

**BILLINGS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 2, 2022.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lester Iverson at 9:00 A.M. with Commissioners Dean Rodne and Michael Kasian 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 Kyle Michels, Road Superintendent Jeff Iverson, Major Dean Wyckoff, Sheriff Pat Rummel, Fire Chief Kyle Shockley, Clarence Sitter, Tim O'Keefe, Randy Hatzenbuhler, Sean Clay, Tammy Simnioniw, Kwirt Johnson, Shae Peplinski, Danielle O'Brien, Eric Bock, Sandy Short, Dave Short, Jeremy Wood, Stacey Swanson, Katie Dillman Weed Supervisor, Perry Redmond, Allan Richard

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the board reviewed the commission minutes from the July 7, 2022 regular meeting. Rodne moved to approve the minutes. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Iverson asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Rodne asked to add the Short Family to the agenda and to add discussion of the Road Superintendent position. Kasian moved to approve amended agenda. Rodne seconded. All voted aye.

Cal Klewin from Theodore Roosevelt Expressway was present to give updates to the board. They are working on getting grants to help with the funding and will continue to keep the board updated on the project.

Tim O'Keefe, TRMF Board Chairman was present to discuss updates and future plans that Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation has in store. Started off by thanking the county for all their support and past donations to TRMF. The 2018 MIDA bond helped replace the Elkhorn Quarters and maintained the road out at Bully Pulpit and the Bible Camp. Their future plans that are still in conceptual phase are to move the Ranchorama Rodeo Area to the west of the River out by the city firehall. This will be a \$5 million project that includes a rodeo arena, equine center, multiple amp camp site, petting zoo and a ranching 101 class. With this project there will need to be additional staff added on the off season, which makes housing a primary focus as well. Randy Hatzenbuhler went over the plans for housing development and renovations. Another potential project would be updating the barn at the Adams Ranch to a wedding venue along with camping sites and cabins. Clarence Sitter gave updates on the apartment complex that is being built. Also gave updates to the 5 new holes that were built out at Bully Pulpit and the holes that are under construction right now. There were a few issues brought to TRMF's attention such as working with emergency services and how do we manage the growth that is expected in our community in the next few years and water capacity. There are already members of the community that do not have Southwest Water. August 15 there is a public meeting and public comments with Southwest Water.

Billings County School District was present to discuss the Bankhead Jones request. The school is requesting the \$350,000 Bankhead Jones payment again for the 2023 school year. Along with that payment, they are also requesting \$1,000,000 for their building fund to add a gymnasium to the DeMores School in Medora. They have architects coming out to give preliminary designs and planning a bid by March of 2023. Rodne moved to approve within the Billings County budget the \$350,000 Bankhead Jones payment and additional \$1,000,000 from Bankhead Jones to the building fund contingent upon building the new gym. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Sherry Adams with Southwestern District Health Unit presented the 2023 budget request. The budget is not increasing from 2022. August 23rd at 6:00pm is the Southwestern District Health Unit board meeting and two commissioners will need to attend either in person or by phone. They are located at the old Whiting building. There are currently two nurses from SWDH coming to Medora but they would like to find a local nurse to work here.

States Attorney Weir gave his monthly report. The South Heart JPA will be ready to be signed by South Heart with a requested \$25,000 contribution that can be made in one lump sum or payments. Weir also stated that he has been in contact with the attorneys with the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and they have not provided any information on tax payments yet. Tax Director Stacey Swanson can do a preliminary review, but will need custom appraisal models for an idea of the PILOT potential draft. Rodne moved for approval of the South Heart JPA. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Sandy and Dave Short were present and wanted to state personally that there is no amount of money that would convince them ever to sell the land for the bridge project.

Sheriff Rummel brought a request for the commission to make a resolution to post all of Billings County as no hunting and that landowners could then make their parcels open. States Attorney Weir stated that it would need to go through legislation as there is no way for law enforcement or the States Attorney's office to enforce the action. Discussion ensued regarding numerous issues and calls during the weekend Maah Daah Hey races.

Tax Director Stacey Swanson gave her monthly report. There were no ARW Applications. Had one building application 2022-7 from Owen Makelky for a 40' x 80' shop at his residential home in Fryburg. The shop is larger than the square footage of the current building so he changed the size to 40'x 64'. This is still larger but with a large enough lot we can take this case by case and the zoning board approved the application. Kasian moved to uphold the zoning board's decision. Rodne Seconded. All voted aye. She stated that they had three meetings with Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library last month. July 20th emergency management met with the library. The Library foundation met with zoning as well and handed out booklets for the building materials that will be used at the site.

The Bid opening for 25th Street SW CP-04(21)01 grading project took place at 11:00 AM as advertised. There were 3 bids received. Hlebechuk Construction Inc. - \$213,650.50. Edward H Schwartz Construction Inc. - \$299,757.29. Martin Construction Inc. - \$313,362.90. Rodne moved to award the bid to Hlebechuk Construction Inc. contingent on the engineer approving the proper mathematics. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Jeremy Wood from Northern Plains was present to give his monthly engineer report. Magpie bridge survey is done and plat is almost complete.

Road Superintendent Jeff Iverson gave his monthly report. One motor grader was delivered, second should be soon, 3rd in a week or so. Bid for two crushing sites will be opened at the September meeting, the Thomas Pit and Armstrong pit. Iverson was asked about the hiring process for his replacement. He stated as before that they he put together a committee of other Road Superintendents and David Lymn from NDLP to review resumes and interview and the committee will present their recommendation to the board. The commission would like the individual that is eventually appointed to work with Iverson for a while to train. Iverson stated he will work with Auditor Lamb to get an advertisement ready to put into the paper.

Auditor Lamb discussed the broadband issues in Billings County. She has reached out to the providers as they are the ones to apply for funding to place the necessary infrastructure with county support. Consolidated currently has an application pending with USDA for the eastern half of Billings County. She will stay in contact and invite all providers to the next commission meeting to discuss plans, barriers and any concerns that they have in providing the services to all county residents and businesses.

Little Missouri Scenic River Commission needs a representative from Billings County. Auditor Lamb will post it on Facebook and in the paper to see if anyone would like to serve on the board and bring back to the next meeting

Fire Chief Kyle Shockley gave his monthly report. Studies were done at the fire hall in Fairfield and would be a good spot to put a new tower. They also found a repeater shack so would not need to build a new one. Great plains tower gave a quote for a 160' tower at around \$150,000 so this will need to be bid out. The max height we can go on the tower is 179'. We already have fiber running in that area as well. Right now, the county pays \$2,400 a year for the Gorham Tower rental with Kohler but the county cannot do the maintenance on the tower. When the state comes out with their SORN project we could possibly lease our tower to them. This will be put into the paper and bid out for the September meeting and will talk with Tax & Zoning Director for zoning regulations. There was also discussion about building a new county firehall in Medora. Shockley will get with some contractors to get quotes and plans together.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:19pm and reconvened at 1:20pm.

Darriane Johnson with Domestic Violence Rape and Abuse Crisis Center was present via zoom call to give updates on the program and explain the budget request. They have been busy with their numbers for children and women needing placement increasing. Kasian moved to approve \$5,000 to family connection safe visitation and \$45,000 to DVRCC. Rodne Seconded. All voted aye.

Auditor Lamb presented the 2023 preliminary budget. She went over the updated information from the June meeting. Soil Conservation has not put in a budget request yet, but she placed the amount that has been requested for previous years that can be removed if there is no request by the October meeting. After discussion regarding county salaries no changes were made to what has been approved. Rodne made the motion to approve the preliminary budget as presented. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Sheriff Pat Rummel gave his monthly report.

Ambulance Director Kyle Michels gave his monthly report. Ambulance doors have a gap in them so mice are getting in, Travis will be getting the cement lifted to close that gap.

Human Resources director Pat Rummel gave his monthly report. Nathaniel Svihovak will be hired on to do the policy manual and to keep it updated when policies change and to deal with additional issues on an hourly basis as they arise. The department heads will discuss the future of Human Resources for the County at their next meeting.

The following claims were approved for payment:

PAYEE	CHECK #	AMOUNT
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	21556	\$ 4,293.00
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	21557	\$ 890.66
701 Meats	21558	\$ 175.28
ABC Fencing	21559	\$ 3,081.00
All Around Tire & Oil	21560	\$ 1,253.60
Anderson, Mary J	21561	\$ 249.30
Aramark	21562	\$ 400.84
Baranko Deanna	21563	\$ 277.17
Beaver Creek Archaeology	21564	\$ 5,000.00
Belfield Automotive Supply Inc	21565	\$ 930.27
Bertelsen Jonna	21566	\$ 37.44
Big T Lawn Sprinklers	21567	\$ 515.00
Billings County Historical Soc	21568	\$ 116.16
Billings County Rural Fire Dist	21569	\$ 2,100.99
Billings County School Dist	21570	\$ 350,000.00
Billings County School Dist	21571	\$ 3,708.07
Blue Sky Dumpsters	21572	\$ 629.50
Boespflug Trailers & Feed	21573	\$ 763.49
Boss Office Products	21574	\$ 1,065.22
Bound Tree Medical LLC	21575	\$ 638.13
Braun Distributing	21576	\$ 136.25
Brosz Engineering Inc	21577	\$ 70,050.24
Butler Machinery Co	21578	\$ 3,228.70
Capital One	21579	\$ 27.35
Cerberus Security	21580	\$ 1,064.17
Cerkoney Cathy	21581	\$ 90.95
Charbonneau Car Center	21582	\$ 203.46
Code 4 Services Inc	21583	\$ 5,724.03
Corneil Todd	21584	\$ 50.00
Creative Energy	21585	\$ 4,484.80
Dakota Dirt Works	21586	\$ 6,300.00
Dakota Insurance	21587	\$ 10,230.00
Darby's Welding & Machine	21588	\$ 3,077.00
Dickinson Public Library	21589	\$ 4,544.03
Ecolab Pest Elim Div	21590	\$ 354.33
Enders Travis	21591	\$ 197.34
Everspring Inn & Suites	21592	\$ 86.40
Ewoniuk Shelly	21593	\$ 58.77
Farmers Union Oil Co - Beach	21594	\$ 10,462.54
Ferguson Enterprises Inc	21595	\$ 264.56
First Initial Respond Systems	21596	\$ 689.01
Forsgren Associates Inc	21597	\$ 2,253.17
Four Corners Café	21598	\$ 481.50
Gall's Inc	21599	\$ 48.60
George's Tire LTD	21600	\$ 12,267.00
Gerry's Plumbing & Heating	21601	\$ 428.00
Goosenck Implement	21602	\$ 241.75
Hartman, Connie	21603	\$ 239.94
Hlebechuk Construction Inc	21604	\$ 26,426.94
J and J Operating LLC	21605	\$ 34.74
James Oil Well Service Inc	21606	\$ 3,328.00
Jamestown Communications Inc	21607	\$ 200.00
Johnson, Jodi	21608	\$ 220.74
Jones & Bartlett Learning LLC	21609	\$ 42.00
Joyce Denis	21610	\$ 187.50
Kasian Connie	21611	\$ 85.10
Kessel Anita F	21612	\$ 96.80
Klym Steve	21613	\$ 67.55
Kohler Communications Inc	21614	\$ 200.00
Kubik Bogner Ridl & Selinger PLLP	21615	\$ 3,000.00
Linde Gas & Equipment Inc	21616	\$ 325.07
Mac's Inc	21617	\$ 34.64

Malkowski Kasey	VOID	\$	264.30
Malkowski Trucking	21619	\$	5,110.00
Medora, City of	21620	\$	1.91
Menards Dickinson	21621	\$	374.15
Metro-Billing Services	21622	\$	23.00
MGM Rural Sanitation LLC	21623	\$	339.76
Mid-American Research Chemical	21624	\$	136.08
Midstates Wireless	21625	\$	1,163.00
Motorola Solutions	21626	\$	43.50
ND Association of Counties	21627	\$	252.00
ND Association of Counties	21628	\$	48.79
ND Construction LLC	21629	\$	1,250.00
ND Dept Environmental Quality	21630	\$	1,100.00
ND State Treasurer	21631	\$	420.02
NDAAO Carla Broadland, Treasurer	21632	\$	60.00
Nelson International	21633	\$	731.42
Nitro-Green Professional Lawn & Tree Care	21634	\$	83.00
North Dakota Safety Council	21635	\$	320.00
O5 Motorsports, LLC	21636	\$	28.87
Odermann Marie	21637	\$	277.38
Penguin Management INC	21638	\$	2,928.00
Pickett Thomas	21639	\$	8,000.00
Polensky Glenella	21640	\$	311.10
Polensky Vernon	21641	\$	311.10
Pump Systems Inc	21642	\$	99.70
Putnam Karen	21643	\$	51.17
RDO Equipment Co	21644	\$	1,576.55
Red Rock Ford	21645	\$	65.20
RELX	21646	\$	233.40
Rodne, Dean	21647	\$	96.22
Romanyshyn Trucking	21648	\$	5,332.50
Roughrider Septic	21649	\$	585.00
Rudy's Lock & Key	21650	\$	500.00
Runnings Supply Inc	21651	\$	368.23
Sanford Health Occ Med	21652	\$	22.75
Sax Motor Co	21653	\$	92.12
Seachange Print Innovations	21654	\$	1,312.60
Southwest Multi-County Corr Ctr	21655	\$	2,200.00
Southwest Water Authority	21656	\$	1,699.33
Southwest Water Authority	21657	\$	10.25
Southwestern Dist Health Unit	21658	\$	1,744.46
Swenson Sunya	21659	\$	276.80
The Badlands Patriot, LLC	21660	\$	2,110.08
The UPS Store	21661	\$	16.46
Thompson Philip	21662	\$	187.50
Throndike Krystal	21663	\$	65.57
Titcomb, Olivia	21664	\$	22.50
Total Safety US Inc	21665	\$	53.23
TrueNorth Steel Inc	21666	\$	16,040.32
Verizon Wireless	21667	\$	2,277.44
Warne Chemical & Equipment Co	21668	\$	518.86
Weir H Patrick	21669	\$	481.46
Western Choice Cooperative	21670	\$	46,894.98
Westlie Crossroads Truck Ctr	21671	\$	5,041.84
Zuroff Derwin	21672	\$	22.50
Malkowski Kathleen	21673	\$	264.30
CenturyLink	21674	\$	958.07
Information Technology Dept	21675	\$	1,191.05
Kasian Michael	21676	\$	155.03
Medora, City of	21677	\$	672.11
Reservation Telephone	21678	\$	40.00
Roughrider Electric Coop	21679	\$	3,319.17
RTC Networks	21680	\$	1,298.27
Verizon Wireless	21681	\$	55.52

Visa	21682	\$	1,822.25
Visa	21683	\$	4,046.97
Wex Health Inc	21684	\$	63.00
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	21685	\$	10,395.00
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	21686	\$	44,348.34
ND Public Employee Retirement Sy	21687	\$	619.69
NDFOP State Treasurer	21688	\$	25.00
ND Public Health Ins Trust	21689	\$	76,021.12
Prudential Service Center	21690	\$	14.29
State Dispersement Unit	21691	\$	717.00
Wex Health Inc	21692	\$	3,010.45
ND State Tax Commissioner	21693	\$	17,716.00
Job Service North Dakota	21694	\$	1,580.23

The board approved the revenue vouchers for the month of July: Recorder \$2,659.40; Zoning \$1,650.00; Court \$125.00; EMS \$557.44; Sheriff \$267.00.

Revenues for materials and/or services rendered in July: Art Ridl \$238.13 scoria & hauling. WEED SPRAYING: Tom Redmond \$15.75, Brian Buckman \$98.61, River Run Ranch \$33.39, Roy Krivoruchka \$81.90, Tony Kessel \$40.95, Terry Logan \$57.49, Ted Tescher \$184.45, Juanita Talkington \$173.97, ABC Fencing \$15.03, Robin Griffin \$11.14, Nell Buckman \$125.39, Irene Wolf \$39.38, Allan Richard \$61.04, Jessica Buckman \$20.09, John Kessel \$192.65.

Revenues for the month of July: Road & Bridge permits \$4,921.72; Highway Distribution \$15,741.49; Oil & Gas Production Tax \$179,236.39; Royalties \$42,774.50; Unorganized Oil & Gas Production Tax \$11,949.10; Interest \$8,698.40; State Aid Distribution \$28,563.07; 24/7 \$180.00; Township Distribution \$18,717.61, Permits \$158.00; EMS State Grant \$137,739.00.

Payroll in the following amounts was approved for July: General Fund \$202,333.78; Road and Bridge Fund \$142,522.03; Weed Fund \$51,611.54.

With there being no further business, Kasian moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:55pm. Rodne seconded. All voted aye.

Lester Iverson, Chairman

Attest: _____

Marcia Lamb, Auditor/Treasurer