PROCEEDINGS OF THE PIERCE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISISONERS

 March 9, 2017

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on March 9, 2017. Chairman Migler called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M., with members Christenson, Brossart, Hoffert and Larson present. Also present was Carissa Mavec, Pierce County Tribune.

Chairman Migler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Christenson and seconded by Hoffert, to accept the February minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Larson and seconded by Brossart, 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 Christenson and seconded by Brossart, to accept the financial report for the month of February. Motion carried.

Allan McKay, LRDH Director, and Annette Groves, Director of Nursing, met with the board and informed them that Deb Schiff, Public Health Nurse, will be retiring. Allan asked if the board was considering this to be a part-time position or fulltime position. Allan explained to the board that the costs would be very minimal if the board went with a part-time position. Christenson asked who would be hiring the public health nurse? McKay said it would be Lake Region District Health, as the position is not a county position. Board agreed to keep the position as a full time. Notice will be in the Pierce County Tribune.

Moved by Larson and seconded by Brossart, to approve Treasurer’s checks #5734-5755 in the amount of $4,787.05 for the month of February. Motion carried.

Discussed briefly amongst the board was the heating system at the courthouse and the information that was given by Auditor-Treasurer on this issue.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, presented the monthly report from the Sheriff’s department for the month of February. Total calls-55; Medical calls-3; Fire calls-1; Traffic accidents-5; Assist Other Agencies-6; Prisoner transports-4; Arrests- 13; Citations-19; Papers served-20; Warrants served-4.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

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

Graner gave the board an update on the inmate population for February, which was120 inmates. High of 127 and low of 112. Today’s inmate count is 116. Bookings-122; Released-123. There was a profit of $33,827.56 for the month of January. Personnel-no departures; new hires- 1.

Graner informed the board that they will need to upgrade the IVN system, in which he received a proposal cost of approximately $2500.00, from AVI Company. Three new computers were installed.

Moved by Brossart and seconded by Hoffert, to approve the financial report for the month of February, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 9:10 A.M., with all members present.

Moved by Hoffert and seconded by Larson, to impose load limit restrictions-single axle not to exceed 12,000 lbs., tandem axle not to exceed 12,000 lbs., per axle on all county township roads. Also, speed limit will be 45 miles per hour, while load limits are in effect. With the exception that load limits imposed on 2 ½ miles from Highway #3 to Selz, with speed limit set at 35 miles per hour, single axle, not to exceed 12,000 lbs. and tandem axle not to exceed 12,000 lbs., per axle for loaded trucks, while limits are in effect. Motion carried.

Moved by Christenson and seconded by Brossart, to call for bids for graveling and machine hire, for the 2017 construction season. Motion carried.

Board reviewed correspondence from Penny Miller, Clerk of North Dakota Supreme Court, in the matter of the vacancy in Judgeship No. 2, with chambers in Rugby, North Dakota, Northeast Judicial District. Moved by Larson and seconded by Brossart, authorizing the chairman and auditor to sign the resolution, urging the North Dakota Supreme Court to fill the Judicial Vacancy in the Northeast Judicial District and to maintain the Judicial Chambers in Rugby, North Dakota. Motion carried. Resolution is on file in the auditor’s office.

Board review abatement application submitted by Betty Vig (2017-14) for tax year 2016, on the following described property, as Lots 7-8-9, Block 3, Comstock’s 1st Addition, located in the City of Rugby. Moved by Larson and seconded by Christenson, to approve the abatement application for tax year 2016 (2017-14), as recommended by the Tax Director, in accordance with homestead credit filed. Motion carried.

Allan Meckle, Community Service Coordinator, and Galen, J. Mack, Pierce County States Attorney, joined the meeting. Galen share information with the board on fees that are collected for Victim Witness, which are presently being sent to Domestic Violence Crisis Center in Minot. Galen said approximately $2400 a year is collected presently for victim witness. Galen asked the board if they would consider having a Victim Witness Advocate for Pierce County, and giving these duties to Allan Meckle. He would work with the States Attorney. Galen felt that with Marsy’s Law, it is going to create extra work for his office. Moved by Hoffert and seconded by Larson, to hire Allan Meckle, as the county’s Victim Witness Advocate, and the budget details will be worked out and reported back at the April meeting. Motion carried.

Briefly discussed was a letter the board received from an eligibility worker.

Zane Axtman and John Guzman, Farmers Union Insurance representatives, joined the meeting to discuss the county’s voluntary benefits. John Guzman said that instead of having three different companies coming and meeting with county employees on their voluntary benefits, that he could be agent of record for voluntary benefits for the county, and at no cost. He would visit with all county employees and go over their voluntary plans, instead of the different companies coming in and a giving them a good sales pitch, which may not be the right choice. This was tabled until March 21, 2017.

Kelsey Siegler, Emergency Manger, joined the meeting and gave the board a report on the last two days as to what all went on with the weather conditions. Kelsey said that she opened an emergency shelter at the Rugby Armory and that at one operational period there were 73 individuals and 7 dogs. Volunteers brought in food and the Red Cross helped financially for food. Kelsey said over time was worked by a lot of individuals during this time, in which they need to be compensated. Kelsey said that the county should declare a declaration, due to excessive hazardous winter weather, including: rain, snowfall and high winds from March 6th thru March 8th, 2017. During this time, travel was impossible throughout the entire county. The highways through the City of Rugby had been closed. No travel advisory was in place. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Brossart, to declare an emergency declaration. Motion carried. Declaration is on file in the Auditor-Treasurer’s office.

Jessica Tagestad, Wold Engineering, met with the board on plans for overlay and seal coat on Project CNOB-3521(062) truck route. Also discussed was a turning lane off the golf course. After Jessica explained what all would need to be completed for a turning lane, the board decided not to do the turning lane. After further review of the proposed plans for the overlay and seal coat, moved by Larson and seconded by Hoffert, to go ahead with the overlay and seal coat on the truck route, with bids to be opened on April 18, 2017, with a completion date of September 1, 2017. Motion carried. This project is being paid with monies from SB 2103.

Jessica also went over a change order on Project CNOB-3521(060) and CNOC-3548(056) pavement marked painted message (railroads), which was previously omitted. Moved by Larson and seconded by Hoffert, to approve the change order, in the amount of $4,918.40. Motion carried.

Board reviewed correspondence from Carl Ness, Manager, of Underground Storage Tank Program, where there is going to be a training on the introduction to the New UST Rules. Training will be held in Minot at the North Central Research Extension Center on April 25, 2017. Christenson said that both Gary Rose and Lee Wolf should attend this training.

Board reviewed correspondence from Melinda Voeller, Social Service Director, on the roles and responsibilities of county social service boards. After further review, moved by Christenson and seconded by Brossart, to approve the roles and responsibilities of the county social service board, dated March 9, 2017. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Lake Region District Health

Community Service

Library Board- Hoffert commented that new custodian has been hired.

JDA Board- Hoffert said that the JDA is looking for a director.

LEC Board- Migler said the rent is being paid.

Weed Board- Christenson said that they are advertising for bids for chemical.

Zoning & Planning Board- approved to amend the ordinance for Section 4 (Agricultural District)- Article 3 (Conditional Uses)- Item G

Social Service Board- already was discussed.

Ambulance Board- Larson said that ambulance was turned over to the hospital, which was volunteer and the remaining monies will be disbursed.

Souris Basin Planning Council

There being no further business, Migler moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 A.M.

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Karin Fursather, Auditor-Treasurer David Migler, Chairman

Pierce County, North Dakota Board of County Commissioners

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PIERCE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISISONERS

 March 21, 2017

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on March 21, 2017. Chairman Migler called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M., with members Christenson, Brossart, Hoffert and Larson present. Also present was Bryce Berginski, Pierce County Tribune.

Public Hearing was held at 9:15 A.M., on the first reading of the amended ordinance Section4 (Agricultural District)- Article 3 (Conditional Uses)- Item G: Rock crushers, concrete and asphalt mix plants, sand and gravel pits, or any such excavation surface mining. Responsibility of obtaining a permit belongs to the owner(s) of the processed product. No written notices were received prior to the hearing. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Brossart, to approve the amended ordinance as stated above. Motion carried.

Auditor-Treasurer Fursather, asked the board for direction on how or what they want to do with the present heating system at the courthouse and social services. Fursather said she did find a grant, but an analysis needs to be completed prior to applying. Also discussed notice for the paper and possibility of looking into limited tax bonds. This was tabled until next meeting to discuss this issue with Galen J. Mack, States Attorney.

Moved by Brossart and seconded by Christenson, to transfer $100,000.00 from County Poor Relief to Social Welfare Fund. Motion carried.

Board discussed voluntary benefits that were tabled from the March 9, 2017 meeting, where Zane Axtman & John Guzman, Farmers Union Insurance representatives, joined the meeting and stated instead of having three different companies coming and giving a sales pitch on voluntary benefits, that Farmers Union could be agent of record for the county on the voluntary benefits. After further discussion, moved by Hoffert and seconded by Larson, to leave the voluntary benefits as is. Motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning a special that was put on in 2014, on parcel 38069-000, for clean-up. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Larson, to abate the special on parcel 38069-000. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Migler moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

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