

June 4, 2020

HAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION CHAMBERS & FACEBOOK LIVE
MILLER, SOUTH DAKOTA

The Commissioners convened at 9:30 A.M. on Thursday June 4, 2020 in regular session to conduct county business. Commissioners Wernsmann, Rodgers, Eschenbaum and Palmer were present. Chairman Jones presided.

The consent agenda was reviewed and approved upon motion of Wernsmann, seconded by Rodgers. The consent agenda included: Review of building permits from Robin and Gayle Vrooman (Carport), Andrea Hargens Farm, LLC (Storage Shed), Dennis Sanger (Grain bin), Richard Strasburg Farms Inc (Hoop Building); the minutes of the May 5 meeting with a correction of the entry pay for Weed & Pest applicators, the minutes read \$12.50 and it should have been \$10. Applicators switch to \$12.50 once they are state certified applicators; the minutes of the special meeting held on May 14, receipt of the Register of Deeds financial statement for the previous month, the payment of the credit card in the middle of the month and payment of the election workers mid-month.

Kecia Beranek - On Hand, met with the board. One of her topics was the rural dentistry program which offers financial assistance to recruit and retain dentists in smaller communities. Beranek explained that Dr. Mortonson was leaving but that Dr. Holloway would assume his position. The program allows \$6,523 over three years. It was moved by Wernsmann / Palmer, passed to endorse the program as stated.

Doug DeBoer - Auditor, reviewed the pending changes to the vision coverage plan (VSP) for county employees. The plan will move from 24-month services to annual services. There would be an increase in premiums which will continue to be split between the employer and employee. It was moved by Rodgers / Wernsmann, passed to approve the change.

DeBoer also presented the "Intergovernmental Agreement" between the South Dakota Public Insurance Alliance and Hand County. The document had been reviewed by county attorney Anson with no questions being raised. It was moved by Rodgers / Wernsmann, passed to enter the agreement.

DeBoer presented a request from Glacial Lakes Tourism for annual membership and support. The commissioners reaffirmed their decision of last year to pass on membership.

Jon Dunlap, South Dakota Game & Fish, met with the commission to discuss a proposition to convert the county rubble site into a public shooting area. Dunlap said the state will compensate for the ground. The commissioners agreed that the use of the property once it is no longer used as a rubble site would be perfect for Dunlap's proposal.

Ann Price, 4-H Director, spoke with the board about her programming and objectives as well as the modifications (due to Covid) in place for achievement days, which is scheduled for August 6 & 7th. The number of participants and spectators present will be reduced to fit within established safety protocols.

Terry Augspurger, Director of Equalization, met with the board to have the Russ Hanson with the Department of Revenue, explain the parcel mapping and use of GIS in the assessor's office. The GIS mapping will replace the "dot mapping" system which has been in use. It will be much more accurate and hopefully more efficient. Carrie Stephenson, Hyde County DOE, explained how it had changed their operation favorably. No action was taken.

Jeff Hargens, Highway Superintendent, met with the board about drainage issues in a couple of locations in the county. The Harrison Township issue has caused between \$20,000 and \$30,000 of damage to 174th Avenue (flooding). This damage was caused after a local resident drained a "prairie pothole" with NRCS approval.

Hargens also addressed the Pearl Creek drainage issues. Previously, the dike which had been installed failed in a spot due to erosion from a lack of cover. Hargens said Hartman Construction repaired the damage on a temporary basis but that more, stronger, repairs are needed to finish the project. Hargens was instructed to work out the details with the landowner and report back.

Brian Bonebright was present and expressed his dissatisfaction with the county's response to the problem and the lack of communication to people who were affected by the restoration of the break in the dike, namely the people in Grand Township along Pearl Creek. Bonebright said the water was flowing north and by fixing the dike, it flowed south again. The consensus of the board was that natural path of Pearl Creek is to the south. Bonebright asserted that the flow was changed to make it go north and it had for a long time until the county changed it.

The documents related to the dike are unclear as to who is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance. Depending on which section is referenced; it is the land owner / host and another implies it is the county as the one constructing it. More information will be sought.

Scott Grooper and Ryan Ransom from the USDA-NRCS office were also in attendance and offered an explanation of how they work with customers to authorize drainage of water when it endangers their properties or livestock. In the Harrison Township case, they authorized the reduction in water levels to keep water out of the customer's yard. The water then caused flooding downstream. To their knowledge, the drainage has stopped.

Arlen Gortmaker - Emergency Manager met with the board to request approval for a road name change. The Cedar Township officers approved the request and to formalize it, the commissioners should also. It was moved by Rodgers/Palmer, passed to allow 348th Avenue between 208th Street and 209th Street to be renamed pending approval of the postal service.

Gortmaker also spoke to the board about developing plans to make improvements to the aging equipment used for 911 paging and two-way communications. Each of the county's tower sites uses equipment that is 15 years old or more. The reserve fund for 911 is large enough now to support replacement of the equipment and explore the possibility of using internet (VoIP) technology to control each of the sites so that there would be dedicated communications between the 911 operators and responders, without having to change channels. There are three sites on the system owned by private parties and agreements would need to be reached. The commission took no action.

Gavin and Rachel Osvog approached the commission to have a plat approved for a property in Cedar Township. The board reviewed and upon motion of Wernsmann / Eschenbaum, passed, and approved the plat as presented.

Auditor DeBoer presented an application for a special event alcohol license from J&J Bar of Faulkton to sell alcohol at the Polo school on July 17, 2020. The paperwork was not present due to an addressing error but the content was known. It was moved by Wernsmann / Palmer, passed to approve the application.

Highway Supt. Hargens rejoined the meeting to discuss the bridge project in Burdette Township. Hargens said he would like to proceed with the project but the question surfaced on whether the project required bidding. Hargens will return with the documents needed to affirm the project components were previously bid by other counties and suitable for use in this case.

Hargens informed the group that after 35 years, Mike Mareska has resigned effective in early July. Mike has been employed by the highway department since May of 1985. It was moved by Wernsmann / Palmer, passed to accept Mareska's resignation and to commend him for his service to the county.

Hargens asked the board to ratify the following summer-seasonal hires: Alan Slunicka as a truck driver (with CDL) at \$16 per hour, Caleb DeBoer (no CDL) at \$14 per hour and to employ Hayden Peterman as regular full time at \$15.78 per hour until he has his CDL and \$17.78 after obtaining his CDL. The request was approved by motion of Palmer / Eschenbaum, passed.

The commissioners had a "ZOOM" meeting with Jared Gross of GrowSD out of Sisseton. GrowSD runs the Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (growsd.org). Gross explained the program to the commissioners and asked for a monetary / budget consideration of \$5,000. The commission took no action on the request.

Will Page, custodian, reported on various projects he is working on. One of them was the courthouse central clock which has stopped working. Page said a replacement could be installed and as an add-on, the clock above the main entry could also be replaced. It was moved by Palmer / Eschenbaum, passed, to explore the replacement with at least the internal clock system.

Page spoke about the recent examination of the boiler system. No detrimental erosion of the boiler had been noted so Page recommended postponing replacement in favor of making regular repairs. The board agreed.

Shane Croeni, Sheriff, reported that Wesley Bowsher had resigned. The commission accepted the resignation upon motion of Wernsmann / Eschenbaum, passed. Croeni then requested permission to advertise for applicants for future openings. It was approved upon motion of Palmer / Wernsmann, passed. Croeni requested permission to hire an applicant who had previously worked for the sheriff's office and who had re-applied previously. Permission was granted by motion of Palmer / Eschenbaum to approve the offer to this person. Passed. Croeni finished his presentation with a summary of his recent activities.

During the commissioner work period, the commissioners talked about the wheel tax. It was discussed and agreed that it is not practical to waiver one vehicle per household, plus it may not be possible legally. It was, however, discussed that a formula based on the weight of the vehicle be used so that small passenger vehicles are treated differently than larger, heavier vehicles. It was noted that licensing is currently referenced by weight. Chairman Jones will contact county attorney Anson about preparing the needed documents to proceed.

The commissioner and Auditor DeBoer proceeded to canvass the results of the June 2nd primary election. Having reviewed the materials of the election, the commissioners formalized the certificate upon motion of Palmer / Wernsmann, passed. The certificate will be forwarded to Secretary of State and published on the county's website.

It was moved by Wernsmann / Palmer to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:28 P.M.

The claims approved for payment are:

For: BOARD OF COUNTY COMM		
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION	170.37
ON HAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MONTHLY SUPPORT	2500.00
SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS	COUNTY WEBSITE HOSTING	150.00
THE MILLER PRESS	PUBLISHING	701.51

		3521.88

For: ELECTIONS*****		
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION	170.36
DOUGLUS DEAN DE BOER	FREIGHTS	57.38
DOUGLUS DEAN DE BOER	PLEXIGLASS PARTITIONS	1679.60
ELECTION SYSTEMS &	ELECTION SUPPLIES	1750.73
MCLEODS PRINTING & OFFICE SUP.	ELECTION SUPPLIES	435.90
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	ELECTION SUPPLIES	459.31
THE MILLER PRESS	PUBLISHING	49.51

		4602.79

For: AUDITOR*****		
A & B BUSINESS, INC.	COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	1.98
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION	170.37
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	SUPPLIES	151.29

		323.64

For: TREASURER*****		
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION	170.37
SHERRIL K. KOECK	QUICKEN RENEWAL	49.99

		220.36

For: STATES ATTORNEY*****		
ANSON LAW	RENT	325.00
ANSON LAW	SUPPLIES	312.50
ANSON LAW	UTILITIES	300.00
AVERA HAND CO. MEMORIAL HOSPIT	TEST	97.00
SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	BLOOD TOXICOLOGY	100.00

		1134.50

For: COURT APP. ATTORNEY*		
CHURCHILL, MANOLIS, FREEMAN,	COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY	821.20

		821.20

For: GOV. BUILDING*****		
AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE	GAS & FUEL	22.32
AMERIPRIDE SERVICES, INC.	SUPPLIES	196.18
BOB'S DISPOSAL SERVICE	GARBAGE DISPOSAL	100.00
BUILDERS CASHWAY, INC.	SUPPLIES	7.00
FISCHER PLUMBING	REPAIRS	232.97
G & R CONTROLS, INC.	REPAIRS	287.76
MID AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL	SUPPLIES	317.18
CITY OF MILLER	UTILITIES	698.12

		-----	1861.53
For: DIR. OF EQUAL.*****			
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINES	SUPPLIES		164.20
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION		170.37
MARSHALL & SWIFT/BOECKH, LLC	SOFTWARE PROGRAM		1209.95
		-----	1544.52
For: REG. OF DEEDS*****			
CONNECTING POINT	PREPPING WORKSTATION		890.00
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	SUPPLIES		231.90
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	DOC PRO MIGRATION INSTALLATION		500.00
		-----	1621.90
For: SHERIFF*****			
DAKOTA ELECTRONICS	REPAIRS & PROGRAMMING		80.00
DESIGNED	VEHICLE DECALS		638.00
IDI	EXPANDED FLAT RATE PLAN (6)		150.00
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	SUPPLIES		40.15
STOBBS SALES INC.	SUPPLIES		39.95
TONY'S REPAIR	REPAIRS		241.00
USPS	POSTAGE		55.00
VISA	MAINTENANCE		8.00
VISA	CELL PHONES		42.23
		-----	1294.33
For: JAIL*****			
BEADLE COUNTY SHERIFF	PRISONER CARE		2160.00
FED EX	DELIVERY COST		13.55
PETTY CASH	POSTAGE		36.20
VISA	SUPPLIES		27.08
		-----	2236.83
For: SOLID WASTE*****			
HARTMAN CONSTRUCTION	MACHINE HIRE		1760.00
		-----	1760.00
For: CARE OF POOR (CARE)*			
CONNECTING POINT	FIREWALL & INSTALLATION		170.36
		-----	170.36
For: COUNTY NURSE*****			
HAND CO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC.	COUNTY HEALTH NURSE		2954.21
		-----	2954.21
For: LIBRARY*****			
BOB'S DISPOSAL SERVICE	GARBAGE DISPOSAL		21.00
INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	BOOKS		252.06
CITY OF MILLER	UTILITIES		257.97
		-----	531.03
For: EXTENSION*****			
OFFICE EQUIPMENT SERVICE	COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT		98.75

		98.75
For: WEED CONTROL*****		
GEMPLER'S, INC.	SUPPLIES	147.47
JAZZY'S REPAIR	REPAIRS	24.99
MARLE'S REPAIR	RANGER REPAIRS	37.50
CITY OF MILLER	UTILITIES	264.70
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS, INC.	CHEMICALS	868.00
OAKLEY FARM & RANCH SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	33.24
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	SUPPLIES	39.90
PREFERRED TRANSMISSIONS	REPAIRS	214.38
MATT ROGERS	MILEAGE	21.00
THE MILLER PRESS	PUBLISHING	212.23
THE MILLER PRESS	SUPPLIES	74.00
VAN DIEST SUPPLY CO	CHEMICALS	1195.50
WARNE CHEMICAL & EQ CO	SUPPLIES	158.50

		3291.41

For: HWY RDS BRIDGES*****		
A+ TIRE & AUTO SERVICE CENTER	REPAIRS	1759.25
A+ TIRE & AUTO SERVICE CENTER	SUPPLIES	2979.36
AMERIPRIDE SERVICES, INC.	SUPPLIES	680.82
AVERA HAND CO. MEMORIAL HOSPIT	TEST	48.00
BOB'S DISPOSAL SERVICE	GARBAGE DISPOSAL	50.00
BOB'S GAS	PROPANE	49.00
DMC WEAR PARTS, LLC	SUPPLIES	6144.00
FARMER'S OIL CO.	REPAIRS	21.00
FASTENAL COMPANY	SUPPLIES	99.31
FLINT HILLS RESOURCES LP	ROAD OIL	9524.43
GREAT WESTERN TIRE	REPARIS	109.95
GREAT WESTERN TIRE	SUPPLIES	2992.55
HARTMAN CONSTRUCTION	MACHINE HIRE	5400.73
MIDCO BUSINESS	PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE	171.28
CITY OF MILLER	UTILITIES	329.03
OAKLEY FARM & RANCH SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	83.57
PIERCE & HARRIS ENGINEER CO.	DESIGN BOX CULVERT	5516.00
PRORATE SERVICES	DRUG TEST RESULT	40.00
ROCK TUFF	SUPPLIES	229.00
ROCK TUFF	DEGELMAN ROTARY CUTTER	30770.00
CHRIS SCHAEFERS	SUPPLIES	31.31
STOBBS SALES INC.	SUPPLIES	163.47
TONY'S REPAIR	REPAIRS	530.93
TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES	139.72
TRUENORTH STEEL, INC.	SUPPLIES	11021.65

		78884.36

For: E-911*****		
CITY OF HURON	MARCH E-911 CHARGES	5381.01

		5381.01

For: EMERG. & DIS. SERV.*		
DAKOTA ELECTRONICS	PROGRAMMING RADIO	150.00
OFFICE PEEPS, INC.	SUPPLIES	39.98
THE CLOTHES GARDEN	COMPUTER BAG	90.00
TONY'S REPAIR	REPAIRS	55.85

VISA	CELL PHONE	50.12

		385.95
For: REG. OF DEEDS*****		
CONNECTING POINT	COMPUTER & RAM	1168.00

		1168.00

Total Checks: 113808.56

The Auditor's Account with the Treasurer per SDCL 7-10-3 is, as of the close of business on the last day of the preceding month: the treasurer had \$852.33 of cash on hand, \$12,238.32 of checks in possession less than 3 days, \$0.00 of checks in possession more than 3 days, \$20.00 of cash items, \$300.00 of petty cash.

Reconciled Demand Deposits: \$178,471.80 in the American Bank & Trust and \$897,428.20 in the Quoin Financial Bank.

Time Deposits: \$1,505,690.69 in the American Bank & Trust and \$1,954,356.62 in the Quoin Financial Bank.

Investments: \$11,995.86 in the library checking account, \$12,400.00 in library certificates of deposit and \$7,551.00 in library stocks.

Total cash assets equal \$4,581,304.82.

Jim Jones, Commission Chairman

(SEAL)

Doug DeBoer, County Auditor