

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

November 7, 2024

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on November 7, 2024. Chairman Hoffert called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with members Bednarz, Bohl, Christenson, and Migler present. Zach Broadwell, Rugby Job Development Director, also was present.

Broadwell introduced himself to the Board. He just wanted to sit in and listen to the meeting and said he has a common goal with the Commission, to promote this area.

Chairman Hoffert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve the consent agenda with the addition of Zach Broadwell. Motion carried.

Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bednarz to accept the October minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler 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.

Board reviewed the October report from Heart of America Community Service Program from Frank LaRocque, Community Service Coordinator. There were 3 new cases, 14 open cases, 4 closed compliant, and 0 closed noncompliant. Fees received \$50.00. Places where community service was performed were the Lyric Theater, Rugby CVB, Dunseith Fitness Center, Pierce County Fairgrounds.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to approve Treasurer's checks #6406-#6410, in the amount of \$65,879.12, for the month of October and the voided treas. Ck.#6389 for \$65,500. Motion carried.

Board discussed a culvert that needed to be replaced and mitigated by Dewey Township & Ness Township. Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bohl to use the remaining 2017 Fema funds of \$6,801.36, with the remaining amount to come out of the Prairie Dog Fund. Motion carried.

Board reviewed the October financial report. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bednarz, to accept the financial report for the month of October. 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 October for his department.

Total calls-49; Medical Calls-0; Fire Calls-3; Traffic Accidents-5; Assist Other Agencies-8; Prisoner Transports-6; Arrests- 4 Warrants; Citations-23; Papers Served-27; Warrants Served-4. Siegler reported that the new dispatcher has started. Siegler thanked Christenson for his years of service.

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of October. Graner reported that the boiler needed parts & labor. which was one of the bigger expenses. Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of October, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for October, which was 73 (ADP). Current inmate count is 72. High of 79 for October. Bookings 52, Releases 52. Pierce County inmate population for September was 3. Deficit of \$60,270.71, for the month of September. Personnel 22/24 officers, 1 new hire, and there will be 2 retirements at the end of the month, 2 CO's completed basic training. Graner reported that they continue to receive the DOCR overflow. Hoffert asked if they could take more. Graner reported that it depends on the staffing numbers and he said the prisoners need to meet certain criteria, stable behavior, etc. Graner talked about the proposal by a group of Chiefs & Sheriffs to increase the multiplier for the ND Public Safety Plan by 2.5%. It would change the retirement age to 55 and a 5 year vesting period for new officers. He said 29 people would be eligible. He said they have to be certified to be eligible. Siegler added that it would keep their departments competitive with the market. Graner wanted the Board to consider joining it. Board informed Graner to get some numbers of what the additional cost would be. Graner talked about the LED lighting proposal from Ideal Energy. Bednarz said they are an out of state company that also wanted the county to replace lighting at the Memorial Hall. Bednarz said they decided to go with Otter Tail and keep it local. Board agreed to keep it local. Graner said they would change lights out to LED as they need to be replaced. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve the financial report for the month of September, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Board reconvened at 9:27 A.M., with all members present.

Stacey Atkinson, was introduced as the new Deputy Auditor. Board wished her well with her career with the County.

Rick Srur joined the meeting.

Board presented Christenson with a clock and thanked him for his 20 years of service as District 2 County Commissioner and wished him well with his retirement.

Board acted on a request from Kelsey Siegler, Emergency Management, to rescind the burn restrictions which expired on October 31st. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to rescind the expired burn ban. Motion carried.

Jesse Brandvold, Jessica Tagestad, and Junior Holen, Wold Engineering, joined the meeting. They discussed the request by Hoffert to add 2 miles to the CMS system which starts at the intersection of NDSH 3, thence east 1 mile, thence north 1 mile where it ties into US Hwy 2. This is a main corridor for farm commodities, local residents, farm implements, mail and school buses. Wold would be sending a letter to the NDDOT with the request. This would need to be approved by the State first. Brandvold thought it had a good chance of getting approved.

Karen Christenson joined the meeting.

Don Jelsing, Pierce County Fair Board member, joined the meeting. Jelsing showed the Board drawings for the new development for the Fair Grounds. He said it was looking into the future. It has more parking area. It would be a more level area for the carnival rides and the food court would be moved as well. Christenson asked how the drainage would be. Jelsing said they are working with a contractor. Jelsing said they were talking with electricians and hoping to get enough power to the grounds. Jelsing said they were looking at portable bathrooms versus permanent for now, to make sure where everything should be placed. Jelsing said they would do as much as they can with what they have, to keep the costs down, and add more each year. Jelsing asked if the County would consider paying for 10-12 loads of gravel still this Fall so they could get the ground work ready.

Rick Srur & Karen Christenson left the meeting.

Frank Anderson, RDO salesman, joined the meeting. Anderson discussed the new product, John Deere Path, which is an advanced machine positioning. John Deere Path shows the blade operators where the edge of the road is during snow removal operations. It alerts the operator if they get too close to the edge or if there are objects in the way.

Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Christenson authorizing the Chairman and Auditor to sign a County Deed to Kevin Houim, on the following described property as E15' of S125' Lot 13 & S125' Lot 14, Block 9, R.O. and Lot 15 less W20' of N25' Block 9, R.O., City of Rugby, Pierce County, ND. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler authorizing the Chairman and Auditor to sign a County Deed to Kurt Arthur on the following described property as Lots 3 & 4, Block 2, Sveum's Sub-Div. located in the City of Rugby, Pierce County, North Dakota. Motion carried.

Board reviewed abatement received from David Bohl on Outlot 494 of sec. 28 157-70 as recommended by the Tax Director, as qualified for Farm Residence Exemption. Moved by Migler and seconded by Christenson, with Commissioner Bohl abstaining. Motion carried.

Board reviewed a couple of estimates for air compressor units for the county shop. One was 7.5 hp and one 5 hp. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to go with the 7.5 hp unit for \$3715. from H.E.Everson.

Motion carried.

Board reviewed a bill presented from Ryan Migler for the use of his tractor for cutting road ditches. Board agreed to pay 15 hrs. @ \$75. and 45 gallons @ \$3.04. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz, with Migler abstaining. Motion carried.

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

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

Terry Hoffert, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

OCTOBER EXPENDITURES

NDPERS \$30,691.92, ND Child Support \$87, NDPERS \$718.28, Northern Plains Elec \$82, NDTC \$2,128.58, ND St. Treas. \$1,031.60, Pierce Co. Payroll Acct.\$35,427.82, Pierce Co. Treas. \$13.97, JP Morgan \$4,096.52, NDPERS \$0.28, Otter Tail \$8,896.65, Quadient \$250, Pierce Co. Payroll Acct.\$109,268.10, Pierce Co. Treas. \$245.14, Security Benefit \$1,951.10, AFLAC \$1,223.08, Colonial Life \$31.25, Nationwide \$2,287.23, Pierce Co. Payroll Acct. \$91,310.83, Pierce Co. Treas. \$82.54, Baltimore Co. OCS \$850, NDPERS \$32.04, NDPHIT \$79,083.83, NDPERS \$30,594.89, HACTC Bills \$56,502.30, Bismarck Hotel \$872, Bohl, Joe \$160.13, Christenson, Mike \$320.26, Bednarz, David \$397.50, Hoffert, Terry \$207.70, Migler, David \$407.36, Migler, Karen \$201, Mack Law \$383.70, Tormanen, Kevin \$24.88, Christenson Elec \$135, Steins \$66.18, Leever \$15.22, Circle Sanitation \$201.25, Rugby Auto Parts \$194.17, Rugby Hardware Hank \$608.91, Runnings \$253.62, ES & S \$3,919.14, Pierce Co. Tribune \$1,244.66, City of Rugby \$834, Envision \$5,760.26, North Cen Printing \$1,759.40, Pierce Co. Treas. \$63.60, Quadient \$1,035, Hauf, Anthony \$251, Siegler, Josh \$266.32, ITD \$3,926.78, ND Assoc of Counties \$179.56, Hager, Dustin \$150, Brad's Towing \$186, Atkinson, Stacey \$45, Rugby Service Cen. \$2,165.92, Uniform Center \$1,435, HACTC \$18,767.85, Axtman, Mike \$490, Tanya Wieler \$1,000, Computer Express \$1,600, Dakota Dynamics \$4,500, Lien's Jewelry \$300, I Solved \$279.48, Office of Adj Gen \$120, ND Assoc of Counties \$1,230, Office of Atty Gen \$1,075, Harper Oil \$1,072.50, John Deere Financial \$919.70, RDO Equip \$6,873.89, Butler Machinery \$1,669.43, Rugby Lumber \$26.95, Linde Gas & Equip \$322.55, High Plains Equip \$207.50, H.E. Everson \$159.12, True North Steel \$33,585.70, Newman Signs \$922.52, Gaffaney's \$295.50, Zeien, Paul \$541.57, RDO Equip \$295,500, Montonye, Ron \$244.70, Baymont By Wyndham \$297, NDSU Extension \$5,886.43, Heart of Amer Ag Serv. \$6,547.50, Slaubaugh, Daniel \$850, Migler, Ryan \$1,261.80, LaRocque, Frank \$128.64, Otter Tail \$243.79, Northern Plains Elec \$146, Pierce Co. Treas. \$212.30, Schneider Custom Hauling \$44,982.03, Ritterman Trucking \$17,088.80, B & J Excavating \$21,590, Anderson, Lonnie \$5,080, Susag Sand & Gravel \$525

Grand Total \$961,100.72