

HAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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<http://hand.sdcounties.org/commissioner>
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The Hand County Planning & Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment met in the commission chambers of the courthouse on Tuesday May 2nd, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Luke Wernsmann at 1:00 P.M. with commissioners Jones, Eschenbaum, Jensen and Palmer also present. The meeting was live streamed via YouTube with a link provided on the county's Facebook page.

A hearing on the proposed conditional use permit for **Vertical Bridge** (Curt Walter) was held as advertised. Vertical Bridge is requesting the permit to construct a communications tower in Spring Lake Township, section 36, a location which previously had a communications tower.

The commission offered time for in person testimony but no one present offered any, either for or against the proposed project.

At the conclusion of the hearing, it was recommended to refer the application for conditional use to the board of County Commissioners for action.

Jaime Russell as zoning administrator summarized the **building permits** presented to her office. Russell also presented two plats for review-the Lichty Addition and the Kolegraff First Subdivision. The plats were also recommended for consideration of the county commission.

There being no further business before the Planning & Zoning commission, it was moved by Eschenbaum & Jensen, passed, to adjourn at 1:08 P.M.

The Hand County Board of County Commissioners met in the commission chambers of the courthouse on March 7, 2023 at 1:08 P.M. Chairman Wernsmann called the meeting to order with commissioners Eschenbaum, Jones, Jensen, and Palmer present.

It was moved by Palmer & Jensen, passed, to **approve the items on the consent agenda** which included the following acknowledgements: Receipt of the month end revenue and expenditure budgets for the county, receipt of the payroll ledger and receipt of the library board's minutes and financial report. The following items were approved within the consent agenda: A fireworks permit for Miller C&C, a permit to land aircraft on county highways, the payment of claims / vouchers, minutes of the April 11, 2023 commission meeting and the April 11, 2023 planning & zoning meeting.

Sheriff Shane Croeni met with the commission and requested that **Chelsea Price** be approved for appointment as a **deputy sheriff** with her wage increasing to \$20.01 per hour. It was moved by Jones & Jensen, passed. Price will attend the academy in November.

A request from the Miller School District and the First United Methodist Church for donations to the **PBIS and Table to Go Programs** were received by the sheriff's office. It was the consensus of the board that such donations are not a permissible use of tax dollars.

Croeni requested the commission ratify the employment of **Edwin Alpizar** as a deputy sheriff with a starting wage of \$18.77. The request was approved upon motion of Palmer & Eschenbaum, and passed.

Zach Lasek and Mark Wengierski with Scout Clean Energy (Sweetland Wind Farm) spoke to the board about the status of the project. Wengierski also informed the board that he will be present less often and the new point of contact will be Logan Bell. The commission asked Wengierski to look into signage along SD HWY 45 as the increase traffic is causing some issues. Lastly, the group readdressed the utilities crossing permits. There are two in place, and they compliment each other and both remain in force.

Assessor Jaime Russell requested permission to advertise for a clerk position, make an offer, with a start date of June 1. The request was approved upon motion of Jones & Jensen, passed.

Auditor Doug DeBoer reported that two petitions had been filed to refer the **opt out for secondary roads** to a public vote. DeBoer asked the board to set an election date, the polling place(s), approve poll staffing and counting board. The commission agreed upon June 13th or June 20th as election dates. It was moved by Jones & Eschenbaum, passed, to approve the employment of poll staff and the use of the Polo Gym as the polling location.

PLATS: The commission considered the plat for Lichty Addition. The text of the resolution reads: "Be it resolved by the County Commission of Hand County, South Dakota, that the plat showing: "**Lichty Addition** in the SW1/4 of SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 112 NORTH, RANGE 66 WEST OF THE 5th P.M., HAND COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA" having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof." It was moved by Palmer & Jensen, passed upon roll call vote to approve the Lichty Plat.

The second plat for consideration was the Kolegraff First Subdivision which reads: "BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HAND COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, THAT THE PLAT SHOWING **KOLEGRAFF FIRST SUBDIVISION** IN GOVERNMENT LOTS 1 AND 2 AND S ½ NE ¼ OF SECTION 1-T116N-R68W OF THE 5TH P.M., HAND COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, HAVING BEEN EXAMINED, IS HEREBY APPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SDCL 11-

3, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREOF.” This plat was approved upon motion of Palmer & Jones, passed, upon rollcall vote.

Weed Supervisor Randy Peck requested the commission review and approve the chemical bids accepted by the Weed and Pest Board. Vendors included Van Diest Supply, Nutrien Ag Solutions and Mac’s Corner. It was the consensus of the board to approve the Weed Board’s decision.

Peck next asked the commission ratify the employment of John Higgins and Dale Simpson as seasonal spray operators. Higgins is a returning employee while Simpson is new. It was moved by Jones & Palmer, passed, to approve the hiring of Simpson and Higgins.

During the **commission work period**, it was discussed to offer the “at large” NECOG council appointment to **Joe Zeller**, should he agree. It was also discussed that the janitor is stilling working on resolving the lack of **drainage on the balcony**.

The commission also considered RESOLUTION 2023-09 which amends RESOLUTION 2023-02 as it relates to the allowance for indigent mortuary services. The motion to approve was made by Palmer & Jensen, passed upon roll call vote. It reads: “**RESOLUTION 2023-09 A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2023-02 AMENDS THE ALLOWANCE MORTUARY SERVICES FOR INDIGENT PERSONS[.]** **WHEREAS**, RESOLUTION 2023-02 was adopted on January 3, 2023, and **WHEREAS**, on April 11, 2023 a motion was made to alter the allowance given for mortuary services for the disposition of deceased persons who are indigent, and **WHEREAS**, the motion of April 11, 2023 cannot supersede the authority and requirements of the original resolution, but it does state the commission’s intent, and **WHEREAS**, to amend a prior resolution, an amending resolution is required to solidify the action of the motion, and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by Commissioners of Hand County, South Dakota that the allowance for mortuary services of a deceased person found to be indigent, is set at \$4,000 regardless of the services rendered and to what degree, and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the claim paid as a result of the April 11, 2023 motion to change the allowance for mortuary services is hereby reaffirmed after the fact and remains valid. There were 5 votes for and 0 votes against the enactment of this resolution. Dated this 2nd day of May, 2023, at Miller, Hand County, South Dakota. Board of County Commissioners of Hand County /s/: Luke Wernsmann, Chairman ATTEST: /s/: Doug DeBoer, Auditor.

Randy Martinmaas addressed the commission as it relates to the **Opt Out for the Secondary Road System**. Martinmaas touched on the following topics during his visit: The amount requested compared to the amount of expenses-the cost of graveling is occasional, not constant. Snow plowing is not a priority and is often three or more days after the county roads are done. It feels like the unorganized townships are “a step child” of the rest and not treated equally. He also mentioned that their proximity to a county commissioner makes communication tough. Martinmaas said an informational meeting in the impacted area would have helped and maybe a compromise could have been reached.

The commission committed to holding a meeting in the area ahead of the election.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hargens informed the commission that only three road graders would be available through RDO on the Sioux Falls trade. None of the graders have the snow removal package that would need to be added.

Hargens told the board that **Casey Gates resigned**. It was moved by Jones & Eschenbaum, passed, to accept Gates’ resignation. It was moved by Jones & Eschenbaum to allow for the advertisement of the vacancy.

Hargens informed the board that the revised (most recent) **road haul agreement with Sweetland Wind Farm** had been received in the mail that very morning.

Hargens also told the commission that two semi tractors were found at Federal Property in Huron. Each is low miles and priced at \$40,000 each. Hargens said it is a deal too good to pass on. This item was not on the agenda so the commission (by consensus) felt that Hargens should pursue the purchase after examining the truck and it will be ratified at a later date.

Auditor Doug DeBoer presented an Agreement for Voluntary **Right of Way Donation** on project 8030 (17) 08MQ on behalf of **Arlene Batin & Darvin Harrell**. This is for a bridge structure replacement.

DeBoer also reported that he had completed the **annual report for the Opioid Settlement**. He reminded the commissioners that they still need to allocate the funds to a program that falls within the grant specifications. DeBoer provided links to the documents wherein the information is contained.

DeBoer said that some revenue and some expenditure budgets were not filed in the auditor's office yet. DeBoer said that revenues appear to be stable which means it is only up slightly. DeBoer recommended that the commission keep in mind that the CPI is only 3% so spending recommendations should fit within that limit.

DeBoer reported that during the **school and public land auctions** an out of county bidder ran up the costs per acre which was surprising until the land agent said they are seeing more and more non-resident tenants showing interest in the public lands.

DeBoer asked the commission to **ratify the hiring of Nicole Gortmaker** to fill the position of Deputy Auditor (assigned to the highway department) with a wage of \$18.00. It was moved by Jones & Eschenbaum and passed.

DeBoer said that the county received a cyber credit of \$1,179.68 from their liability providers (**SDPAA**) for having done the cyber security assessment. DeBoer also noted that the work comp (**SDML-WC**) audit resulted in a refund of \$12,864. The audit is done to correct any over / under payments based on the cost of employment (payroll) and the positions persons occupy. Not all employees are assessed uniformly but based on risk.

DeBoer asked the commission to approve the following **modifications to the general ledger**: Removal of Expenditure accounts: 226-222-426.03 "CFDA 11.555", 226-222-426.05 "CFDA 97.039" & 207-215-422.20 "NWPS Tower" and removal of the following revenue accounts: 226-0-331.04 "CFDA 11.555", 226-0-331.05 "CFDA 97.067", 226-0-331.08 "CFDA 97.039", 226-0-331.09 "CFDA 20.703", and 226-0-337.00 "PPTR". The request was approved upon motion of Eschenbaum & Jensen and passed.

DeBoer raised concerns about the **network storage device** in use on the courthouse server. The device has come under scrutiny because its parent company is in China and the security of the data on the device can be compromised. The manufacture has offered some "patches" to update the security but the criticism of the device exceeds the security features. DeBoer contacted ConnectingPoint (server agent) and got two proposals on replacing the device and another proposal on having hosted IT provided through Connecting Point. The commission would like to learn more so a representative of ConnectingPoint will be invited to attend the June meeting.

Emergency Manager Arlen Gortmaker spoke to the board about the pending agreement with Buffalo County to provide **joint emergency management services**. The commission concluded that Buffalo County should have something prepared so the Hand County board can review it and determine if the agreement is appropriate.

Gortmaker informed the board that currently, Hand County, is not part of the **disaster declaration** from the governor's office. Gortmaker said that data is being collected to better show the damages from spring thawing. Gortmaker said that he estimates the county had \$200,000 of damage reported so far.

The commission received one piece of correspondence from the **SD Department of Veteran Affairs**. The document indicated that the compensation for veteran service offices was raised and the matching funds are still available. Hand County currently pays above the minimum.

One proposal for capital improvements was received. The library board submitted a request for consideration to reline the interior walls, improve insulation, replace carpet and rent a stack mover. Total projection is \$46,000. The library board will return for an in-person discussion in June.

The conditional use permit for Vertical Bridge was approved upon motion of Jones & Jensen, passed upon roll call vote. No additional conditions will be applied to the permit.

Lastly, Auditor DeBoer asked the commission to consider a special meeting to act upon some items which had come in late for inclusion in this meetings agenda. The commission set May 8th, 2023 as the date for a special meeting.

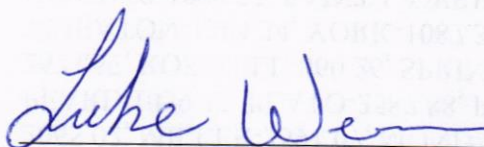
There being no further business to come before the commission, it was moved by Jensen & Eschenbaum, passed, to adjourn at 4:48 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting is for May 8, 2023.

The forgoing text reflects the approved minutes of the commission.

Luke Wernsmann, Chairman

Attest:
Doug DeBoer, Auditor



CLAIMS PAID ON 04-13-23: JANITOR: VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-930.46.
CORONER: TIFFANY PAPE-HOFER-CORONER CALL-101.20 & SUPPLIES-83.88: 185.08. **INDIGENT CARE:** TIFFANY PAPE-HOFER-COUNTY BURIAL (JH)-4000.00. **LIBRARY:** VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-202.19. **WEED BOARD:** VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-162.66.
ROAD AND BRIDGES: ARAMARK-SUPPLIES-765.89, JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL-REPAIRS-3486.06 & SUPPLIES-3794.51, VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-164.66: 8211.12. **E-911:** VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-33.89. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** VENTURE-PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE-63.41. **STATE COLLECTIONS:** SD DEPT OF REVENUE-BIRTHS / DEATHS / DRIVERS LICENSES-1312.00, **STATE M VEHICLES:** SD DEPT OF REVENUE-MOTOR VEHICLES-107259.34. **FIRE INSURANCE:** POLO FIRE DISTRICT-MARCH COLLECTIONS-4257.91, **SDACC MOD & PRES:** SD ASSN OF CO. COMMISSIONERS-MODERNIZATION / PRESERVATION-156.00. **Total Checks Written this Date: 126774.06**

MARCH TAX COLLECTIONS PAID ON 04-19-23 FOR SCHOOLS: FAULKTON-8831.02, HITCHCOCK-TULARE-5246.74, MILLER-371492.99, REDFIELD-66546.84, WOLSEY/WESSINGTON-41383.30: 493500.89. **FOR TOWNSHIPS:** ALDEN-3881.00, ALPHA-4694.93, BATES-1216.82, BURDETTE-5001.14, CAMPBELL-275.14, CARLTON-902.09, CEDAR-1545.38, COMO-800.30, FLORENCE-3526.73, GILBERT-5324.53, GLENDALE-1090.93, GRAND-9379.97, GREENLEAF-1275.90, HILAND-403.46, HOLDEN-5634.39, HULBERT-2665.46, LINN-846.20, LOGAN-1062.89, MIDLAND-2065.02, MILLER-3591.07, MONDAMIN-1131.79, OHIO-1421.98, ONTARIO-2150.90, PARK-1734.55, PEARL-1059.32, PLATO-2587.88, PLEASANT VALLEY-509.48, RIVERSIDE-1752.78. ROCKDALE-2673.57, ROSEHILL-860.26, SPRING HILL-1213.02, SPRING LAKE-799.62, SAINT LAWRENCE-1292.49, WHEATON-1304.34, YORK-1087.34: 76762.67. **FOR TOWNS AND CITIES:** MILLER-32199.78, REE HEIGHTS-1098.75, SAINT LAWRENCE-1944.41, WESSINGTON-74.44: 35317.38. **Total Checks Written this Date: 605580.94.**

CLAIMS PAID ON 05-02-2023: COMMISSIONERS: QUADIENT FINANCE USA-POSTAGE-500.00. **AUDITOR:** A & B BUSINESS-COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT-35.67, OFFICE PEEPS-SUPPLIES-43.36, SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS-SPRING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION-200.00: 279.03. **TREASURER:** KIM FANNING-MILEAGE & MEAL-92.42, QUILL OFFICE SUPPLIES-SUPPLIES-158.97, RAMKOTA HOTEL & CONV-ROOM- WORKSHOP-116.00, SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS-SPRING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION-200.00: 567.39. **STATES ATTORNEY:** ANSON LAW-RENT (2 MO)-715.00 & SUPPLIES (2 MO)-666.66 & UTILITIES (2 MO)-833.32: 2214.98. **JANITOR:** ARAMARK-SUPPLIES-295.98, BUILDERS SOLUTIONS-SUMP PUMP-239.99, G & R CONTROLS-BOILER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT-2970.00, MID AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL-SUPPLIES-140.71, CITY OF MILLER-UTILITIES-1074.88, TOTAL CONSTRUCTION SOLUTIONS-ELEVATOR WORK-104650.62: 109372.18. **ASSESSOR:** A & B BUSINESS-COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT-44.67, FIRST DISTRICT ASS'N-FINAL INSTALLMENT - GIS-29000.00: 29044.67. **REGISTRAR:** A & B BUSINESS-COPIER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT-27.74, RAMKOTA HOTEL & CONV-ROOM @ WORKSHOP-116.00. SD ASS'N OF COUNTY OFFICIALS SPRING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION-200.00: 343.74. **VETERAN SERVICES:** DAVID JOHNSON-MILEAGE-73.44. **SHERIFF:** MCLEODS PRINTING & OFFICE SUP-TRAFFIC TICKETS-89.17, OFFICE PEEPS-SUPPLIES-35.28, SOUTH DAKOTA ARMS CO-BULLETPROOF VEST-250.00, SD SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION-115.00, TONY'S REPAIR-OIL CHANGE-70.50, VISA-MICROSOFT 365 & POSTAGE-21.04, GAS-167.07, ROOM AT CONFERENCE-280.47 & CELL PHONES-246.12: 1274.65. **JAIL:** PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL-PRISONER TRANSPORT-69.43, REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LAB-AFFIDAVITS-416.54: 485.97. **COUNTY NURSE:** HAND CO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC-MONTHLY RENT-600.00. **LIBRARY:** A & B BUSINESS-COPIER MAINTENANCE-67.17, BOB'S DISPOSAL-GARBAGE DISPOSAL-21.00, BOB'S GAS-PROPANE-350.00, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES-BOOKS-352.07, MIDWEST FIRE & SAFETY-FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION-55.00, CITY OF MILLER-

UTILITIES-299.61, OVERDRIVE, INC.-ONLINE AUDIOBOOK-43.00: 1187.85. **WEED BOARD:** AA MOTORSPORTS-REPAIRS-224.98, AT & T-CELL PHONE-45.31, BOB'S GAS-HEATER INSTALLATION-1970.00 & NEW SHOP HEATER-2050.42, HAND CO WEED & PEST-QUARTERS FOR WATER-50.00, HUGHES ELECTRIC-ELECTRICAL WORK-76.53, CHRIS JOHNSEN-WEED BOARD MEETING-50.00 & MILEAGE-25.50, BRADY LAMMERS-WEED BOARD MEETING-50.00 & MILEAGE-21.42, MARLE'S REPAIR-REPAIRS-25.00, CITY OF MILLER-UTILITIES-411.01, NAPA CENTRAL MN-SUPPLIES-12.49, KYLE OAKLEY-WEED BOARD MEETING-50.00 & MILEAGE-21.42: 5084.08. **ROADS AND BRIDGES:** BOB'S GAS-PROPANE-3167.50, C & B OPERATIONS-LEASING 2 JD TRACTORS-5000.00, FASTENAL COMPANY-SUPPLIES-717.15, FAULK COUNTY RECORD-PUBLISHING SEC RD OPT OUT-130.93, GREAT WESTERN TIRE-MAINTENANCE-11980.00 & FUEL CHARGE-10.00, JEFF HARGENS-REIMBURSEMENT FOR ROOM-20.00, HIGHMORE HERALD-NOTICE OF TAX INCREASE-66.82, HUGHES ELECTRIC, LLC-ELECTRICAL WORK-410.70, CITY OF MILLER-UTILITIES-617.33, OAKLEY FARM & RANCH SUPPLY-SUPPLIES-597.35, CNH INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTS-SUPPLIES-73.70, RESEL OIL-DIESEL FUEL-16087.05, CHRIS SCHAEFERS-SUPPLIES-77.69, SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION-SHARE OF BRIDGE WORK-12277.98, TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS-SUPPLIES-222.75, TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT-SUPPLIES-402.64, TWIN VALLEY TIRE OF MILLER-REPAIRS-40.00: 51899.59. **E-911:** CITY OF HURON-FEB 911 SERVICES-2800.80. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** TONY'S REPAIR-OIL CHANGE-63.65, VERIZON-CELL PHONE-46.80: 110.45. **Total Checks this date: 205838.82.**

SDCL 7-10-3 Auditor's account with Treasurer for April 2023. Includes funds held for other governmental agencies (Schools, Towns, Townships, Special Districts)

Cash on Hand: \$839.00, Checks in Possession less than 3 days: \$32,699.21, Checks in Possession more than 3 days: \$90.00, Cash Items: \$1,278.94, Petty Cash: \$300.00, Reconciled Demand Deposits-American Bank & Trust: \$8,691.14, Reconciled Demand Deposits-Quoin Financial Bank: \$468,211.57, Time Deposits – American Bank & Trust: \$1,426,679.10, Time Deposits – Quoin Financial Bank: \$1,360,804.50, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA-Federal Funds) \$622,414.16, Library Checking: \$38,462.87, Library Certificates of Deposit: \$7,551.00, Library Stocks: \$12,400.00. Total: \$3,980,421.49

Month End Payroll (SDCL 6-1-10)			
Function / Office / Department	Regular Pay:	Overtime:	Total Pay:
Commissioners:	\$3,694.45	N/A	\$3,694.45
Auditor:	\$10,368.98	\$0.00	\$10,368.98
Treasurer:	\$7,323.98	\$0.00	\$7,323.98
States Attorney:	\$7,654.83	N/A	\$7,654.83
Custodial:	\$4,122.47	N/A	\$4,122.47
Director of Equalization:	\$7,323.98	\$0.00	\$7,323.98
Register of Deeds:	\$7,323.98	\$0.00	\$7,323.98
Veteran Services:	\$781.77	N/A	\$781.77
Sheriff:	\$17,946.29	\$171.72	\$18,118.01
E-911:	\$212.02	N/A	\$212.02
Emergency Management:	\$3,745.80	N/A	\$3,745.80
Highway:	\$54,489.99	\$2,035.85	\$56,525.84
Rubble Site:	\$3,656.48	\$0.00	\$3,656.48
Library:	\$3,647.23	N/A	\$3,647.23

