

July 20, 2021

A Special Meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Chuck Mehlbrech. The meeting was held to continue review of 2022 budget requests. Members present: Dean Koch, Steve Gordon, and Marc Dick. Member absent: Charles Liesinger

Chairman Mehlbrech led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mehlbrech called for approval of the agenda. Motion made by Koch to approve the agenda as sent/posted. Second by Dick. Motion carried.

Citizen Input: none.

Commissioner Reports: none.

Motion made by Koch to enter Executive Session (SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 8:35 a.m. for personnel discussion. Mic Kreutzfeldt, Hwy Supt, Brian Weber, Operations Supervisor, and Travis Raap, Lead Maintenance Worker, were present. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Liesinger joined the meeting.

Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, was asked to join the meeting.

Chairman Mehlbrech declared out of Executive Session at 9:10 a.m.

Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, was present to offer input regarding pay increases and their effect on the budgets.

John McCormick, Custodian, met with the Board. Auditor Sherman noted that \$200,000 has been budgeted for possible building projects which include a 4-stall garage, redo of north entrance, paving courthouse parking lot, and fixing windows (water damage). Schultz noted that hours worked are pushing 80 in a two week pay period and the budget is set for 70 hours. McCormick added that the Board is cutting back on quality of work by limiting hours worked; cannot get everything done in a 35-hour week.

Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Youth Program Assistant, met with the Board. Kevin Blagg was also present to provide an update on the Barn Raisin event. The BBQ was a huge success, \$11500 income, and planning another one for next year. Blagg noted that Corteva made a \$2500 donation toward the second barn and the Fair Board was awarded a grant through The Salem Area Foundation but must have a 501.3C status for the grant to be given to them. Blagg asked if they can use the County's employer identification number this one time. Auditor Sherman informed the Board that she has already told Sieverding that this is not an option, and the Salem Area Foundation was told the same thing. Sherman stated that she is not putting the County at risk by allowing other organizations to use its EIN. The Food Pantry had to go through the application process for the same reason and the Fair Board also needs to apply for the 501.3C status. In other business, HR Coordinator Schultz, addressed the overtime that Sieverding was paid for working at the Barn Raisin event as this was a surprise to the Board when so many donated their time. Hours of Achievement Days and SD State Fair were also discussed. Going forward hours for events that are not 4-H specific must be approved by the Commission. Koch suggested adding \$20,000 to the budget to put towards the second barn. All agreed.

Geralyn Sherman, Auditor, and Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, met with the Board to discuss HR needs going forward. Laurie Schwans, Register of Deeds, was present. Sherman told the Board that, for now, she prefers that they work with Alternative HR for HR needs and hiring assistance and hire a new employee who will work exclusively with the Auditor's Office on the financials and elections. Schultz added that the job posting is for Deputy Auditor II who will cross train under Auditor Sherman and Deputy Auditor Eichacker. Schultz also noted that the updated handbook should be sent to Lisa Marso, Attorney, for legal review, specifically noting FMLA and medical cannabis, and the 2022 pay scale is in the hands of Alternative HR. Schultz informed the Board that she has updated Alternative HR on projects that she is working on, so they continue to move forward. Schwans asked the Commission what the plans are for HR.

Liesinger asked Schwans what she thinks. Schwans stated that off-site is better and department heads want (should have) a say in who the County hires to provides HR services.

Schultz asked the Board to enter Executive Session for verification of personnel instructions given to her earlier. Motion made by Koch to enter Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Mehlbrech declared out of Executive Session at 10:20 a.m.

Mark Norris, Sheriff, and Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, met with the Board to discuss budget needs for a School Resource Officer. Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Youth Program Assistant, who does the scheduling for the Sheriff's Dept, was also present. Schultz presented a breakdown of costs using 9/12 and 50/50 cost shares, for Board review. Following review, the Board instructed Schultz to send the 9/12 cost share figures to the schools for their consideration. Schultz will work on new job description for Deputy Misar as Deputy Sheriff/School Resource Officer. Schultz will also post for a Deputy Sheriff opening to back fill Deputy Misar's position.

Kris Graham, CEO Southeastern Behavioral, met with the Board via phone. Graham noted that funds received from the County are used to subsidize outpatient services including individual counseling, family and group therapy, psychiatric services and home-based family treatment. Southeastern Behavioral HealthCare is requesting \$5618 for 2022 which represents one dollar per capita as addressed in SDCL 27A-5-10. Graham informed the Board that full-time and part-time counselors are now available to clients.

The Board asked Laura Schultz, HR Coordinator, to rejoin the meeting, seeking her input regarding HR services/duties. Schultz told the Board that HR duties are only a portion what the position became; duties also included technology and media liaison as well as training coordinator. Schultz shared that it is not uncommon for HR to wear multiple hats and take on tasks that don't fit specifically within one department.

Geralyn Sherman, Auditor, and the Commission continued review of the remaining budgets.

Liesinger suggested that changes be made in the ambulance appropriations, recommending that \$2500 be added to the funds that each ambulance service received in 2020. McCook County EMS  $\$243,298 + \$2500 = \$245,800$  and Bridgewater Ambulance Service  $\$42,368 + \$2500 = \$44,900$ . Auditor Sherman will notify both ambulance services.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 2021.

Chuck Mehlbrech \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:  
Geralyn Sherman \_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor, McCook County