

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DEAN FRANCHUK, Chairman
NEAL MESSER, Vice-Chair
BERNIE MARSH
PAUL CLARYS
CORY WHITE



AUDITOR
KAREN RICHARD

DEPUTY AUDITOR
Lana Jahner

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE STARK COUNTY COMMISSION
July 2, 2024

Chairman Franchuk called the regular meeting of the Stark County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Present: Dean Franchuk, Paul Clarys, Bernie Marsh, Neal Messer, and Cory White. Department Heads Present: Auditor Karen Richard, Sheriff Corey Lee, Road Superintendent Al Heiser, Weed Supervisor Travis Jepson, Park Director Lisa Heiser, Planning and Zoning Steve Josephson, State's Attorney Amanda Engelstad, County Agent Kurt Froelich, Emergency Manager Alaynea Decker, and Human Resources Joetta Peary.

Franchuk asks for approval of the agenda. Marsh adds Marlene and Allen Frederick who are interested in some county property in Richardton.

MOTION BY: Messer **SECONDED BY:** Marsh
To ratify the agenda as amended.
All voted aye, motion carried.

Franchuk calls for approval of the minutes from June 3, 2024.

MOTION BY: White **SECONDED BY:** Clarys
To approve the minutes as presented.
All voted aye, motion carried.

Franchuk calls for approval of the minutes from June 4, 2024

MOTION BY: Messer **SECONDED BY:** White
To approve the minutes as presented.
All voted aye, motion carried.

Franchuk calls for approval of the minutes from June 13, 2024

MOTION BY: White **SECONDED BY:** Messer
To approve the minutes as presented.
All voted aye, motion carried.

Franchuk calls for questions about the Accounts Payable. Richard adds \$1,200.00 for the Petroleum Tank Release for the Road Department.

MOTION BY: White **SECONDED BY:** Clarys
To approve the accounts payable with the added Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Fund invoice for \$1,200.00

Roll call, all vote aye, motion carried.

GENERAL FUND			
1212	AP - THOMSON REUTERS	RESEARCH	\$ 714.57
1212	ANDREW MARQUART	LEGAL SRVC	\$ 333.00
1212	AP - BALCO	UNIFORMS	\$ 6,990.09
1212	AP - BOSS OFFICE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 5,161.91
1212	AP - BRAUN DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES	\$ 138.11
1207	AP - CENTURY LINK	PHONE	\$ 74.00
1237	AP - CONSOLIDATED	PHONE/IT SYSTEM	\$ 16,257.39
1235	AP - ELECTION SYSTEMS	PRE MARK TEST BALLOT	\$ 212.62
1235	AP - GOOSENECK	FG TRACTOR SERVICE	\$ 716.33
1237	AP - INFORMATION TECHN	TECHNOLOGY/USERS	\$ 8,105.13
1237	AP - J LORAE SERVICES	JUNE CLEANING	\$ 3,862.50
1237	AP - JAM PEST CONTROL	JUNE SERVICE	\$ 215.00
1237	AP - JUST IN GLASS	REPAIR	\$ 520.87
1237	AP - LEC	JAIL	\$ 15,117.78
1237	AP - LUMEN	PHONE	\$ 148.00
1237	AP - SUMMIT FIRE PROTECT	MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,008.00
1237	AP - THOMSON REUTERS	CONTRACTS	\$ 182.77
1237	AP - TOTAL SAFETY	PPE	\$ 82.86
1237	AP - WEX FLEET	FLEET	\$ 11,678.84
1235	AP - WEX HEALTHCARE	FSA MAY	\$ 110.00

1235	VISA		DEPT EXPENSES	\$	4,230.08
1237	XEROX CORPORATION		PRINTER	\$	326.84
COUNTY ROAD					
1237	ABC FENCING		PROJECTS	\$	6,097.65
1235	AP - BIG HORN TIRE		TIRES	\$	3,311.70
1235	AP - BRAUN DISTRIBUTING		DISPENSER/TOWELS	\$	200.22
1235	AP - BUTLER		EQUIP REPAIRS	\$	382,315.42
1235	AP - CHS SOUTHWEST GRAIN		WEED SPRAY/FUEL	\$	31,126.23
1212	AP - CONSOLIDATED		UTILITIES	\$	214.51
1235	AP - GOOSENECK		MOWER/REPAIRS	\$	17,417.01
1235	AP - HEART RIVER CLEANING		MAY CLEAN	\$	625.00
1235	AP - HIGHLANDS ENGINEER		BUFFALO HEIGHTS PLAT	\$	94.00
1235	AP - HLEBECHUK CONSTR		PROJECTS	\$	70,894.32
1235	AP - J & J OPERATING LLC		PARTS	\$	292.54
1235	AP - KLJ SOLUTIONS		PROJECTS	\$	33,392.02
1235	AP - KOHLER		EQUIP RADIO WORK	\$	1,139.19
1235	AP - NELSON INTL		EQUIP REPAIRS	\$	2,830.89
1235	AP - NORTHERN PLAINS ENG		PROJECTS	\$	80,706.78
1235	AP - NW TIRE		TIRE REPAIR	\$	277.54
1235	AP - RUNNINGS		SHOP SUPPLIES	\$	56.54
1237	AP - SAX MOTOR		VEHICLE REPAIRS	\$	141.46
1235	AP - TOTAL SAFETY		FIRSTAID/PPE	\$	227.84
1235	AP - WEST DAKOTA OIL		FUEL	\$	6,036.50
1235	AP - WESTLIES		EQUIP REPAIRS	\$	3,908.61
1235	AP - ZONAR		GPS JUNE	\$	248.96
1230	AT&T		PHONE	\$	36.74
1237	CAPITAL INDUSTRIES		EQUIP REPAIRS	\$	24,185.22
1213	CITY OF BELFIELD		UTILITIES	\$	28.11
1213	CITY OF DICKINSON		UTILITIES	\$	116.71
1213	CITY OF RICHARDTON		UTILITIES	\$	243.56
1237	DAKOTA SIGNWERKS		LETTERS	\$	40.00
1237	DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION		PROJECTS	\$	19,083.85
1237	DTE INC		LIGHT BAR	\$	220.00
1237	HUTZ'S WELDING		VALVES/HOSE ENDS	\$	2,131.06
1237	LAWSON PRODUCTS		SHOP SUPPLIES	\$	430.16
1237	LINDE GAS		CYLINDER RENT	\$	39.74
1237	MAC'S INC		FASTENERS	\$	55.08
1213	MDU		UTILITIES	\$	591.31
1237	MENARDS		SHOP SUPPLIES	\$	69.33
1215	MOTOR VEHICLE DOT		2013 CHEV 133370	\$	11.50
1213	NAPA BELFIELD		DEF	\$	33.98
1237	NAPA DICKINSON		SUPPLIES/AUTO PARTS	\$	302.18
1238	ND DEPT OF ENVN QUALITY		PTRCF REGISTRATION	\$	1,200.00
1237	PUMP SYSTEMS LLC		HOSES/CLAMPS	\$	154.27
1237	RDO EQUIPMENT COMPANY		EXCAVATE RENT/LATCH	\$	6,130.26
1213	ROUGHIDER ELECTRIC		UTILITIES	\$	792.00
1237	RUDY'S LOCK & KEY LLC		KEYS	\$	18.00
1237	SAX CUSTOMS LLC		BED MAT	\$	10.00
1213	SOUTHWEST WATER		WATER	\$	135.42
1237	STONE AG INC		CAP & COUPLER	\$	27.00
1237	TY NEWTON FENCING		FENCING PROJECT	\$	1,755.00
1237	VAL'S SANITATION		SERVICE PORTAJON	\$	75.00
1237	VESTIS		MATS	\$	315.81
1237	WHITE CAP		ROADSAVER	\$	6,096.48
COUNTY PARK SPECIAL FUND					
1235	AP - TOTAL SAFETY U.S. INC		FIRE EXTINGUISHER RR	\$	255.68
1237	IT'S ALL GUTTER WORKS		GUTTERS RESTROOMS	\$	1,381.00
1237	MENARDS		SHELVING RESTROOMS	\$	558.68

VICTIM WITNESS	PAYROLL	\$ 8,422.63
WEED CONTROL	PAYROLL	\$ 28,009.21

Heiser presents the following Park Board items for approval: \$35,000 for the PBR and \$3,000 for the Biker Reunion.

MOTION BY: Clarys **SECONDED BY:** White

To approve the \$3,000 for the Biker Reunion in July and \$35,000 for the PBR at the Fairgrounds. Roll call, all vote aye, motion carried.

Franchuk congratulated Englestad on receiving a Community Service award from the State Bar Association. Franchuk also recognized Neil Badilles with a 5 years-of-service award.

Froehlich introduced the newest employee to NDSU Extension, FCW agent Marilyn Larson. Larson introduced herself to the Commission.

Froehlich recapped last week's 4-H achievement days and thanked DSU for helping with the indoor arena during the storm. The premium sale was not held and will be held in the future.

Lee presented the June 2024 Sheriff report to the Commission: • Total calls for service 1542 – down from 1623 last year • Traffic stops 199 – up from 188 last year • 7 theft-related calls – down from 12 last year • 373 PR stops – down from 382 last year • 24 Bar checks – up from 17 last year • 22 calls for K-9 • Truck Reg 6 stops / 28 additional CFS • Transports: 16 Prisoner, 10 Court, 0 Juvenile, 1 Medical, 3 MH • Responded to 20 accidents: 0 pedestrians, 1 fatality, 3 hit & run, 2 injury, and 14 property • 82 Total Arrests and 62 Warrants served • Civil Division: 170 attempts / 33 Subpoenas / 117 Civil Papers / 9 Criminal Papers.

Lee reports that to date there have been no incidents with Roughrider Days. He also reports that all three canines are back to work, and Canine Archer located approximately 250 fentanyl pills last month.

Lee asks for approval for out-of-state travel to MOIC conference training in SD for Lee and Lt. Mehrer in August for 3 days.

MOTION BY: Marsh **SECONDED BY:** Messer

To approve out-of-state travel.

All voted aye, motion carried.

Lee also asks that the August policing fee of \$1000, for the City of Richardton, be waived and used towards their Opryland Days.

MOTION BY: Messer **SECONDED BY:** Clarys

To waive the August fee for the City of Richardton of \$1,000 to be used towards the Opryland Days.

All voted aye, motion carried.

White asks about the truck reg stops and if those are inspections. Lee responds that they are typically weight-related stops.

Heiser presents the road counters report for 109th, they evaluated the traffic for 7 days. There were a couple of vehicles going more than 70 mph, with the highest at 83 mph. On the north end, the average speed is 42 mph. The south-end average speed was 45.91 mph.

Heiser also reports on 32nd, now that it has been widened, in preparation for paving, the traffic has been increasing. The Sheriff has put extra patrol on that road. He also received a request to have the speed limit decreased, from someone who lives on the road. He will put up counters on that road to document what is happening.

Andrew Krebs with KLU reports on the roundabout project east of Dickinson, they are currently working on utility conflict drawings and the environmental document. The Chip & Fog Seal sealing on Hwy 10 is completed and permanent striping is planned.

James Kadrmas, Interstate Engineering appears via the phone and reports on the South Heart Bridge Replacement. The confirmed bid date is August 9th, 2024.

No presentation from Highlands Engineering.

Jeremy Woods, Northern Plain Engineering reports on the bridge replacement on 131st and that the project is done except for erosion control. The projects on 41st, 109th, and 114th were bid as one, and 114th is done except for erosion control. 41st is currently being worked on. The paving on 32nd and 107th

Holly Prais and Amber Hofstad of Sunrise Youth Bureau addressed the commission thanking them for their past support of funding and the space. Prais shared stories regarding youth they have helped, and if they weren't there to help where would these children have gone? They are looking for the same dollar amount of support they have received in the past. Every year they see an increase in youth. Rich Wardner, chair of the board, expressed thanks for the county support emphasizing they back up the middle school, the high school, social services, juvenile services, and the parents. They are the number 1 juvenile placement in the state of ND, and they make a difference.

Richard asks the commission to set a special meeting date to discuss budget directives, she would like Monday the 8th.

MOTION BY: Clarys **SECONDED BY:** Marsh

To have a special meeting on Monday, July 8, at 8 a.m.

All voted aye, motion carried.

Decker presented the Stark County Community Lifelines and that all are presently stable. In June there were 61 fire calls in the county: 24 control burns, 2 gas leaks, 1 bonfire, 4 brush fires, 2 vehicle fires, 8 smoke smell, 4 structure fires, and 16 others. Decker presented training highlights from departments in Stark County. Hazmat technician training took place with fourteen people attending. She also reports on Ham radio field day, in which the goal is to overload the system in a mock major scenario, our local group was able to get through to France and Spain during this. Decker reports on the storm on June 27th, in which we were level 3. The EOC Emergency Operation Center was activated to level 1, which identifies a threat, gathers information, and gets it out to appropriate people. Two cells came through Stark County and formed a bow echo which brings high damaging winds. There was 1 tornado 7 miles SSW of South Heart, 89 mph gusts of wind at Dickinson airport, and 1 inch hail south of Belfield.

Decker presents the dispatch JPA, the county collects the 911 revenue, and it is then distributed back to dispatch. There was a verbal agreement in place, and she wanted a written one in place. She worked with Lt. Hanel of the Dickinson PD and Engelstad reviewed the JPA. Clarys asks her to highlight the newly formed Public Safety Advisory Committee. Decker responds that dispatch dispatches for many different entities and she would like those entities to be able to have a say, so they are all heard. Clarys states this is an opportunity to enhance the service.

MOTION BY: White **SECONDED BY:** Clarys

To authorize Chairman Franchuk to sign the Joint Powers Agreement between the City and the County effective today.

Roll call, all vote aye, motion carried.

Decker, representing the IT committee, proposes a new position to the commission – IT Coordinator. We would continue to utilize Consolidated but having an onsite person to handle our processes and tickets would help to streamline our IT. Responsibilities include IT management, cybersecurity, technical support, project management, data management communication, coordination, training, and development. Decker suggests that, based on market research and hiring a quality person, they start at \$30.00 an hour. Our Consolidated contract could potentially be cut in half. Discussion was held regarding the department they would fall under or if they would come in as a department head.

MOTION BY: Clarys **SECONDED BY:** White

To post a job opportunity for Stark County for an IT Coordinator.

All voted aye, motion carried.

MOTION BY: White **SECONDED BY:** Messer

To have the IT Coordinator report to the IT Board for the 1st 12 months.

All voted aye, motion carried.

MOTION BY: Marsh **SECONDED BY:** Messer

To have the two commission members of the IT committee put together the interview and questions and bring the recommendation on who to hire to the commission.

DISCUSSION: Pearcy explained the county's formal hiring process that is in place.

No vote was held.

Jepson presented the openings on the Weed Board and the recommendations to fill those positions: District 1 – Caden Tuhy and District 3 – Mac Hoerner.

MOTION BY: Clarys **SECONDED BY:** White

To reappoint Mac Hoerner.

All voted aye, motion carried.

MOTION BY: Clarys **SECONDED BY:** Messer

To appoint Caden Tuhy as District 1 representative on the Weed Board.

All voted aye, motion carried.