor's office.

Board briefly discussed the 2024 budget. They will discuss further at their July 18th meeting.

There being no further business to transact, moved by Bednarz and seconded by Bohl, to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 A.M. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

Terry Hoffert, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

July 18, 2023

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on July 18, 2023. Chairman Hoffert called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M., with members Christenson, Bohl, Migler, and Bednarz present. Also present was Lori Miron, Pierce Co. Recorder.

Board reviewed departmental budgets and any correspondence received from department heads. They discussed the extra 1% contribution the county is required to pay for employee's retirement, carpet that may need replacing, and heating updates that need to be done at the Memorial Hall. They discussed increasing the contribution to the county Fair. Miron presented salary data from the ND Assoc. of Counties from neighboring counties for comparison. Board continued to review departmental budgets.

Bohl discussed having a contract drawn up with Rolette County for 10.5 miles that is shared on the county line for maintaining that stretch of gravel roads.

Board discussed the custodial job that is unfilled and paying Bednarz \$200. for taking care of the Memorial Hall grounds and garbage & cleaning at the Courthouse.

There being no further business, moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 A.M. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

Terry Hoffert, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

JUNE EXPENDITURES

ND Child Support \$98.50, Northern Plains Electric \$135, Pierce Co. Payroll \$63456.26, \$17814.64, \$66.36, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$30.87, Family Support Registry \$782, NDTC \$1575.64, \$783.46, City of Rugby \$2130.46, Quandient Finance \$200, Quadient Leasing \$182.97, JP Morgan \$3749.37, Pierce Co. Payroll \$79296.24, \$22212.81, \$37.06, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$211.17, AFLAC \$1204.36, Security Benefit \$1747.27, Colonial \$31.25, EBIX \$14.88, Nationwide \$1928.03, \$1230, Otter Tail \$9780.81, \$1253.39, Pierce Co. Payroll \$31340.48, \$8902.31, \$34.40, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$67.08, ND PERS \$26778.55, ND PHIT \$66932.66, HACTC BILLS \$54387.48, Otter Tail \$237.95, Bohl, Joe \$182.39, Christenson, Mike \$144.10, Migler, Dave \$371.68, Mack Law Office \$390.77, PRO IT \$190.73, Advanced Business Methods \$208.61, Circle Sanitation \$156, City of Rugby \$624.41, Otis \$1963.32, Pierce Co. Tribune \$420.08, ITD \$3813.28, Staples \$116.89, Vanguard Appraisals \$650, US Records Midwest \$340.91, Quadient Finance \$500, City of Rugby \$1842.67, Brad's Towing \$1089, Uniform Center \$167, HACTC \$21420, Rugby Hardware Hank \$21.98, Rugby Lawn & Tree Care \$350, Zeien, Paul \$132.31, Rugby Broadcasters \$175, NDTC \$203.66, Coffman, Lisa \$179.47, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$167.34, Office of Attorney General \$55, KHND \$125, Johnson's Plumbing \$115.95, Linde Gas & Equipment \$152.13, Bottineau Co. Auditor's Office \$18, Redwood Toxicology \$110, Siegler, Kelsey \$78.60, Computer Express \$1450, Isolved \$266.17, Wieler, Tanya \$1000, Matthew Bender \$477.61, Susag Sand & Gravel \$22215, B & J Excavating \$1070, Butler \$149.64, RDO \$1679.75, Envision \$11593.92, Home of Economy \$2.18, Axtman, Michael \$620, Zacher, James \$80, The Herald Press \$99.40, Elite Spraying Services \$65, Accent Signs \$500, Rugby Service Center \$1323.51

Grand Total \$477702.17