

February 13, 2024

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Vice-Chairman Dean Koch. Members present: Chuck Mehlbrech, Steve Gordon, and Marc Dick. Arriving late: Charles Liesinger.

Vice-Chairman Koch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Koch called for approval of the agenda. Motion Gordon to approve the agenda as posted. Second Dick. Motion carried.

The minutes from the January 16<sup>th</sup> & January 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings were sent to Board members for review prior to publication.

Auditor Sherman noted that prior to the approval of the January 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes, Michelle Stubkjaer, Alternative HR Consultant, needs to meet with them to get clarification on longevity pay discussion.

HR Consultant Stubkjaer told the Board that following approval of longevity pay for regular part-time employees the question of an effective date was brought up by Auditor Sherman so we need clarification of when this longevity pay will begin. Following discussion, the Board agreed that longevity pay for regular part-time employees will begin with the next payroll.

Motion Gordon to approve the January 16<sup>th</sup> & January 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes for publication. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Public input: Comm Koch returned a call to a west river rancher (who contacted Auditor Sherman) and lives adjacent to the New Underwood solar farm. Koch noted that this individual is very unhappy because there is no respect for ranchers/neighbors. Nothing that people were told by National Grid has been followed through on. He received documentation and if he signed off on it, he would be compensated \$10,000 to say no more. Water has changed due to all the posts in the ground because rain waters now follow the posts down and there is little run-off. Wish we'd have met him when we visited the site.

Roger Hofer told the Board that he didn't know that the County had helped Bridgewater pay for ambulances. Concerned with how we get young people involved? Can they be offered SD retirement? No.

A note of thanks was received from Kiera Leddy for the work that the Board put into the updated CAFO ordinance.

Commissioner Reports: Comm Mehlbrech would like to see the bathroom located in the Courthouse basement revamped to accommodate both men and women, along with making a stall handicap accessible.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, informed the Board that he and Michelle Stubkjaer, HR Consultant, have discussed the county participating in Build Dakota Scholarship which is a scholarship program that the county would pay into over a 2-year period. Funds are provided to a student who, upon graduation from a Technical School, will work for the county for 3 years. If the student doesn't fulfill the 3-year obligation, the \$11000 would be reimbursed to the county. Raap asked the Board to please consider this. In January repairs and maintenance was outsourced, costing an estimated \$15000, so the scholarship program seems to be a good plan. The Board agreed. Raap presented a quote from CMC Excavation for the relocation of 6" watermain at 431<sup>st</sup> Ave (Bridge 44-010-185). The project total is \$34750. The waterline is outside the ROW so moving it is the responsibility of the county. Raap presented a Contract for 2024 Striping Project between the County and Dakota Traffic Services (bid letting through Minnehaha County). The estimated cost is \$72102.54, which is based on estimated quantities and bid prices. Motion Dick to accept the bid and authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign the contract. Second Koch. Motion carried. Raap presented a utility permit for approval. Motion Koch to approve Telephone Utility Permit for Triotel Communications. Scope of project: dig fiber drop to 44650 248<sup>th</sup> St. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Raap informed the Board that David Massey is resigning his employment effective 02/16/2024.

Hwy Supt Raap presented a resolution for county bridge inspections noting IMEG as the consultant for the inspection work. Motion Koch to approve the resolution and authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign same. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

2024-02  
BRIDGE REINSPECTION  
PROGRAM RESOLUTION  
FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, McCook County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire IMEG Consultants Corp. for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024, at Salem, South Dakota.

Board of County Commissioners of McCook County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

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County Auditor

Hwy Supt Raap presented Tabulation Sheets from the bid letting held on February 8<sup>th</sup> for Hwy Dept supplies. Hwy Supt Raap, Val Krempges, Hwy Dept Administrative Assistant, Commissioner Liesinger, Rhonda Olinger, Deputy Auditor, and Auditor Sherman were present, along with several vendor representatives. Bid tallies were reviewed. Motion Dick, second Koch, and carried, to award bids as follows: Item #1 Liquid Asphalt – Jebro Inc; Item #2 Asphalt Concrete for County Patching – Commercial Asphalt and Knife River based on work locations; Item #3 Reinforced Concrete Culverts – Old Castle; Item #4 Precast Concrete Box Culverts – Old Castle; Item #5 Concrete Bridge Beams – no bids received; Item #6 Quartzite Materials – Spencer Quarries Inc; Item #7 Bridge Construction/Repair – Hollaway Bridge & Culvert; Item #8 Magnesium Chloride – Dustbusters Enterprise; Item #9 Deicing Sand – L.G. Everest; Item #10 Overlay Patching – Commercial Asphalt; Item #11 Diesel Fuel & Gasoline – Central Farmers; Item #12 Joint Sealant Materials – Midstate’s Equipment & Supply; Item #13 Corrugated Metal Culverts – TrueNorth Steel. All bids are on file in the Auditor’s Office for public inspection.

Hwy Supt Raap presented a resolution which authorizes the Hwy Supt to extend the time period of reduced load limits due to unseasonable climatic conditions. Motion Gordon to approve the resolution and authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign same. Second Koch. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-03

AUTHORIZE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT to EXTEND TIME PERIOD of  
REDUCED LOAD LIMITS WARRANTED BY UNSEASONABLE HIGHWAY AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

WHEREAS it is the desire of the McCook County Board of County Commissioners to reduce damage to County highways caused by heavy loads on vehicles when highway pavements are most vulnerable;

WHEREAS, the maximum axle and axle group loadings set forth in SDCL 32-22-16 are required to be reduced each year from February fifteenth to April thirtieth;

WHEREAS, SDCL 32-22-16 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to set reduced load limits from February fifteenth to April thirtieth and may increase, lessen, or remove these restrictions if highway conditions warrant;

WHEREAS, SDCL 32-22-16 further authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to extend the February fifteenth to April thirtieth time period by ordinance or resolution if highway and climactic conditions so warrant to reduce damage to County highways caused by heavy loads when highway pavements are most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the current and forecasted unseasonable climactic and highway conditions may increase the damage to County highways caused by heavy loads when highway pavements are most vulnerable; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commission has determined that an extension of the February fifteenth to April thirtieth reduced load limit time period and immediate implementation of reduced load limit restrictions on County highways may be necessary to reduce the damage to County highways caused by heavy loads when highway pavements are most vulnerable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the McCook County Highway Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed, due to unseasonable climactic and highway conditions, to set reduced load limits as necessary to reduce damage to County highways when they are most vulnerable.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

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Charles Liesinger, Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Geralyn Sherman, Auditor

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Mehlbrech, second Liesinger, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/3/2024:

Commissioners 2079.80 mileage 139.74; Auditor 6169.25; Treasurer 4607.57; States Attorney 3598.21; Custodian 1390.90; Dir of Equalization 4622.71; Register of Deeds 3629.724; Veterans Service Officer 325.20; Sheriff 13533.05; Contract Law 8008.45; Care of Poor 228.16; Welfare 309.90; Community Health Nurse Secretary 1521.10; 4-H Youth Assistant 1481.90; Drainage 105.98; Planning & Zoning 628.62. 44-CIV22, jury fees & mileage 3656.64; A&B Business, monthly copier contract 76.65; AAA Collections Inc., lien collection fee 10.00; Alternative HR, February HR services 6175.00; AutoEx, vehicle maintenance 601.37; Avera Queen of Peace Hospital, blood alcohol testing 822.00; Tiffany Biganowski, witness fee 20.00; Blindert Insurance Agency, February food pantry rent 200.00; Card Service Center, dog food 109.55, postage 14.70, gas 116.01, office supplies 44.19, printers 485.65; Century Business Products, 4 monthly copier contracts 485.93; Chesterman Co, water 110.50; City of Bridgewater, February ambulance appropriation 3866.67; Corporate Translation, interpreter service 22.46; Custom Cage, 2 cage barriers for 2 Dodge Durango's, 2810.00; Dailey Law Prof, court appointed attorney for John Ault 634.20 for Eric Martens 1094.30; Dakota Data Shred, shredding service 64.09; Defensive Edge Training, course fee 550.00; Mike Fink, January expenses 402.94; Hillyard, courthouse supplies 793.08; Inter-Lakes Community Action, February Community Service 1101.58; Lentsch Tree Service, snow removal 720.00; LifeQuest, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter allocation 720.00; Lincoln County Auditor, reimbursement of mental health services 902.40; Manatron Inc, Marshall & Swift Rate Table 1182.73; McCook County EMS, February ambulance appropriation 13831.82; McCook County Treasurers Office, postage 1175.20; McCormick Motors, vehicle maintenance 382.82; McLeod's Printing, office and election supplies 102.09; MidAmerican Energy, utilities 1100.80; Mitchell Clinic, prisoner care 374.00; Morgan Theeler LLP, court appointed attorney for Trent McNary 1707.44 for Tyler Sherod 34.50 for Zoe Harris 1349.40 for Bailey Kraayenbrink 1375.20 for Raedawn Garneaux 577.30; New Century Press, publishing 683.75; RBS Sanitation, garbage service-Courthouse 109.00 for food pantry 106.00; Salem City, utilities 142.27; Sanford Health, autopsies, 5108.00; SD Achieve/dba LifeScape, services for six residents 360.00; SD Public Health Laboratory, lab services 615.00; Tim Simmermon, meal reimbursement, 26.54; Melinda Songstad, grand jury transcript 176.40; Southeastern Behavioral, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter allotment, 1420.50; Tech Solutions, Managed IT services 3558.07; Total Stop, pizza for jurors 105.00; Triotel Communications, telephone/internet service 683.82; Verizon Wireless, iPad service 40.01 cell phone service 469.30; Dava Wermers, court appointed attorney for Ricky Thomas Ferguson 1214.50; Xcel Energy, utilities 772.08.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/3/2024: Hwy Dept 20594.20. Appeara, mat & towel rent 81.78; Auto Value, parts & supplies 1949.10; Bierschbach Equipment, sign stands 462.00; Blackstrap Inc., road salt 3737.72; Butler Machinery, parts & repairs 5050.43; Card Service Center, registration for Etnyre 2024 school 400.00; stormwater site/44-010-185 DANR 102.50; Central Farmers Coop, tire repair 20.00 diesel & gas 22734.28 LP gas 605.43; Century Business Products, monthly copier contract

147.67; Chesterman Company, water 31.50; Dakota Fluid Power, parts 372.47; DMC Wear Parts LLC., plow blades, 4090.00; Fisks Heating and Cooling, shop heater in Bridgewater 86.73; Gessner Welding, parts and tank oxygen 153.00 labor 1375.00; IMEG Corp, engineering design 16855.55; IState Truck Center, parts 545.63; Louie Mann Service, Class A CDL training 200.00; McCook Country Treasurer, county plate 7.50; MidAmerican Energy, utilities 358.60; Motion & Flow, parts 44.99; New Century Press, publishing 62.37; Northern Truck Equipment, parts, 379.72; Northwestern Energy, utilities 151.83; Pomp's Tire Service, 2 tires 210.00, parts 60.00; Puthoff Sales & Service, parts 63.97; RBS Sanitation, garbage service 81.00; Ryan's Repair, labor for snowblower 750.00 parts for snowblower, 110.00; Salem City, utilities 194.83; Salem Lumber, garage door for Canistota 2082.92, walk in door for Canistota 981.99 supplies 15.70; SD Dept of Transportation, share of State Project 2510.04, SDACHS, 2024 Short Course 100.00; Sioux Falls Truck & Trailer, parts 1350.58; Southeastern Electric, utilities 67.45; Stan Houston Equipment, parts 359.00; Transource Truck & Equipment, parts and supplies 704.83; Triotel Communications, telephone/internet service 109.17; Truenorth Steel Inc., culverts 2508.00; Wheelco Truck & Trailer, parts and supplies 723.16; White Cap, carbide bit shaved 1475.82; Xcel Energy, utilities 603.83, Zapp Hardware, parts & supplies 72.97.

911 SERVICE FUND: Golden West Telecommunications, 911 telephone service 200.00; Motorola Solutions, Wave PTX Mobile APP monthly service, 143.00; Triotel Communications, 911 telephone service 179.20.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/3/2024: EDS Director 1497.26. Brad Stiefvater Jr, January expenses 445.18; Triotel Communications, telephone & internet service 143.62.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 2/3/2024: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 214.82. PharmChem, sweat patch analysis 127.80.

MODERNIZATION & PRESERVATION FUND: Microfilm Imaging System, scanning equipment rent 626.00.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 2/3/2024: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 4360.57, Medicare 1019.81; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 4337.55; Wellmark BlueCross/BlueShield of SD, county share of health insurance premium 5009.28.

The Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer for the month of January 2024: deposits in banks, \$5,201,456.49; cash to deposit, \$194.40; checks to deposit, \$16,042.09; CC payments, \$751.04; Cash Items (postage) \$.1182.70; Treasurer's Cash, \$387.30; Register of Deeds, \$450.00; Sheriff, \$500.00; CD's, \$700,000.00. The total deposits on hand: \$5,920,964.02.

Cori Kaufmann, Zoning Administrator, met with the Board to discuss "lot of record". Do we want to change the definition, do we need to consider a start date for lot of record, and/or do we leave it and do nothing? Kaufmann told the Board that she and Sean Hegyi, Secog Planner, can come up with options of a start date such as beginning of ordinance, or when clustering of homes was allowed, or when other changes are reflected in zoning regulations. In other business, Kaufmann informed the Board that she's receiving many phone calls regarding taxes and she's explaining that property sales are pushing valuations up and in turn property owners are seeing an increase in their taxes.

Kasey and Mike Entwisle met with the Commission to provide an update on their medical cannabis cultivation facility/business. Auditor Sherman presented their Application for Medical Cannabis Business License noting that the \$5000 fee has been paid. Motion Gordon to approve the application and authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign Form E. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Geralyn Sherman, Welfare Director, and the Commissioners reviewed the list of lien payments received in January. A Notice of Hospitalization was received from Sanford USD Medical Center (2024-05).

The following building permits were issued the month of January 2024:

24-001	Kevin & Kellie Spaans	replace steel roof & siding	Lot A Knudson's Subd SE4 35-104-55
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24-002	Bernard D Stockwell	rental house	Lot 2 of Replat Stockwell's Addn W2NW4 25-102-53
24-003	Bernard Stockwell	rental house	Lot 3 of Replat Stockwell Addn W2NW4 25-102-53
24-004	Bernard Stockwell	rental house	Lot 4 of Replat Stockwell Addn W2NW4 25-102-53
24-005	Bernard Stockwell	rental house	Lot 5 of Replat Stockwell's Addn W2NW4 25-102-53
24-006	Lloyd Stockwell	rental house (2)	Tract 3B Bevers Addn N2 14-101-53
24-007	Lloyd A Stockwell	rental house	Lot 1 of Tract 2 of Wieman's Addn in S2S2 14-101-53
24-008	Lloyd A Stockwell	rental house	N321.76' of E1353.80' S2SE4 24-101-53
24-009	Ryan & Alicia Neururer	finish basement/bedrooms, bath, office	Tr 1 Stockwell Addn SE4 7-101-54
24-010	Janice A Heumiller	extension of bldg permit 2022-176	Leased Site on E2NW4 14-104-53
24-011	Jeffrey & Angie Scott	storage building	Tract 1A Scotts Addn of NE4 Ex Undeeded Portion Tr 1A 30-102-53

The Southeast Enterprise Facilitation Project Monthly Facilitator Report for January was noted and filed.

The January 2024 Law Enforcement Report and a report showing the breakdown of calls made, and hours worked in each community was noted and filed.

Auditor Sherman presented applications for Commercial Garbage Hauler Licenses to the Board. Motion Gordon to approve the following applications: RBS Sanitation Service, Tea, Addy Disposal Service, Canistota, and Dawson Construction, Howard. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented a letter from SD Dept of Public Safety, Wildland Fire Division, regarding appointment of a designee who can request county rangeland fire protection. Sherman noted that the Board adopted an on-going resolution in 2022 and she will send it to the contact person, if so approved. Motion made by Gordon to send a copy of the resolution adopted in 2022 showing that Brad Stiefvater Jr is the appointed designee for McCook County. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Hilary Risner, SDSU Extension Program Manager, Regional Youth Educator, introduced herself to the Commission and presented the Annual Option Z Program Review to them, explaining that this is an evaluation of the program. Stacey Sieverding, 4-H Program Assistant, Michelle Stubkjaer, HR Consultant, and Cori Kaufmann, 4-H Shooting Sports Leader. Comm Dick asked how many kids are in 4-H. Sieverding stated that 152 kids participate in the 4-H programs.

Auditor Sherman presented a list of fixed asset items that need to be declared surplus as they are no longer within the specific departments. VSO: #951 Dell 4600 computer & inkjet printer. Fair Board: #GG two 4-H buildings (destroyed by derecho). Hwy Dept: #580 truck box on T-25, #834A Crysteel dump body for T-29, #379 water hauling tank, #605 air compressor, #668 single snow-wheel & 1 dual snow-wheel on T-23, and #735 single & dual snow wheels for O-20. Motion Dick to declare these items surplus because they've been sold or scrapped.

Auditor Sherman presented Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Award (DR-5418-HMGP-06P) to the Commission. This award is to update the McCook County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. The federal share will not exceed \$11250. If the total eligible project cost is less than \$15000, the respective federal and sub-applicant share will be reduced accordingly. Sherman noted the Brad (BJ) Stiefvater Jr signed off on the Sub-Recipient Agreement between the County and Dept of Public Safety Office of Emergency Management.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that the amount of interest earned during the current 2-years audited (2021&2022) was questioned by the lead auditor. Comm Koch noted that interest rates were lower due to COVID and the economy. Sherman presented information on interest rates currently being earned by the cash sweep account (1%) and the checking account (.25%), adding the State Auditor suggested looking into money market. The Board asked Sherman to contact the bank and ask that someone meet with them to discuss options available to the county.

Per the audit, McCook County was awarded funding under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in July 2021. This award represents approximately one half of the total award with the second half being distributed in July 2022. Guidance issued under the "Final Rule" in April of 2022 allows for all recipients to utilize up to \$10,000,000 as "lost revenue" for General Government Purposes if they choose. Each recipient must make their election on the ARPA quarterly report. McCook County has elected to utilize up to

\$10,000,000 as “lost revenue” for General Government Purposes, specifically eligible General Fund salaries and benefits expenditures. Motion Dick to elect the final rule allowing counties to use up to \$10,000,000 of the ARPA Recovery funds as “lost revenue” for the provision of the General Government services. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented information from a Pitney Bowes representative to the Board noting that she and Carol Lauer, Treasurer, spoke with this gentleman, and both feel that this isn't feasible for 2024 because tax notices have been mailed and the Assessor has stamped envelopes for mailing out assessment notices and these would be the two largest mailings. The monthly charge quoted is \$140.36 for 5-year contract and we need a 4' space for the machine. Comm Mehlbrech took the paperwork and will follow up with the representative.

Auditor Sherman presented the JDC 2024 Per Diem Agreement for signature. The daily rate for the JDC is \$458.48 and Shelter Care at Lutheran Social Services will be \$289.20 per day. Motion Koch to authorize Chairman Liesinger to sign the Per Diem Agreement. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Auditor Sherman presented a letter from Risty Benefits to the Board offering to set up an educational meeting to walk through products available, costs, and how they can help employees.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Charles Liesinger \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

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