

# HAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## Doug DeBoer – Auditor & Clerk of the Board

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Board of Commissioners, Miller, South Dakota. Courthouse commission chambers and via Facebook Live video.

Vice Chairman Greg Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. with Commissioners Jones, Wernsmann, and Eschenbaum present. Chairman Rodgers joined the meeting at 1:18 p.m. and presided over the meeting from that time.

The consent agenda was reviewed by Auditor Doug DeBoer. The items included acknowledgment of: The Register of Deeds financial report for January 2021, the annual statements from the Miller and Redfield rural fire departments, reception of Robert "Bob" LeGrand's resignation from the highway department (after 35 years), and closure of an insurance claim for damages on the 2008 Chevy Trailblazer. Approvals included: Minutes of the February 2, 2021 commission meeting, and applications from aerial applicators Agtegra Cooperative and Wilbur-Ellis Air to land on county roads. The consent agenda items were approved upon motion of Wernsmann/Jones and passed.

Emergency Manager, Arlen Gortmaker, met with the board to discuss the purchase of a sand-bagging machine and new radios for use on the state radio system. Both items would be purchased (if approved) using matching funds from the state office of Emergency Management. The grant is unallocated funds from the local emergency management performance grant (LEMPG). The sandbagging machine is to be purchased with contributions from the municipalities of Ree Heights (\$350), Saint Lawrence (\$350) and Miller (\$700). The remaining \$1,400 will be county funds. It was moved to approve the purchase by Jones/Eschenbaum, passed. The machine is being manufactured by prison industries. The machine will be county property available for use countywide.

Gortmaker explained that he can also apply for grant funds to update three portable hand-held state radios for his agency and the Ree Heights Fire Department. The vendor, Dakota Electronics, offers the radios and programming on a state contract. The state funds, if approved, would provide 50% of the needed funding. It was moved to approve the purchase by Jones/Palmer and passed.

Commissioner Eschenbaum explained his bringing forward proposed Resolution 2021-06, a resolution making Hand County a Second Amendment (of the bill of rights) Sanctuary County. Discussion was held on the resolution and it was concluded to hold over a decision to the April meeting.

The bid letting originally set for this meeting was not advertised appropriately so the bid letting will occur on March 10, 2021 instead. The items included road oil, equipment rentals, contract services for digging, furnace oil and motor fuels.

Auditor DeBoer requested travel permission to attend the Newly Elected Officials workshop on March 17 & 18. The commission approved the request by consensus.

DeBoer also informed the commission that he was not able to complete the annual report by the March 1 deadline. DeBoer said he will need outside assistance with a portion of the report. DeBoer did provide and explain the 2020 Fiscal revenue and expense reports so the commissioners could see the general financial condition of the county.

DeBoer requested travel permission to attend the Welfare Director's workshop on March 10 in Pierre. The request was approved by consensus. DeBoer reported that during the months of January and February the county received Notice of Hospitalization in the amount of \$142,000. The sum of all notices is currently \$1.21 million. Actual applications to the county for repayment is \$583,675. [Not all notices become applications.]

Kecia Beranek, On Hand Development Corporation, met with the board to offer an update on their operations. Beranek said they have 8 active loans, 1 was recently

paid and another was approved. On Hand continues to work on programs like new hire incentives for employers, a hotel study to place a facility on the grounds of the Community Center, expansion of housing in the Rustler Outlots, and exploring a recycling program. Lastly, Beranek said the Community Center saw activities every day of February in one of their three areas. The commissioners expressed their gratitude to Beranek for her and her agency's help in promoting activities and meetings.

At the end of a brief break, Auditor DeBoer explained the items for the public hearing held at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of supplementing the budgets as follows: Veteran Services in the amount of \$14,435.75 which resulted from entry into a contract to provide veteran services to Hyde County. The second supplement is to the road and bridge (highway department) budget to accommodate the inflow of wheel-tax revenue and the expenditures which result in the estimated amount of \$212,000. The final request was to supplement the road and bridge budget in the amount of \$177,654.96 to cover personnel expenses which resulted from the addition of three staff members in the fall of 2020. The initial supplement to the road and bridge budget for wheel tax projects will be \$175,000 holding the remainder until the revenue is secured. Resolution 2021-04 was presented to cover the supplemental actions and reads as follows: RESOLUTION 2021-04 Hand County South Dakota [Amending the 2021 Budget] WHEREAS, the South Dakota Legislature enacted statute 7-21-22 which allows for the supplemental budgeting to meet statutory obligations and indispensable functions of government, and WHEREAS, modifications of the 2021 annual budget need to be made to meet the statutory obligations and indispensable functions of government, in particular as it relates to the Veteran Services Office, the Road and Bridge (Highway Department), and WHEREAS, Hand County entered into an agreement with Hyde County for the purpose of providing services to the veterans of Hyde County through the Hand County office, to which Hyde County is providing additional revenues to cover increased costs, and WHEREAS, Hand County passed an ordinance establishing a wheel tax which will increase revenues for the repair and maintenance of bridge purposes, and WHEREAS, Hand County authorized the increase in staffing (3 FTE) in the highway department to more effectively perform maintenance across all of its functions, and WHEREAS, the expenditures budgets for veteran services and highways as adopted will not allow for the obligations and indispensable functions of government unless the 2021 annual budget is modified through supplemental budget actions, and THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2021 Annual Budget for Veteran Services be amended by supplemental action in the amount of \$4,362 resulting in a gross budget amount of \$14,435.75, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the road and bridge / highway budget be amended by supplemental action in the amount of \$177,654.96 for personnel expenses. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the road and bridge / highway budget be amended by supplemental action in the amount of \$212,000 for bridge improvements, resulting in a gross budget amount of \$2,854,406.20. ADOPTED this 2nd day of March, 2021 upon motion of Wernsmann, seconded by Eschenbaum and upon majority vote. /s/ Gib Rodgers, Chairman Attest: /s/ Doug DeBoer, Auditor.

The commissioners next acted upon setting out the Consolidated Board of Equalization. After reviewing the statutory timeline and compositional requirements, it was decided that commissioners Palmer, Jones and Wernsmann would be the board designees and that commissioners Eschenbaum and Rodgers may also attend. The date of the meeting will be April 13, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Custodian Will Page, met with the board to offer an update on courthouse projects. The elevator project is still on hold until the engineer can gain more information from Otis, the manufacturer. The clock above the front door will be completed when Hughes Electric returns and completes the installation. The last project for discussion was the work on the third floor. The project involves fixing damage caused by leaking water. The commissioners instructed Page to solidify the terms of the project and get the contractor, Midwest Construction, to confirm the details and to schedule the work. Lastly, Page requested permission to purchase a janitorial cart for \$309. It was moved by Jones/Palmer to purchase the cart.

Weed and Pest Supervisor Randy Peck, met with the board to request authority to seek quotes for chemical supplies, to advertise for one summer employee (the two

others are returning), and to advertise the notice of intent to enter and inspect private property. All requests were approved by consensus. Lastly, Peck informed the board that Wormwood Sage had been added to the list of noxious weeds in the state. Peck asked to publish the entire notification from the state. The request was approved.

Sheriff Shane Croeni, met with the commissioners receive approval to employ Keevan Long as an uncertified part-time deputy sheriff at a wage of \$18 per hour. It was approved upon motion of Wernsmann/Jones and passed. Croeni said he was not going to attend the annual sheriff's / police chief's conference in April but would rather attend the South Dakota Narcotics Officers Association conference in May (5-6-7). Croeni also asked for permission to have Office Manager Chelsea Price attend the workshop for the Sex Offender Registry in Deadwood in April. The commission approved the requests by consensus.

The plat of Bill and Nancy Lewellen was cancelled and will appear on the April agenda.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hargens, met with the board to receive travel permission to attend the "short course" in Deadwood in March. The board approved the request. Hargens explained the dozer was coming to term on the lease and that options existed to buy out the lease or enter into a new lease. At the end of the discussion, it was decided to have RDO Equipment submit proposals on all options available.

Hargens informed the board that States Attorney Anson and Attorney Greg Rediger are working out the details of the land purchase for the expanded rubble site. The group also discussed the hiring of the new rubble site manager. After some discussion it was concluded that the interview committee would have authority to offer the position to the chosen applicant after the fourth and final interview was completed. It was moved by Jones/Palmer to formalize the authority of the committee to offer employment. The motion passed.

Hargens and DeBoer presented information to the board on the recent announcement of the 2021 Federal Bridge Program to help local governments with removal or repairs of bridge structures. The current match is 18.5%. DeBoer and Hargens requested the board approve the county's participation in the program and the execution of the needed resolution. The 2020 Federal Bridge Removal Project also needed chairman's approval in order to be processed. It was moved by Wernsmann/Jones to authorize the participation and allow the chairman to sign the needed documents. The motion passed.

The commission approved, upon motion of Jones/Palmer and passed, the advertisement of the county land leases to be opened during the April meeting.

DeBoer reported that the DENR has written an email to support their statement from last fall to authorize the burning of paper waste in the incinerator. Previously, another employee at DENR said our paper constituted "industrial waste". The current opinion dismisses that third party opinion.

It was moved by Jones/Palmer, passed, to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a legal matter and for personnel. The motion carried and the session began at 3:12 p.m.

At 4 p.m. it was moved by Palmer/Eschenbaum to reconvene in regular session. The commission voiced their thanks and to commend Robert "Bob" LeGrand for his 35 years of service to the county highway department. It was also approved to advertise for a full-time employee in the highway department to fill the vacancy, to give Jeff Hargens authority to promote Daniel Fischer to Assistant Highway Superintendent and increase his wage to \$20 per hour [effective retroactively to the beginning of the month]. Lastly the commissioners accepted the recommendation of the state's attorney as it relates to the possible legal action in play. As such, discussion of the topic is not to occur in a public setting until further notice.

It was moved by Eschenbaum/Palmer to adjourn until April 6, 2020. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 4:08 p.m.

**Claims Paid 02-19-2021: For: SCHOOLS / JANUARY COLLECTIONS:** FAULKTON AREA SCHOOL 9656.90, HITCHCOCK-TULARE SCHOOL 6747.66, MILLER AREA SCHOOL 216888.01, REDFIELD SCHOOL 43530.83, WOLSEY/WESSINGTON SCHOOL 2-6 12364.80. TOTAL: 289188.20 For: **TOWNSHIPS / JANUARY COLLECTIONS:** ALDEN TWP 1690.67, ALPHA TWP 2823.57, BATES TWP 1515.24, BURDETTE TWP 2784.97, CAMPBELL TWP 660.57, CARLTON TWP 1289.51, CEDAR TWP 1050.90, COMO TWP 1466.06, FLORENCE TWP 2124.91, GILBERT TWP 2451.66, GLENDALE TWP 1226.02, GRAND 3388.73, GREENLEAF TWP 930.27, HILAND TWP 852.79, HOLDEN TWP 1582.10, HULBERT TWP 1661.17, LINN TWP 1001.39, LOGAN TWP 1417.89, MIDLAND TWP 1574.90, MILLER TWP 2064.44, MONDAMIN TWP 1142.55, OHIO TWP 1609.70, ONTARIO TWP 1178.14, PARK TWP 1542.74, PEARL TWP 1433.28, PLATO TWP 2997.19, PLEASANT VALLEY TWP 1147.94, RIVERSIDE TWP 723.20, ROCKDALE TWP 1002.35, ROSEHILL TWP 1587.74, SPRING HILL TWP 1218.32, SPRING LAKE TWP 1635.18, ST LAWRENCE TWP 2259.28, WHEATON TWP 2080.72, YORK TWP 1479.48. TOTAL: 56595.57 For: **CITIES & TOWNS:** CITY OF MILLER 4506.16, CITY OF REE HEIGHTS 2526.10, CITY OF ST. LAWRENCE 3212.84, CITY OF WESSINGTON 241.50. TOTAL: 40486.60 **Total Checks: 386270.37**

**Paid 02-11-2021: For: BOARD OF COUNTY COMM:** VISA-SUPPLIES 60.98, **AUDITOR:** MILLER ACE-SUPPLIES 17.97, VISA SUPPLIES 66.62, - 84.59, **GOV. BUILDING** MILLER ACE-SUPPLIES 351.40 -- 351.40 **SHERIFF:** AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE-GAS 302.99, GAS 225.82, GAS 95.12, MILLER ACE-SUPPLIES 48.58 -- 672.51, **CORONER:** TIFFANY A. HOFER-UNATTENDED DEATHS 200.00, SUPPLIES 167.76, MILEAGE 11.27 -- 379.03, **SOLID WASTE:** DAKOTA ENERGY COOP INC-UTILITIES 88.63. **LIBRARY:** MIDCO BUSINESS-PHONE SERVICE 46.05. **WEED CONTROL:** AT & T-CELL PHONE 67.36, MIDCO BUSINESS- PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 149.87, MILLER ACE-SUPPLIES 33.98, VISA-SUPPLIES 70.13 -- 321.34. **HWY RDS BRIDGES:** AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE-GAS & FUEL 14113.94, DAKOTA ENERGY COOP INC - UTILITIES 68.35, FARNAM'S GENUINE PARTS, INC.-SUPPLIES 1360.61, JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL REPAIRS 881.10, JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL SUPPLIES-744.17, MILLER ACE SUPPLIES 76.46, PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT SUPPLIES 243.01, STURDEVANT'S AUTO PARTS-SUPPLIES 40.77 -- 17528.41, **E-911** CENTURY LINK-911 PHONE SERVICE 193.95, **EMERG. & DIS. SERV.** AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE-GAS 61.00, **STATE COLLECTIONS** SD DEPT OF REVENUE-BIRTHS/DEATHS/DRIVERS LICENSES 2058.00, **STATE M V** SD DEPT OF REVENUE-MOTOR VEHICLES 94007.24 **FIRE INSURANCE** POLO FIRE DISTRICT-JANUARY COLLECTIONS 1893.24 **SDACC MOD & PRES** SD ASSN OF CO. COMMISSIONERS-MODERNIZATION/PRESERVATION 184.00. **Total Checks: 117930.37**

**Paid 03-02-2021: For: BOARD OF COUNTY COMM:** CONNECTING POINT - BACK UP & REPLICATION 20.00, GROW SOUTH DAKOTA SUPPORT 1000.00, OFFICE PEEPS, INC. - SUPPLIES 6.39, ON HAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MONTHLY SUPPORT 2500.00, SDACC - NACO ANNUAL DUES 1465.00, SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS - SDACO ANNUAL DUES 765.17, THE MILLER PRESS PUBLISHING 342.22, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS - E-MAIL 5.78 -- 6104.56, **AUDITOR:** A & B BUSINESS, INC. COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 29.48, AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINES SUPPLIES 7.88, OFFICE PEEPS, INC. SUPPLIES 22.19, PLAINSMAN SUBSCRIPTION 168.38, SDACC WELFARE OFFICIALS WORKSHOP 50.00, U.S. POSTAL SERVICE POSTAGE 2000.00, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 98.13-- 2376.06. **TREASURER:** MCLEODS PRINTING & OFFICE SUP. SUPPLIES 399.90, OFFICE PEEPS, INC. SUPPLIES 15.60, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 96.13 -- 511.63. **STATES ATTORNEY:** ELTON ANSON MILEAGE 75.60, ANSON LAW RENT 325.00, ANSON LAW SUPPLIES 312.50, ANSON LAW UTILITIES 300.00, BEADLE COUNTY AUDITOR VICTIM & WITNESS COORDINATOR 500.00, SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BLOOD TEST 125.00 -- 1638.10. **COURT APP. ATTORNEY:** CHURCHILL, MANOLIS, FREEMAN, COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY 1499.00 -- 1499.00. **ABUSED & NEG. CHILD:** LAS VEGAS OPTIC LEGAL PUBLICATION 267.04 -- 267.04. **GOV. BUILDING:** BOB'S DISPOSAL SERVICE GARBAGE DISPOSAL 100.00, BUILDERS CASHWAY, INC. SUPPLIES 57.97, CITY OF MILLER UTILITIES 706.48, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 61.73, -- 926.18. **DIR. OF EQUAL.:** A & B BUSINESS, INC. COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 30.25, AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINES SUPPLIES 103.01, THE MILLER PRESS SUPPLIES 226.00, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 160.92 -- 520.18. or: **REG. OF DEEDS:** AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINES SUPPLIES 39.00, OFFICE PEEPS, INC. SUPPLIES 6.89, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE &

INTERNET SERVICE 128.52 -- 174.41. **VETERANS SER. OFF:** VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 61.73 -- 61.73. **SHERIFF:** ALCOPRO SUPPLIES 39.25, DAKOTA ELECTRONICS REPAIRS 99.96, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TELETYPE SERVICE 2340.00, HUGHES ELECTRIC, LLC UN-INSTALL & INSTALL CAMERA 330.00, HUGHES ELECTRIC, LLC FIX LIGHT BAR 265.00 OFFICE PEEPS, INC. SUPPLIES 170.36, OMG NATIONAL SUPPLIES 150.77, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 223.70, VISA SUPPLIES 141.14, VISA CELL PHONES 159.82 -- 3920.00. **JAIL:** ALCOPRO SUPPLIES 200.00, BEADLE COUNTY SHERIFF PRISONER CARE 7000.00, REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LAB SUPPLIES 125.00, VISA POSTAGE 4.80 -- 7329.80. **CORONER:** SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BLOOD TEST 100.00 -- 100.00. **SOLID WASTE:** THE MILLER PRESS SUPPLIES 36.80 -- 36.80. **CARE OF POOR:** VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS E-MAIL 2.00 -- 2.00. **COUNTY NURSE:** HAND CO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC. COUNTY HEALTH NURSE 954.21 -- 2954.21. **MENTAL HEALTH:** CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE MONTHLY SUPPORT (2) 360.00 -- 360.00. **LIBRARY:** A & B BUSINESS, INC. COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 55.51, BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING AUDIO BOOKS 154.75, BOB'S GAS PROPANE 872.50, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES BOOKS 208.09, THE MILLER PRESS PUBLISHING 36.67, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS E-MAIL 2.00 -- 1329.52. **EXTENSION:** OFFICE EQUIPMENT SERVICE COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 163.55, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 94.13, -- 257.68. **WEED CONTROL:** CITY OF MILLER UTILITIES 314.62, VISA LIGHT BARS 354.75 -- 669.37. **HWY RDS BRIDGES:** ADVANCED COLLISION & REPAIR SUPPLIES 42.00, BOB'S DISPOSAL SERVICE GARBAGE DISPOSAL 50.00, BOB'S GAS PROPANE 2279.20, BOYER TRUCKS SUPPLIES 137.60, BROWNLEE CONSTRUCTION CRUSHNG GRAVEL 222283.60, BUILDERS CASHWAY, INC. REPAIRS 897.36, BUILDERS CASHWAY, INC. SUPPLIES 93.98, CENTRAL DISTRIBUTING SUPPLIES 89.95, CK WELDING & REPAIR LLC SUPPLIES 141.12, DAKOTA ELECTRONICS SUPPLIES 889.60, DAKOTA OIL SUPPLIES 430.75 LANCE DEHAAI RADIO 44.87, HAND COUNTY TREASURER TITLES, LIC, LIENS ON TRAILERS 62.40 JENSEN ROCK & SAND INC. COLD MIX 6888.00, CITY OF MILLER UTILITIES 427.58, OAKLEY FARM & RANCH SUPPLY SUPPLIES 113.69, OAKLEY REPAIR REPAIRS 578.50, SDACHS SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION 450.00, STOBBS SALES INC. REPAIRS 1008.38, TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES 1378.09, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS E-MAIL 2.00 -- 238288.67. **E-911** CITY OF HURON 911 SERVICES 2821.60, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 10.00, VISA SUPPLIES 59.68 -- 2891.28. **EMERG. & DIS. SERV.:** TONY'S REPAIR MAINTENANCE 56.85, VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE 61.73, VERIZON WIRELESS CELL PHONE 6.47, VISA SUPPLIES 122.98 -- 248.03. **Total Checks: 272466.25**

**PAID** 03-03-2021: For: **BOARD OF COUNTY COMM:** SDACC WORKSHOP REGISTRATION 110.00 -- 110.00. **REG. OF DEEDS** SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION 110.00-- 110.00. **Total Checks: 220.00**

In accordance with SDCL 7-10-3, the Auditor's account with the Treasurer as of the close of business on the last day of the preceding month and year, the treasurer had \$834.18 of cash on hand, \$0 of checks in possession less than 3 days, \$0 of checks in possession more than 3 days, \$62.40 of cash items, and \$300 of petty cash. The reconciled demand deposits were: \$178,485.42 in the American Bank & Trust and \$5256.38 in the Quoin Financial Bank. The time deposits were: \$1,407,313.51 in the American Bank & Trust and \$1,709.541.07 in the Quoin Financial Bank. The library investments were: \$14,887.62 in the checking account, \$12,400 in certificates of deposit and \$7,551 in stocks. The total cash assets equaled \$3,370,457.99.