

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS OF WELLS COUNTY, ND**

**July 7, 2020**

**8:00 am**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Dennis T. Dockter, Chairman; Mary Hager, Danny (Boone) Maxwell, Stan Buxa; and Leon Klocke.

Chairman Dockter called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa and second by Commissioner Maxwell to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous regular meeting, and that they be approved and published in the official newspaper of Wells County.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, and the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Timesheets were reviewed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hager, second by Commissioner Maxwell to have the Tax Director use her vacation time to fulfill her timesheet hours.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Middle Sheyenne Watershed Project was reviewed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Klocke, seconded by Commissioner Hager to approve the bills as presented.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Commissioners briefly discussed a situation with a dispute between a cattle rancher and a township regarding fencing. The County can do nothing regarding this dispute.

Portfolio reports were given.

Correspondence was reviewed and disposed of.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Klocke to appoint Paul Gunderson to the South Central Dakota Regional Council Board, replacing Anne Ehni.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Christopher Kluth, Wells County Sheriff, stopped in briefly to update the Commissioners on various items in his department.

The Board reviewed a resignation letter from Doug Hoff. He served on the Weed Board for many years. The Commissioners will look for a replacement for Mr. Hoff.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hager, second by Commissioner Maxwell to accept the resignation of Doug Hoff and thank him for his many years of service.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Board also reviewed a letter from Steve Eckart, who resigned from as the Wells County Weed Officer.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Klocke to accept the resignation of Steve Eckart as Weed Officer and thank him for his many years of service.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Auditor gave the Commissioners the report that was sent by Rath & Mehrer regarding the 2018-2019 Audit of Wells County. The Audit turned out well.

An ad was placed for bids for cement work outside the Courthouse. One bid was received from Weisenburger Construction in New Rockford for \$9,600.00.

Motion was made by Commissioner Maxwell, second by Commissioner Hager to accept the bid from Weisenburger Construction for \$9,600.00 for cement work.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Brent Keller, Wells County Foreman, along with Larry Skiftun and Tammy Roehrich of the Wells County Resource Board, met with Commissioners and Dave Flick regarding taking a bridge out and replacing it with culverts. The Township will be responsible for the dirt work. According to the County's Culvert Policy, the County's cost will only be the culvert itself. The two Townships will be responsible for the rest of the cost.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Klocke that the County pays for 2 – 6 foot pipes, 40 feet long, 14 gauge, with the cost of installation taken care of by Delger and Rusland Townships.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Larry Skiftun then talked to the Commissioners about the James River and the cattails that are backing up the water over by Manfred. A channel made years ago along the gravel road needs to be cleaned up. Mr. Skiftun is wondering if the County would cost share this project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Klocke, second by Commissioner Hager to share the cost with the Wells County Water Resource Board for spraying the cattails and cleaning up the channel.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Hager to amend the motion he made at the April 2020 meeting regarding the County providing funding for the culverts on the Sykeston reservoir road and state that the County is willing to pay for the appropriate sized culverts, which is 4 – 84" pipes.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Tammy Roehrich, Wells County DES, is going to schedule a full scale active shooter training exercise sometime in September. This will be held after hours and she would like the employees to participate. This would be a 2-3 hour event.

Motion was made by Commissioner Maxwell, second by Commissioner Buxa to have the employees attend this after hours DES active shooter training event and to pay them \$50 for training, and provide a meal.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Ms. Roehrich then updated the Commissioners on the 2019 FEMA disaster. She is still waiting to hear on the 2020 FEMA disaster.

Brent Keller then updated the Commissioners on various items with the Road Department. The new bridge for BNSF is almost complete and is ahead of schedule. The apron at the end of the culvert got washed downstream after very heavy rains (6-7") and will have to be replaced. The culvert is the only cost the County had for this bridge, and so the County is responsible for replacing this.

Mr. Keller also informed the County that NDDOT approved the plan to fix the gravel road in Hillsdale Township that was broken up last year when traffic had to be re-routed due to a traffic accident on Highway 52 near Harvey. One the main plow trucks used for snow removal has a transmission that needs work. He's going to look into more options for this truck.

Randi Suckut, Wells County Human Resource Director, met with the Commissioners to discuss budget info.

The Auditor gave the Commissioners an Election update.

Shane Gunderson of Bailey Pro Rodeo, met with the Commissioners about scheduling a full Rodeo at the Fessenden Fairgrounds. The event will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>. He offered to pay the Commissioners \$500 and he would take care of contacting a group to serve alcohol, someone to clean up after the event and Wells County would take care of the bathrooms.

Motion was made by Commissioner Klocke, second by Commissioner Buxa to rent the Wells County Fairgrounds to Mr. Gunderson to put on a Rodeo on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Maxwell to transfer the liquor license for Flatland Trailblazers, so as to be able to use it for the Rodeo on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Denise Roller, Wells County's AFLAC representative, met with Commissioners regarding our Health Ins. plan and would like to show the County other options for health insurance. She will meet with the Commissioners at the August meeting with her portfolio.

Steve Eckart, Wells County Weed Board, met with Commissioners regarding his time on the Wells County Weed Board.

The Auditor updated the Commissioners on the Auditor's Conference in July. She will be attending virtually instead of attending in Bismarck.

The Auditor informed the Commissioners about the New Rockford Ambulance District. They may start the process for being able to levy three of Wells County's townships for providing service to them.

Jana Hopkins, Wells County Tax Director, met with Commissioners regarding hiring Vanguard to assess the Hamberg Elevator complex. She also talked about taking classes for GIS.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buxa, second by Commissioner Hager approve the Abatement for parcel #80313000 for the 2019 tax year.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hager, second by Commissioner Buxa to approve all Homestead Credit and Veteran's Credit applications received by the Tax Director, so as to expedite the process. If the Tax Director feels the Commissioners need to see one, she will bring it to a meeting.

On vote being taken, all voted yes, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Auditor talked to the Commissioners about having a central office supply rather than each office ordering their own supplies. It was felt that this would save the County money. One of the employees has offered to maintain the supplies and ordering. This will be a non paid position. The Commissioners agreed this would be a good idea.

An employee summer picnic will be scheduled after hours this summer as well.

Budgets were briefly discussed.

The following Fees and Receipts were approved and ordered filed:

Recorder	\$2,636.70
Clerk of Court	\$60.00
Sheriff	\$432.79
Misc. Receipts	\$22,237.24

On motion, the following bills were ordered paid:

Direct Deposit	Payroll, General	\$81,332.12
Direct Deposit	Payroll, 911	\$928.08
Direct Deposit	Payroll, County Agent	\$2,949.47
Direct Deposit	Payroll, Social Welfare	\$61,850.17
ACH	Payroll, Insurance	\$63,098.50
Direct Deposit	Payroll, Road	\$48,252.38
Direct Deposit	NDPERS, Retirement	\$25,289.87

### **General**

Dak Mailing	Meter Contract	\$400.00
WC Treas	Phone	\$400.15
Verizon	Phone	\$40.01
NDTC	Phone	\$813.73

Dak Central	Phone Maint	\$230.00
Otter Tail	CH Utilities	\$1,008.36
Otter Tail	WR Utilities	\$29.06
Rath & Mehrer	Audit Fees	\$10,000.00
US Treas	Penalty	\$1,929.59
WC Treas	Bank Chgs	\$16.00
Office Depot	Janitor Supp	\$299.71
MARC	Janitor Supp	\$144.23
Weigelt Ref	CH Maint	\$297.50
WC Treas	Janitor Supp	\$366.66
Krahlers	Janitor Supp	\$22.66
Carrot-Top Ind	Janitor Supp	\$186.33
FU Oil	Janitor Supp	\$43.79
TSC	Janitor Supp	\$446.95
BW Electric	CH Maint.	\$96.60
Sharon Albrecht	Elec worker & mlge	\$128.00
Loretta Buchwitz	Elec worker & mlge	\$234.00
Judy Keller	Elec worker & mlge	\$110.00
Angela Opdahl	Elec worker & mlge	\$164.50
Lisa Weckerly	Elec worker & mlge	\$205.55
ES & S	Election Supp	\$5,090.41
Herald Press	Elections Pub	\$1,803.60
Herald Press	Legal Pub	\$1,025.36
Frey Ins	Premiums	\$6,522.00
NDACo	D & A Testing	\$80.00
HES LLC Recycling	Recycling	\$172.50
NDACo	Comp Exp	\$5,377.03
ITD	Tech-Monthly	\$1,357.09
Central Bus Sys	Printer Lease & Main	\$632.05
Universal Services	Comp. Supp	\$347.40
Fessenden City	Water & Garbage	\$312.75
Dennis Dockter	Travel/MLge	\$307.05
WC Treas	Office Supp	\$68.75
Convergint Tech	Treas. Safe Inspect	\$259.08
RELX Inc.	Lexis Nexis Fees	\$146.00
Tami Beckley	Office Supp	\$25.00
ND State Treas	Marriage Licenses	\$175.00
Rough Rider Ind	Office Supp	\$525.00
Office Depot	Office Supp	\$61.28
Andrew Marquart, Atty. At Law	Mental Health	\$423.00
Stutsman Co Auditor	Mental Health Supp	\$9.50
Office Depot	Office Supp	\$70.24
ND Envelope Co	Office Supp	\$341.23

ND State Radio	Maint - State Radio	\$120.00
Office Depot	Office Supp	\$64.97
Lemer's ACE & Rental	Sheriff Supp	\$103.94
Modern Marketing	Screening Tests	\$319.94
Redwood Toxicology Lab	Screening Tests	\$68.09
WC Treas	Travel/Mlge	\$778.42
Krahlers Parts & Service	Travel/Mlge	\$176.46
FU Oil	Travel/Mlge	\$425.12
WC Treas	Uniforms	\$89.83
Ripplinger Motors	Vehicle Repair	\$508.10
Modern Mktg	Sheriff Promo	\$1,205.92
WC Treas	Phone	\$99.33
NDTC	Phone	\$207.13
Tammy Roehrich	Travel/Mlge	\$178.25
Otter Tail	Utilities	\$40.68
Terry Jesse	Office Supp	\$9.07
Terry Jesse	Postage	\$56.75
WC Treas	SS Indirect - Postage	\$52.10
NDTC	SS Indirect - Phone	\$1,025.94
Dak Central	SS Indirect - Phone	\$164.47
Otter Tail	SS Indirect - Utilities	\$182.12
Montana-Dak Utilities	SS Indirect - Utilities	\$30.09
New Rockford Utility	SS Indirect - Utilities	\$105.06
Ripplinger Motors	SS Indirect - Vehicle Maint	\$60.00
CenDak Coop	SS Indirect - Vehicle Maint	\$97.40
Curtis Larson	SS Indirect - KTL Maintenance	\$80.00
Leaf	SS Indirect - Copier Exp/Supp	\$506.23
Central Bus Sys	SS Indirect - Copier Exp/Supp	\$430.52
NDACo	SS Indirect - IT Supp	\$1,014.64
Postmaster	SS Indirect - PO box rent	\$75.00
FU Oil	Fuel	\$996.80
TSC	FH Supp	\$937.87
Lemer's	Fair Supp	\$50.25
Otter Tail	FH/Fair Utilities	\$384.49
Fessenden City	Water & Garbage	\$130.60
Fessenden City	Water & Garbage	\$155.00
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		\$53,675.28

### **Fed Aid**

True North Steel	Culverts	\$1,651.10
NDDOT	Road Work	\$2,755.15
Northern Imp	Road Mat	\$4,830.84
Susag Sand & Gravel	Road Mat	\$2,364.36
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		\$11,601.45

**911**

ND State Radio	Data Base/Circuiting/Updates	\$10,624.32
NDTC	Data Base/Circuiting/Updates	\$156.34
Dak Central	Data Base/Circuiting/Updates	\$295.74
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		\$11,076.40

**Jail & Trans**

St. Aloisius Med Ctr	Jail & Trans Med	\$720.50
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**Co Agent**

Leaf	Copier Lease & Maint	\$510.30
Central Bus Sys	Copier Lease & Maint	\$210.24
WC Treas	Office Supp	\$222.97
NDSU-Ag Comm	Office Supp	\$51.00
WC Treas	Phone	\$139.50
Lindsay Maddock	Phone Reimb	\$80.00
Lindsay Maddock	Travel/MIge	\$82.80
Otter Tail	Utilities	\$38.75
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		\$1,335.56

**Co Emerg**

Office Depot	Covid 19 Supp	\$212.16
WC Treas	Covid 19 Supp	\$359.95
Tammy Roehrich	Covid 19 Travel	\$23.00
Tracys Market	Covid-19 Supp	\$27.96
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		\$623.07

**Welfare**

WC Treas	Misc.	\$6.15
WC Treas	Fuel/Foster Care	\$10.00
CenDak FU Co-op	Fuel/Foster Care	\$73.02
WC Treas	Vital Records	\$15.00
Alicia Lamm	Meals/Foster Care	\$12.98
	Foster Care/Safety Perm.-UA	
Wells Co Sheriff's Dept.	Costs	\$97.79
WC Treas	Fuel/Child Protect. Serv.	\$49.95
Jordan Pepple	Family SW-Travel/MIge	\$11.05
WC Treas	Misc.	\$8.60
Jodi Helm	In Home Care - Health Ins.	\$500.00
FU Oil	In Home Care/Fuel	\$30.15
Vicky Calheim	In Home Care - Travel/MIge	\$310.50

Becky Dockter	In Home Care - Travel/Mlge	\$75.90
WC Treas	Zone Admin Supp/Misc	\$14.85
Tracys Market	Zone Admin Supp/Misc	\$22.05
JS Wholesale & Vending	Zone Admin Supp/Misc	\$162.54
Duchscherer Supply	Zone Admin Supp/Misc	\$5.79
Central City H2O+	Zone Admin Supp/Misc	\$73.00
ITD	Zone Admin Supp/IT Other	\$90.67
WC Treas	Zone Admin Supp/Cell phone	\$289.91
WC Treas	Zone Admin Supp/Office Mat	\$317.85
Dak Central	Zone Admin Supp/Office Mat	\$260.00
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		\$2,437.75

### **Weed Control**

Dale Schmitz	Salary - Board Meeting	\$140.60
Kevin Bachmeier	Salary - Board Meeting	\$194.77
Kelly Muscha	Salary - Board Meeting	\$188.39
Doug Hoff	Salary - Board Meeting	\$179.90
Donna Rau	Salary - WC Secretary	\$220.87
Steve Eckart	Salary - Weed Officer	\$374.04
Elite Spraying	Chemical Spray	\$8,050.00
Steve Eckart	Phone	\$85.46
Miller Elev Co	Chemical	\$3,267.60
Steve Eckart	Travel/Mlge	\$661.82
US Treas	WC/Withholding	\$556.71
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		\$13,920.16

### **Hwy Tax**

BW Electric	Building Upkeep	\$199.36
True North Steel	Culverts	\$2,242.20
Harvey Oil Co.	Fuel	\$4,176.52
FU Oil	Fuel	\$7,976.22
Kotaco Fuel	Fuel	\$1,497.03
Krahlers Parts	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$130.50
Patzer Truck Repair	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$274.04
Butler Mach	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$3,486.47
Gooseneck Imp	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$293.68
Swanston Equip	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$466.15
NAPA-Harvey	Mach Repairs & Supp	\$7.07
WC Treas	Supp	\$30.58
TSC	Supp	\$300.00
Farm & Family	Supp	\$26.28
Praxair	Supp	\$52.32
Lemer's	Supp	\$242.73

NDTC	Phone	\$143.06
Dak Central	Phone	\$200.00
Otter Tail	Utilities	\$282.91
Verendrye Electric	Utilities	\$108.35
Northern Plains Electric	Utilities	\$2,434.19
Harvey City	Water & Garbage	\$59.70
Double M Sanitation	Garbage	\$168.00
Fessenden City	Water & Garbage	\$151.28
Central Plains Water	Water	\$400.00
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		\$25,348.64

### **24-7**

Office Of Atty Gen	Scram Fees	\$150.00
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### **Co Agency**

WC Treas	Office Supp	\$165.03
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\$121,053.84

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: _____	APPROVED: _____
Julie Krosbakken, Wells County Auditor	Dennis T. Dockter, Chairman