

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

September 3, 2024

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on September 3, 2024. Chairman Hoffert called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with members Bednarz, Bohl, Christenson, and Migler present.

Chairman Hoffert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Bednarz to accept the August minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl 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 sheet.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Bednarz to approve Treasurer's checks #6395-#6402, in the amount of \$2,944.52, for the month of August. Motion carried.

Board reviewed the financial report. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bednarz to approve the financial report for the month of August. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to transfer \$100,000 from General Fund to HACTC Fund. Motion carried.

Bednarz talked about the opioid fund. He asked the Board what they thought of setting up a lyceum on the dangers of vaping, at the schools, and use some of that funding, for that purpose. Board told him to check into it.

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 August for his department. Total calls-57; Medical Calls-1; Fire Calls-0; Traffic Accidents-2; Assist Other Agencies-9; Prisoner Transports-6; Arrests- 29 (1-Reckless Endangerment, 2-Terrorizing, 2-Maintaining a Narcotics Dwelling, 3-Criminal Conspiracy to Deliver a Controlled Substance, 1-Stalking, 3-Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, 2-Injection of a Controlled Substance, 1-Manufacturing a Controlled Substance, 2-Delivery of a Controlled Substance, 2-Possession of a Controlled Substance, 1-Aggravated Assault, 2-Felon in Possession of a Firearm, 1-Disorderly Conduct, 1-Failure to Register as a Sex Offender, 1-Simple Assault-Domestic Violence, 4-Warrants); Citations-44; Papers Served-17; Warrants Served-4. Siegler reported that there was one personnel change, one dispatcher is moving out of the area.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of August. Graner said that both transport vehicles needed service and the new one needed new tires. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of August, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for August, which was 77 (ADP). Current inmate count is 69. High of 86 for August. Bookings 44, Releases 55. Pierce County inmate population for August was 13. Deficit of \$20,937.00, for the month of July. Personnel 23/24 officers, 2 new hires. Graner said there will be 2 retirements in the final quarter. Graner reported that Covid went through the facility again in August, about 6-7 staff members impacted. He reported that they continue to receive the DOCR overflow. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bohl to approve the financial report for the month of July, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 9:00 A.M., with all members present.

Board reviewed the special event permit from 3rd Street Station for a wedding reception, 9/7/24, at the Gault farm, 6861 Hwy. 3 N, Rugby. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bednarz to approve the special event permit. Motion carried.

Karin Fritel, Clerk of Court, joined the meeting. Fritel informed the Board that her office may be closed at times, on her scheduled days off, for the next 6 weeks, as her deputy will be out for medical reasons. Fritel said she will be available at all times and will come in on her scheduled days off, if necessary, and McHenry County will do some Tuesday & Thursday remotes if needed. Board said sounds like you have it covered and to try it and see how things go.

Sandra Scherr, Extension secretary, joined the meeting. She informed the Board that the 4-H Awards night is coming up and they would like the Commissioners to attend and have their pictures taken with the kids. She said this year it grew a lot with cattle and horse projects, and there was a 3% growth for 4-H. Scherr said they have a lot of new ideas for the 4-H'ers. She said the Hippology program is going to Nationals in Denver, Co, for the 2nd year in a row. On the Extension side of things she said Klebe is busy with soil testing, checking crops, and helping residents in town with their lawn & tree problems.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson to issue a call for bids for premium diesel fuel, propane, and gasoline. Motion carried. Bids will be opened at the October meeting.

Board discussed the request from Minot Aging for using matching funds received from the State. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to not contribute the funds as they are needed locally at the Senior Center and for Senior Meals. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to set the Pierce County Courthouse as the polling location for the upcoming 2024 General Election, as the county is a vote by mail county and that the hours for the polling location be set from 7:30 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Motion carried.

Board reviewed the delinquent real estate in accordance with Section 57-28-10 NDCC. Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson that the hearing date be set for October 1st at 9:30 A.M. in accordance with Sec.57-28-11 NDCC. Motion carried

Bednarz discussed with the Board the check that needs to be sent to the HAMC. \$150,000 was pledged in August 2022 for the new hospital frontage road. He contacted Wayne Trottier, Hospital Board member, via cell phone. Trottier said the check could be sent to the HAMC.

Briselda Hernandez, Executive Director, Souris Basin Planning Council, joined the meeting. Hernandez encouraged the Board to attend the State of Region 2 event that is to be held Sept. 26th in Velva. They will be discussing rural needs and solutions for our communities. She said we need to make sure all voices are heard and approach our area's needs. She informed the Board of the Business Builder Grants. She said Souris Basin would offer technical support, and review & give assistance, for anyone looking to grow their business. Hernandez said this grant will be available for the next four years. Hoffert asked how difficult is it to get these grants. Hernandez said they are competitive but at least 5 will receive it in ND. Christenson asked Hernandez what if someone wants to start a butcher shop. She said they would pay up to \$100,000, if they were awarded a grant. Bohl asked if it could be for an existing business & improving the business. She said if it benefits the region. Hernandez informed the Board about the regional livestock development and planning. She said Pierce County is not involved, but could still participate. She said the County would need to sign a resolution of support with Souris Basin Planning Council for the purpose of regional livestock planning grant acceptance. The agreement provides the County with identification of suitable locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities, and other agriculture related development.

Board discussed the problem with old ballast rubber roof on the north end of the old jail. There is some leaking and needs to be repaired. Board did a walk through of the old jail section that isn't being used, to see what needs to be done to that area.

There being no further business to transact, moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 A.M. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

Terry Hoffert, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

AUGUST EXPENDITURES

ND Child Support \$84, Northern Plains Electric \$139, NDTC \$1271.45, Pierce Co. Payroll \$32706.15, \$9330.95, \$34.40, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$77.28, JP Morgan \$2274.56, Pierce Co. Payroll \$88121.96, \$23832.31, \$37.34, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$236.52, Security Benefit \$1951.10, AFLAC \$1223.08, Colonial Life & Accident \$31.25, Quadient Finance \$250, NDTC \$882.32, Otter Tail \$7387.11, \$1849.14, Merchants Bank \$15, Pierce Co. Payroll \$68378.53, \$17821.86, \$36.22, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$35.62, Credit Bureau of Bismarck \$291, Nationwide \$1421.23, \$1072, ND PHIT \$76562.66, HACTC Bills \$45575.41, City of Rugby \$2469.18, ND PERS \$718.28, Otter Tail \$241.72, Bohl, Joe \$158.12, Migler, Dave \$233.83, Migler, Karen \$87.10, Mack Law Office \$477, City of Rugby \$695.52, Circle Sanitation \$201.25, B & M Laundry \$68.47, Leever's \$43.10, Otis Elevator \$95, Rugby Lumber \$64.90, Rugby Hardware Hank \$310.30, Runnings \$12.32, Stein's \$78.50, Fireside Office Solutions \$1304.98, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$62.82, ITD \$3947.99, Quadient Finance \$2000, Office of State Auditor \$17000, Auto Doctor \$150, Brad's Towing \$361, Computer Express \$4534.99, Uniform Center \$135.80, HACTC \$10473.05, Hager, Dustin \$150, Axtman, Michael \$440, Isolved \$279.48, Matthew Bender \$98.31, Envision \$11466.42, Rugby Service Center \$2396.69, Newman Signs \$96.32, RDO \$1919.25, Selz Water Users \$510, Zeien, Paul \$48.91, Ritterman Trucking \$11665.20, Knife River \$10962, Honsey Inc. \$2755.23, Schaan, Anna \$84.52, Larocque, Frank \$349.74, Pierce Co. Tribune \$686.36, Walker's Lawncare \$22440, Linde Gas & Equipment \$163.15, Wieler, Tanya \$1000, Office of Atty. General \$1075, ND. Assoc. of Co. & Tribal Veteran Service Officers \$120, HAMC \$150000, Taylor \$800, HACTC Resident Fund \$966.50
Grand Total \$649327.75