

**BILLINGS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MAY 4, 2023.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lester Iverson at 9:00 A.M. with Commissioners Dean Rodne and Steven Klym in attendance.

Others were present during portions of the meeting: State's Attorney Patrick Weir, Deputy Auditor Jonna Bertelsen, Maintenance Supervisor Travis Bertelsen, Clerk/Recorder Juliana Hammerstrom, Tax Director Stacey Swanson, Ambulance Director Mitch Gilseth, Weed Supervisor Katie Dillman, Sheriff Dean Wyckoff, Road Superintendent Pat Redmond, Dave Otterness, Julie Reis, Andrew Krebs, Bob Procive, Lonni Fleck, Misty Hays, Amy McCann, Brent Bogar via teams, Clarence Sitter.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Klym moved to approve the meeting minutes of the April 4, 2023 regular commission meeting. Rodne seconded. All voted aye.

Rodne added the City of Medora conversation regarding the dumpster to the agenda. Rodne moved to approve agenda as amended. Klym seconded. All voted aye.

Ambulance Director Mitch Gilseth gave his monthly report. EMS week is coming up the 4th week of May. A proclamation was given to the board to recognize the staff and volunteers and have hands-on public events with community members. Klym made the motion to approve the EMS week Proclamation. Rodne seconded. All voted aye. EMT classes are done and advanced classed will be done soon. The proclamation reads as follows:

EMS Week Proclamation

To designate the week of May 21-27, 2023, as Emergency Medical Services Week

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provided lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow up care, ad access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, law enforcement officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I Lester Iverson, Chairman of the Billings County Commissioners, in recognition of this event do herby proclaim the week of May 21-27, 2023, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

With the EMS Strong Theme, **EMS WEEK: Where Emergency Care Begins.** I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Lester Iverson, Chairman
Marcia Lamb, County Auditor

Weed Supervisor Katie Dillman gave her monthly report. The weed board is fully staffed at 8 sprayers for this year plus Katie and Jodee. The new pickup has been received.

Sheriff Dean Wyckoff gave his monthly report. Up 50 calls from last April, seeing a higher call rate this year. The staff participated in the Prairie Schools career day where they brought Cherry, the Billings County K9 along. The office will be meeting with the forest service this week to discuss the upcoming Maah Daah Hey Trail events.

Auditor Marcia Lamb gave her monthly report. Lamb applied for the county to enter the Purchasing card program which is through ND Office of Management and Budget and the county was approved. The county will move forward with Executime time keeping system and is waiting for the company to get back with a time to demo the system.

States Attorney Pat Weir gave his monthly report. He is working on an updated asset forfeiture policy for the county.

Chairman Iverson discussed the compensated time clarification. The motion in a previous meeting stated that compensated time must be used before sick leave and vacation, but the intent was for it to be used prior to vacation, not sick. Rodne moved to amend the policy to state compensated time must be used prior to vacation not sick leave. Klym seconded. All voted aye.

Andrew Krebs was present to discuss his monthly report. Road Superintendent Patrick Redmond gave his monthly report. Waiting for moisture so the crew can get out to blade roads. Iverson asked what the plans are for 123rd. Redmond stated that they are going to lay gravel and grind it. Start on 10th blading a stretch to put gravel on, mill it and blend it in and blade it up.

Tax & Zoning Stacey Swanson gave her monthly report. Two ARWs were submitted to zoning for approval.

- 2023-8 Continental Resources is putting in an underground Electrical Line on 28th St SW 24-141-98 approved with no conditions.
- 2023-9 Paul Kuntz is putting in a new approach on 28th St SW 27-141-98 approved with no conditions.

Klym moved to approve the ARW's as presented. Rodne seconded. All voted aye.

Medora Area Plan updates were presented to the board. The current draft was provided and identifies future growth areas in the county. Swanson also presented a draft of a building permit waiver application. Contractors can opt in the building permit process even if land owners opt out. This would only be for agricultural residences on family farms or ranches. Other counties are seeing fewer people opt out due to it not covering the builder or the owner. Supporting documents will be needed when you opt out. 15% ridge line or greater will be denied under ridge line ordinance. This application approval will be deferred to the next meeting for Weir to get with Swanson to update a few items. County Board of Equalization will be next month at 1:00 pm.

Amy McCann with the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library was present via Teams to give updates. Amy, JE Dunn, and the NDSU ecologists met on site with the Billings County weed supervisor and are working on an agreement to manage the weeds on site. William Walker is working on the weed spraying proposal and will get it to Katie soon. An amendment has been made to their bid package. McCann presented a map that shows the disturbed construction area. Met with the Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Washington Night Sky engineers on the night sky lighting. This will be brought to the zoning board soon. Should be getting new renderings soon as well. Iverson asked if Katie has seen any of the weed proposal, and she has not gotten the recommendations from William Walker yet. States attorney Weir mentioned some concerns he has for the county for further portions of the project being brought forward including the PV panels. According to Amy, the PV panels will not be used in the project as of now due to budget increases. The facility no longer qualifies for the energy pedal grant. Roughrider electric will now power the facility. The PV panels may be brought back at a future date. Rodne asked if they are still looking to break ground by June 1st and the answer was yes.

Misty Hayes was present from USFS to give a quarterly update. Updates to the contract for road maintenance to access the campground and petrified forest. They are working with county employees regarding the upcoming summer events. Currently they are working on the consolidated application in various areas of the county and number of places that crosses the national grasslands. The south is the focus for 2023 and move to the north in 2024. The focus is to get rural connections for broadband. They are planning on moving quickly through the process for construction in June. Summer events are coming up so meeting with the local emergency services tomorrow for a coordination meeting. Kyle Shockley is hosting the meeting. Other counties involved will be Golden Valley, McKenzie and Slope. The Horse endurance event July 24th and 25th on the Maah Daah Hey will take place, they will cross East River Road at a couple locations. Wyckoff did not have issues with this as long as they provide the volunteers they promised and signage being approved by Pat Redmond and taken down immediately following the race. States Attorney Weir did state the concern of liability to the county and asked if participants needed to have insurance coverage. 75 participants or more requires insurance. Some of the companies that have the events require or do not require proof of coverage. USFS met with Wyckoff and Shockley regarding the fire restrictions and had a good meeting and will work to develop a draft that is much more in line and coordinated with the county. Misty also gave updates to the access road that will be used for the construction of the library. They did put that out for external scoping and received 7-8 comment letters with general considerations. The Grazing Association had specific concerns on grazing for the cattle and water concerns. This application will be approved with small modifications. Andrew Krebs has some concerns on the Buckhorn road by the Maah Daah Hey trail. The biggest concern is that the guardrails come in right where the trail comes through. Normally they do it perpendicular and not angled across the road. They have not determined what will be necessary. Intersection at 135th and 48th they have no concerns.

Clarence Sitter with the foundation was in attendance and Brent Bogar via teams presented a legislative update on the legislative intent for the City of Medora water supply project.

Bob Procive and Lonni Fleck were present from Interstate Engineering to give updates on the current site feasibility for the new emergency building in Medora. The engineers took a look at the current location of the building and it is not the most ideal spot in terms of infrastructure. A proposal was given to the commission and the engineers would like to set up a collaboration meeting with all departments involved in the project. This would be held to discuss a possible second site. Iverson asked if any secondary sites have been brought up. He questioned whether Fryburg be a good area to look into, Klym agreed. Clarence Sitter stated the Medora Foundation could work with the county to find a suitable location. Iverson would like stakeholders to get together and look into a few other areas.

Rodne discussed the dumpster discussion brought to the city of Medora meeting. Travis brought forward a concern about large stumps being put in the dumpsters by a city resident and it is taking up the entire dumpster which is a big cost when they come to empty the dumpsters. When the proposal was brought to the city back in June of 2021, it was agreed that the county residents can only put in small branches and tree limbs. At the last city council meeting, it was agreed that they would allow big trees and stumps now. The county needs to make a decision to either have the city pay a higher percentage of the bills now or have the city take over the dumpster all together and the county find somewhere for Travis to dump county yard waste.

The following claims were approved for payment:

PAYEE	CHECK #	AMOUNT
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	22795	\$ 4,494.20
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	22796	\$ 834.51
AF Services	22797	\$ 1,000.00
All Around Tire and Oil	22798	\$ 132.00
Aramark	22799	\$ 474.01
Billings County Historical Soc	22800	\$ 302.17
Billings County Rural Fire Dist	22801	\$ 7,029.28
Billings County School Dist	22802	\$ 62,905.87
Boss Office Products	22803	\$ 2,737.06
Bound Tree Medical LLC	22804	\$ 329.57
Braun Distributing Inc	22805	\$ 136.25
Brosz Engineering Inc	22806	\$ 31,147.50
Butler Machinery Co	22807	\$ 98.52
Capital One	22808	\$ 111.44
Cerberus Security	22809	\$ 30.00
Code 4 Services Inc	22810	\$ 434.78
Creative Energy	22811	\$ 301.55
Dakota Business Solutions	22812	\$ 595.99
Dakota Insurance	22813	\$ 789.00
Dakota Insurance	22814	\$ 124,280.00
Deans Distributing	22815	\$ 583.05
Dickinson Public Library	22816	\$ 4,663.47
Dickinson Tire Inc	22817	\$ 143.91
Ecolab Pest Elim Div	22818	\$ 267.33
Emblem Enterprises Inc	22819	\$ 479.71
Expressway Suites	22820	\$ 176.40
Farmers Union Oil Co- Beach	22821	\$ 55,353.90
Four Corners Café	22822	\$ 240.00
Gall's Inc	22823	\$ 364.69
George's Tire LTD	22824	\$ 8,680.00
Gooseneck Implement	22825	\$ 2,359.84
Hanson Suzan	22826	\$ 317.07
Hestekin NPR/IC Jennifer	22827	\$ 500.00
J and J Operating LLC	22828	\$ 273.90
J P Steel & Supply Inc	22829	\$ 344.20
James Oil Well Service Inc	22830	\$ 1,516.50
Just-In Glass	22831	\$ 1,958.04
Kasian Connie	22832	\$ 50.00
Kessel Anita F	22833	\$ 50.00
Kevin's Auto & Truck Repair	22834	\$ 60.88
KLJ Engineering LLC	22835	\$ 13,389.71
Krebs Machine & Repair	22836	\$ 1,324.02
Kubik Bogner Ridl & Selinger PLLP	22837	\$ 3,000.00
Lacal Equipment Inc	22838	\$ 6,484.80

Legend Auto Body	22839	\$	1,035.00
Linde Gas & Equipment Inc	22840	\$	551.58
Little Missouri Restaurant & Saloon	22841	\$	121.00
Mac's Inc	22842	\$	1,343.66
Malley's Safety Supply Inc	22843	\$	875.07
Mechanical Technology Inc	22844	\$	1,000.00
Medora, City of	22845	\$	1,507.59
Menards Dickinson	22846	\$	89.03
Metro-Billing Services	22847	\$	24.00
MGM Rural Sanitation LLC	22848	\$	358.64
Midwest Doors Inc	22849	\$	877.22
Motorola Solutions	22850	\$	1,910.51
ND Association of Counties	22851	\$	126.00
ND Association of Counties	22852	\$	112.47
ND Attorney General's Office	22853	\$	215.00
ND Construction LLC	22854	\$	2,800.00
ND EMSA	22855	\$	1,630.04
ND State Treasurer	22856	\$	1,621.93
ND State's Attorney Association	22857	\$	450.00
NDAAO	22858	\$	530.00
NDACE	22859	\$	150.00
NDACo Resources Group Inc	22860	\$	3,104.69
NDLTAP - UGPTI	22861	\$	50.00
Northwest Tire Inc	22862	\$	279.87
O5 Motorsports, LLC	22863	\$	99.29
Pickett Thomas	22864	\$	13,000.00
Pump Systems	22865	\$	404.18
Putnam Karen	22866	\$	51.31
Pyramid Communications	22867	\$	310.25
Radisson Hotel - Bismarck	22868	\$	172.80
Ramada Hotel - Bismarck	22869	\$	88.20
Red Rock Ford	22870	\$	33.80
Relx	22871	\$	233.40
Rodne, Dean	22872	\$	59.17
Runnings Supply Inc	22873	\$	2,420.58
Sanford Health Occ Med	22874	\$	114.00
Sax Motor Co	22875	\$	22,649.00
Service Printers	22876	\$	170.00
Smith Porsborg Schweigert Armstrong	22877	\$	560.63
Softchoice Corporation	22878	\$	1,563.54
Southwest Crime Conference	22879	\$	80.00
Southwest Water Authority	22880	\$	454.93
Southwest Water Authority	22881	\$	148.54
Southwestern Dist Health Unit	22882	\$	4,405.21
Swanson Stacey	22883	\$	272.95
Syminow Rodney	22884	\$	69.65
Titcomb Olivia	22885	\$	25.00
Total Safety US INC	22886	\$	1,767.26
Uniform Center	22887	\$	1,158.02
Verizon Wireless	22888	\$	2,563.71
Vesey Emily	22889	\$	655.89
Vogel Law Firm	22890	\$	11,198.00
Westlie Crossroads Truck Center	22891	\$	2,445.99
Wyckoff Dean	22892	\$	303.50
Belfield Automotive Supply Inc	22893	\$	3,357.68
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	22894	\$	9,215.00
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	22895	\$	48,134.18
NDFOP State Lodge Treasurer	22896	\$	52.00
ND Public Health Ins Trust	22897	\$	82,981.69
State Dispersement Unit	22898	\$	1,077.00
Wex Health Inc	22899	\$	1,906.27
CenturyLink	22900	\$	951.49

Information Technology Dept	22901	\$	1,344.50
Medora, City of	22902	\$	431.17
Reservation Telephone	22903	\$	40.60
Roughrider Electric Coop Inc	22904	\$	4,401.10
RTC Networks	22905	\$	1,162.82
Verizon Wireless	22906	\$	55.52
Visa	22907	\$	2,576.83
Visa	22908	\$	3,475.74
Wex Health Inc	22909	\$	57.97
ND State Tax Commissioner - Payroll	22910	\$	18,778.00

The board approved the revenue vouchers for the month of March & April: Recorder \$13,679.40; Zoning \$12,598.27.00; Court \$295.00; EMS \$4,913.82; Sheriff \$701.00.

Revenues for the month of April: Road & Bridge permits \$4,326.74; Highway Distribution \$15,411.28; Oil & Gas Production Tax \$134,514.94; Royalties \$27,212.96; Unorganized Oil & Gas Production Tax \$8,967.66; Interest \$16,740.73; State Aid Distribution \$28,082.25; Township Distribution \$19,349.06; 24/7 Program \$200.00; Cash Bar Permits \$100.00

Payroll including longevity in the following amounts was approved for April: General Fund \$210,271.64; Road and Bridge Fund \$123,971.35; Weed Fund \$13,240.37.

With there being no further business, Klym moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 am. Rodne seconded. All voted aye.

Lester Iverson, Chairman

Attest: _____

Marcia Lamb, Auditor/Treasurer