

HAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

415 West 1st Avenue, Mail slot 7 & Suite 203
MILLER, SOUTH DAKOTA 57362-1346
(605) 853-2182

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The Hand County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the commission chambers of the courthouse on May 10, 2022. Chairman Greg Palmer called the meeting to order at 1 P.M. with the following commissioners present: Jim Jones, Jim Eschenbaum, Luke Wernsmann and Gib Rodgers. The meeting was broadcasted live on YouTube with a link on the county's Facebook page.

The commission also met as the **Planning and Zoning Commission** and Board of Adjustment.

Chairman Palmer called the Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustment to order. Zoning Official Jaime Russell was also present. Russell informed the commission that a change was underway to change the classification for lands adjoining waterways to "ag" ground for valuation purposes since the buffer strips were not as prevalent. There was also a plat for review entitled "Corrective Replat of Tracts 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 of **Peterka's Addition**".

Upon the motion of Jones / Eschenbaum, passed, the Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustment adjourned.

Chairman Palmer called the **commission meeting to order** and the Auditor reviewed the consent agenda. Items to be acknowledged included: Receipt of the Register of Deeds March 2022 Financial Statement, Receipt of the April payroll ledger, receipt of the Library Board minutes for March 2022. Items to be approved included: Minutes of the April 5, 2022 commission meeting, minutes of the April 12, 2022 commissioner and Consolidated Board of Equalization meeting, the claims for payment, an application from the Miller C&C for a fireworks display, and a request to purchase a document scanner for up to \$845.50. It was moved by Eschenbaum / Jones, passed, to approve the items on the consent agenda.

The States Attorney's Office had submitted **Quit Claim Deed** for "A strip of land located in the Northeast quarter (NE1/4) of Section twenty-one (21), Township One hundred fifteen (115) North, of Range Seventy (70), West of the 5th P.M., Bounded as follows; Commencing at a point 429 feet east of the northwest corner of said section twenty-one (21) thence south 2,310 feet, thence east 66 feet, thence running north 2,310 feet, thence west 66 feet to the point of beginning." The county obtained the land from William and Katherine Ortmeier. Ortmeiers had sold the land to Baloun Sunset Ag, LLC. Hand County is now returning the strip of land to Baloun Sunset Ag, LLC as a condition of the original purchase was that it reverted upon abandonment. It was moved by Wernsmann / Rodgers, and passed, to grant authority to the chairman to execute the Quit Claim Deed and Certificate of Real Estate Value.

Auditor Doug DeBoer requested the commission formalize their previous decision to use American Rescue Plan Act funds in lieu of **Revenue Replacement**. It was then moved by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Wernsmann to instruct the Hand County Auditor to elect the final rule allowing counties to use up to \$10 million of the ARPA Recovery Funds as "loss revenue" for the provisions of the general government services without needing to use the Treasury revenue loss formula. The county has elected to use salaries and benefits as an expense of the American Rescue Plan in the amount up to \$10 million." All commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Kecia Beranek, On Hand Development Corporation, spoke to the commission as it relates to their request for \$35,000 in funding. Beranek reviewed a considerable amount of information about the history, vision and