

Wells County Commissioner's Meeting Minutes June 6, 2023

The June meeting was called to order by Chairman Buxa at 8:36 AM. Present at the meeting were Stan Buxa, Dennis Dockter, Leon Klocke, Bryan Lauth, Daniel Stutlien, Jackie Bauerle, Cheyenne Gessele, Lydia Gessele, Cheryl Ryan, and Neil Nelson of the Herald-Press.

Under the consent agenda:

DD (M), BL (S) to approve the minutes from the May Meeting. Unanimously carried.

DD (M), BL (S) to approve the minutes from the Special May Meeting (5/12/23). Unanimously carried.

Employee timesheets were reviewed by the commissioners.

DD (M), BL (S) to approve the bills as presented. Unanimously carried.

BL (M), DD (S) to approve Laura Muscha, Treasurer, and Daniel Stutlien, Auditor, to purchase CD's on behalf of WC. Unanimously carried.

The current WC Balance Sheet was reviewed.

Correspondence was shared from the ND Water Education Foundation regarding summer water tours, a wrap-up of the recently concluded 68th Legislative Session, the 2023-24 ND Deer Hunting Proclamation was shared, and the DOT notified WC of a bridge on Highway 30 will be named "*Petty Officer Third Class Patrick G. Glennon Vietnam Bridge.*"

WC CD assets were shared with the Commission.

Commission Portfolios were reviewed and discussed.

Anne Ehni met with the Commission to discuss the WC Soil Conservation District. Ehni also discussed the Harvey Reservoir with the Commission and how the Soil Conservation District can be part of a solution. Ehni requested a meeting of stakeholders to discuss this issue and the Soil Conservation District will initiate the meeting. The Commission is on board with this concept.

Brent Keller, WC Road Foreman, met with the Commission to discuss matters of his department. All road restrictions have been removed. Fair grounds are being prepped. Keller requested approval to bid on a plow truck on auction. BL (M), DD (S) to approve a bid limit of \$35,000. Unanimously carried. In discussing aging county bridges planned for replacement, Brian Fuchs of NDDOT joined the meeting telephonically to answer Commissioner questions. Keller brought up county provided dust control on rural WC roads. It is the consensus of the Commission they will not be providing any rural dust control.

Julie St.Germaine, Central Prairie Human Service Zone Director, met with the Commission to introduce herself and share info regarding Social Services. St.Germaine highlighted many of the changes and challenges for Social Services in the last few years. Also shared was the Social Services employment group and some turnover that has occurred and the challenges of finding employees to fit the new system.

Kayme Heintz, WC Custodial Services, met with the Commission to discuss a discrepancy between her compensation package and what she is earning monetarily.

Janelle Pepple, met with the commission to discuss building improvements and general maintenance at Festival Hall. It was the consensus of the Commission to obtain estimates.

Cheryl Ryan, Harvey Chamber of Commerce & CVB Director, addressed the Commission about the desire of the Wells-Sheridan Senior Center to procure a different building in Harvey and the possibility of obtaining financial assistance from WC.

Tammy Roehrich, WC DES Manager, met with the Commission regarding a recent business fire in Hurdsfield. Roehrich shared the details of the event and the HAZMAT concerns created and the pending clean-up.

WC Sheriff, Chris Kluth, met with the Commission to share info pertinent to the Dept. including the Call for Service Report. The new fingerprinting live scan machine has arrived and is being set up. The last of the new state radios is being installed. Kluth requested additional security for an upcoming trial set for WC. The consensus of the Commission was to allow this expense.

Brian Argabright, WC resident from Harvey, met with the Commission to discuss his real estate taxes. Argabright argues that his assessment is too high based on what he paid for the residence.

Corey Hart, WC resident in Silver Lake Township, met telephonically with the Commission to discuss snow removal in the vicinity of his property. Hart also discussed property assessments. Bev Hart, Silver Lake Township Assessor, arrived and shared information regarding property valuations and a questionable increase in 2022. Marvin Rodacker, resident in Silver Lake Township, also addressed the Commission on this matter. The Commission will research the complaint.

WC Auditor, Daniel Stutlien, shared with the Commission that a petition has been received regarding the creation of the Bowdon Fire Protection District and the steps outlined in NDCC for the creation of the new District. This process has begun and will take months to come to fruition.

Regarding the Cathay School, the WC Auditor informed the Commission the final step of cutting out the windows may now be completed prior to razing. An asbestos expert will need to be on hand during demolition as some asbestos remains in/around the boiler room.

The Auditor proposed recognizing Monday, July 3rd, a holiday in conjunction with the 4th for WC employees. DD (M), BL (S) to approve this request in lieu of Juneteenth. Unanimously carried.

The next Six-County Meeting will be held in Ashley Tuesday, June 13th, at 10:00 AM.

The next WC Departments' Meetings are slated for Thursday, June 22nd, at 11:30 AM. A picnic will be held for county employees as part of this meeting.

The Commission discussed the May 12th interviews held with Apex, KLJ, and Wold Engineering for preliminary and design engineering to replace three out-of-date bridges in WC. After discussing the interviews and the scoring rubrics used in the process, BL (M), DD (S) to retain KLJ to serve WC for this process. Unanimously carried. All firms will be contacted regarding the results.

The move of Social Services' fiscal year to mirror the State's fiscal year was discussed. DD (M), BL (S) to move Social Services' fiscal year to match the state's of July 1st-June 30th. Unanimously carried.

A request from the Flatland Trailblazers to host a youth off-highway vehicle safety course August 15th at the WC Fairgrounds was considered. DD (M), BL (S) to authorize the safety course date & location. Unanimously carried.

The regular July WC Commission meeting will be July 6th, 2023 at 8:30 AM. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

The following Fees and Receipts were approved and ordered filed:

Clerk of Court	\$	185.00
Recorder	\$	0.00
Sheriff	\$	640.00
Misc.	\$	60,010.75

On motion, the following bills were ordered paid: (*Gross wages, when listed*)

#Direct Deposit	Payroll, General (1000)	\$	92,474.59
#Direct Deposit	Payroll, Road (2001)	\$	54,529.26
#Direct Deposit	Payroll, 911 (2003)	\$	1,053.17
#Direct Deposit	Payroll, County Agent (2005)	\$	3,392.83
#Direct Deposit	Payroll, Social Welfare (2007)	\$	53,579.24
#ACH BC/BS	Insurance	\$	61,647.47
#ACH NDPERS	Retirement	\$	29,208.99

23-Jun General

Wells County Treasurer	\$185.80	Central Supplies
ODP Business Solutions, LLC	\$84.82	Central Supplies
Wells County Treasurer	\$17.05	Postage
Wells County Treasurer	\$344.00	Telephone
Verizon	\$40.01	Sheriff Phone
NDTC	\$766.56	Telephone
Clay Co.Sheriff	\$143.30	Subpeona-Sheriff
Fessenden City	\$348.32	Countywide Utilities
Otter Tail	\$2,198.01	Countywide Utilities
Wells County Treasurer	\$26.40	Bank Charges
Herald Press	\$35.98	Notary Stamp
Wells County Treasurer	\$398.31	Janitor Supplies
Nexus Planning & Consulting	\$8,000.00	DES Grant
Burleigh Co. Sheriff's Dept.	\$45.00	Auditor Tax Service
Tracys Market	\$17.39	Janitor Supplies
BW Electric	\$372.71	Courthouse Maintenance
ODP Business Solutions, LLC	\$3.59	Janitor Supplies
Frey Insurance	\$79,329.00	ND Ins. Reserve Fund-Premiums
South Central Dakota Regional Council	\$9,685.00	County Dues
Central Business Systems	\$49.17	Recycling
Wells County Treasurer	\$143.12	Safety Supplies
Wells County Treasurer	\$239.98	Technology
NDTC	\$121.41	Technology
Central Business Systems	\$1,299.00	Technology
NDACo Resources Group	\$2,649.00	Technology

Renae Heintz	\$250.00	Auditor Health Ins.
RELX Inc.	\$67.00	Lexis Nexis Fees
Wells County Treasurer	\$49.90	Specialty Office Supplies
Wells County Treasurer	\$176.40	Cl. Ct. Travel
Carla Johnson	\$438.30	Travel/Mileage
Wells County Treasurer	\$441.00	Travel/Mileage
Denyce A Harding	\$334.82	Travel/Mileage
Wells County Treasurer	\$340.00	Sheriff Service
Wells County Treasurer	\$10,064.50	Sheriff Vehicle-Opdahl's
Wells County Treasurer	\$1,401.71	Travel/Mileage/Veh.Maint.
Ward Hilger	\$84.46	Travel/Mileage/Veh.Maint.
Drive Chevrolet Buick Harvey	\$194.95	Travel/Mileage/Veh.Maint.
Farmers Union Oil	\$134.61	Janitor Supplies
Farmers Union Oil	\$37.48	Sheriff Vehicle
Kotaco Fuel & Propane	\$259.32	Travel/Mileage/Veh.Maint.
Modern Marketing	\$501.25	Sheriff Promo Supplies
Wells County Treasurer	\$126.23	Telephone
NDTC	\$106.20	Telephone
Otter Tail	\$65.99	Utilities
Wells County Treasurer	\$29.52	SS Indirect - Postage
NDTC	\$514.50	SS Indirect - Telephone
Dakota Central	\$288.35	SS Indirect - Telephone
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.	\$71.96	SS Indirect - Utilities
New Rockford Utility Services	\$90.19	SS Indirect - Utilities
Otter Tail	\$232.15	SS Indirect - Utilities
Roy's Body Shop	\$1,478.60	SS Indirect - Vehicle Maint.
CenDak Cooperative-New Rockford	\$770.06	SS Indirect - Vehicle Maint.
4th Corporation	\$140.00	SS Indirect - KTL Maintenance
Leaf	\$393.00	SS Indirect - Copier Exp/Supplies
D & G Construction	\$1,100.00	Festival Hall/Fair-Maint.
Mid-Dakota Lumber	\$2,365.11	Improvements-FH
Fessenden City	\$347.68	Festival Hall/Fair Utilities
Otter Tail	\$767.50	Festival Hall/Fair Utilities
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	\$130,205.67	

911

NDTC	\$156.34	Data Base/Circuiting/Updates
Dakota Central	\$300.24	Data Base/Circuiting/Updates
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	\$456.58	

Jail & Transp.

HACTC	\$17.21	Jail & Transport Medication
HACTC	\$4,235.00	Jail & Transport Prison Board
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	\$4,252.21	

Co. Agent

Leaf	\$235.91	Copier Lease & Maint.
Wells County Treasurer	\$83.99	Office Supplies
Wells County Treasurer	\$119.13	Telephone

Wells County Treasurer	\$25.00	Travel/Mileage
Hannah Peterson	\$210.91	Travel/Mileage
Otter Tail	\$62.84	Utilities
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	\$737.78	

Social Services

CenDak Cooperative-New Rockford	\$210.85	Fuel/Foster Care
Wells County Treasurer	\$175.00	Registration
Wells County Treasurer	\$175.16	Fuel/Child Protect. Serv.
Farmers Union Oil-Fessenden	\$63.59	Fuel/Child Protect. Serv.
Shirley Krueger	\$250.00	Parent Aid Health Ins.
Shayla Diede	\$116.61	Parent Aid Travel/Mileage
Farmers Union Oil-Fessenden	\$146.71	Family Social Worker/Fuel
Wells County Treasurer	\$36.37	Office Materials
Wells County Treasurer	\$401.13	Mixed Workloads/Safety Perm
Becky Dockter	\$20.69	Client Support
Farmers Union Oil-Fessenden	\$167.29	In Home Care/Fuel
Patriot Fuels	\$68.56	In Home Care/Fuel
Julie St. Germaine	\$356.32	Admin Support-Travel/Mileage
Farmers Union Oil-Fessenden	\$83.89	Zone Admin Support/Misc
Central Business Systems	\$98.33	Zone Admin Support/Misc
ITD	\$56.35	Zone Admin Support/IT Other
NDACo Resources Group	\$74.46	Zone Admin Support/IT Other
Wells County Treasurer	\$453.23	Zone Admin Support/Cell phone
Tracys Market	\$64.20	Zone Admin Supp./Office Materials
Wells County Treasurer	\$176.40	Admin Support/Lodging/Hotels
Central City H20+	\$99.00	Water
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	\$3,294.14	

Weed Control

Donna Rau	\$238.45	Salary - Employee
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Hwy Tax

Harvey Oil Co.	\$9,636.06	Fuel
Harvey City	\$59.70	Utilities
Kotaco Fuel & Propane	\$3,479.43	Fuel
Butler Machinery	\$1,133.10	Machinery Repairs & Supplies
NAPA-Harvey	\$103.76	Machinery Repairs & Supplies
NDDOT	\$8,557.30	Final- Road Work
Wells County Treasurer	\$57.98	Supplies
Deere Credit	\$5,250.00	Equipment
Rick's Wholesale Tire	\$3,526.00	Tires
TSC	\$1,248.56	Supplies
Tracys Market	\$31.20	Supplies
Farmers Union Oil	\$9,375.64	Fuel & Supplies
Newman Traffic Signs	\$434.12	Signs
Lemer's	\$45.63	Supplies
Power Plan	\$144.49	Machinery Repairs & Supplies

Linde Gas & Equipment	\$93.60	Supplies
Farm & Family	\$29.49	Supplies
NDTC	\$144.01	Telephone
Wells County Treasurer	\$19.25	Travel/Mileage
Doug Mertz	\$43.23	Travel/Mileage
Fessenden City	\$176.48	Utilities
Otter Tail	\$417.63	Utilities
Cathay City	\$95.00	Utilities
Sykeston City	\$48.50	Utilities
Northern Plains Electric	\$630.60	Utilities
Verendrye Electric	\$2,106.38	Utilities
NorMont Equipment Co.	\$5,055.00	Road Materials
	<u>\$51,942.14</u>	

ARPA Fund

Bowdon Fire Dept.	\$44,736.75	Grant
Fessenden Fire Dept.	\$50,000.00	Grant
	<u>\$94,736.75</u>	

24-7

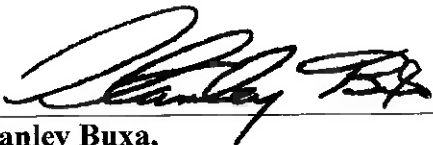
Office Of Attorney General	\$575.00	Scram Fees
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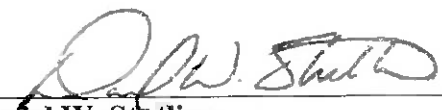
Co. Agency

NDSU	\$62.50	Supplies
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\$286,501.22

Attest:


 Stanley Buxa,
 Wells County Commission Chairman


 Daniel W. Stutlien,
 Wells County Auditor