

PROCEEDINGS OF PIERCE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 4, 2024

The Pierce County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on June 4, 2024. Chairman Hoffert called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with members Bednarz, Bohl, Christenson, and Migler present.

Chairman Hoffert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to accept the May minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Bednarz to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid. Motion carried.

Board reviewed Officer fee reports and hourly workers time sheets.

Board reviewed the May report from Heart of America Community Service Program from Frank LaRocque, Community Service Coordinator. There were 9 new cases, 18 open cases, 5 closed compliant, and 0 closed noncompliant. Fees received \$465.00. Places where community service was performed were the Rugby CVB, Museum, Pierce Co. Courthouse, Memorial Hall, County Shop, and Pierce Co. Fairgrounds.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to approve Treasurer's checks #6384-6385, in the amount of \$1,616.08, for the month of May. Motion carried.

Moved by Bednarz and seconded by Christenson, to approve the site authorization, for games of chance, from the Rugby Eagles Aerie #3834 & Rugby Golf Course. Also, Larry's Bar, Selz, (with Rugby Amateur Hockey Assoc.), beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. Motion carried.

Moved by Christenson and seconded by Bohl to accept the financial report for the month of May. Motion carried.

Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to transfer \$100,000. from General Fund to HACTC Fund. Motion carried

Josh Siegler, Pierce County Sheriff and Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, joined the meeting.

Josh Siegler, Sheriff, met and gave the board a report for the month of May for his department. Total calls-50; Medical Calls-1; Fire Calls-2; Traffic Accidents-5; Assist Other Agencies-12; Prisoner Transports-2; Arrests- 6 (1- Driving Under Suspension, 1-Unahorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, 1-

Disobedience of a Judicial Order, 3 Warrants); Citations-15; Papers Served-21; Warrants Served-3. Siegler reported that there were no personnel changes.

Frank LaRocque joined the meeting

Board recessed to sit on the HACTC Board.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, went over the bills for the month of May. Moved by Bohl and seconded by Christenson to approve those bills previously paid and those yet unpaid were ordered paid, for the month of May, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Mike Graner, Jail Administrator, HACTC, gave the Board a report on the inmate population at the jail facility for May, which was 69 (ADP). Current inmate count is 67. High of 74 for May. Bookings 44, Releases 52. Pierce County inmate population for May was 3. Deficit of \$54,184.38, for the month of April. Personnel 22/24 officers, 2 new hires, 1 on medical leave. Graner said the DOCR could be sending some State inmates, which would be a boost for the jail, but would be contingent on staffing. Graner asked about the budget and the salary study. Hoffert said the H.R. consultant was working on the salary study and was having a hard time comparing the jail to other counties of similar size, as most counties with a jail are much larger. Siegler and Graner talked about the NDPERS public safety plan, which is for licensed peace officers, and certified correction officers. Siegler said it would be more enticing and law enforcement could retire at age 55. Hoffert asked if the wages & benefits were more important, or the public safety plan. Siegler agreed that they would need to have a balance and substance was needed for both areas. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to approve the financial report for the month of April, for the HACTC. Motion carried.

Frank LaRocque left the meeting.

Board reconvened at 9:20 A.M., with all members present.

Jesse Brandvold and Jr.Holen, Wold Engineering, joined the meeting. They presented the Board with two different options for widening & graveling Wolford Road Project #SC-3521, CMC Route 3521 from NDSH 17, S 7 miles. Bohl asked what it would cost to fix the soft spots, at least ¼ mile. Holen & Brandvold figured it would be about \$35,000 more. Board would review the options and get back to them. Brandvold reported on the wind farm information that the county received. He said that is was basically a haul road inspection.

Molly Schoen with NDDOT Vision Zero, stopped in to introduce herself to the Board. She is with the NW region of the state. They deal with school and community events where they can get their safety messages out. They have many educational tools, driving simulator, etc., which shows the effects of distracted driving, etc. Their slogan is Buckle Up & Put the Phone Down. Board suggested that she attend the Pierce County Fair, get a booth, and bring her simulator, etc., to show the public.

Board recessed to sit on the Board of Equalization at 10:00 A.M.

Board reconvened at 10:30 A.M. with all members present.

Dan Ruby, Circle Sanitation, joined the meeting. Circle Sanitation was issued a conditional use permit in 2021. In the conditions of the permit it lists placing a fence around the boundary of the site. After looking at the maps, and Ruby said the transfer station was inside of a building, the Board was in agreement, that it wouldn't be of much use to put up a fence, since the recommended area already has a shelterbelt around it. Siegler, Zoning Administrator, recommended that at the next planning & zoning meeting, they could review it and possibly amend the conditional use permit.

Matthew Schimetz and Steven Gilpin, BCI agents with the Atty. General's office, joined the meeting. Josh Siegler, Pierce Co. Sheriff, joined the meeting. Schimetz and Gilpin discussed the need for a drug task force that they would like to form with Bottineau, McHenry, Rolette, & Pierce counties. They are requesting \$25,000 from Bottineau, McHenry, & Pierce counties. Rolette County would be contributing office space. This agent would be in charge of drug investigations in the four counties and the Turtle Mountain Reservation. Bohl asked if the reservation could provide funding. Schimetz said they are in agreement & are supportive of the task force. Schimetz & Gilpin said the goal is to start at the local level and get the Federal authorities involved, as they have more chance of getting a prosecution. Siegler said it would definitely be a benefit to our area. The City of Rugby is also considering joining the task force. Migler said if the City joins then we should be able to split the cost as we have the smallest county. Schimetz & Gilpin said they would do some checking and get back to them. They requested that the Board consider the contribution, as we are close to the border & with Amtrak running through Rugby, there is a need for it.

Tyler Berube, Butler Machinery, Brad Murphy & Frank Anderson, RDO Equipment, joined the meeting. As the hour of 11:45 A.M. was past, the Chairman called for the opening of motor grader bids. Two bids were received from Butler Machinery Company and RDO Equipment. After further review of the bids, due to the fact that Butler's bid was for a smaller motor grader, the bid from RDO Equipment was accepted. Moved by Migler and seconded by Bohl to accept the bid from RDO Equipment, for the net bid of \$298,020, for a 2024 four wheel drive motor grader. All in favor, motion carried.

Board recessed at 12:26 P.M.

Board reconvened at 1:25 P.M., with all members present.

Board reviewed the applicants for the custodian position and decided which ones to interview.

Bednarz left the meeting.

Board briefly talked to one of the applicants.

Christenson left the meeting.

There being no further business to transact, moved by Bohl and seconded by Migler to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 P.M. Motion carried.

Karen Migler, Auditor-Treasurer
Pierce County, North Dakota

Terry Hoffert, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

MAY EXPENDITURES

Pierce Co. Payroll \$70730.70, \$18442.60, \$66.22, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$51.22, NDTC \$2007.74, \$800.40, Quadiant Financing \$200, JP Morgan \$2062.22, Pierce Co. Payroll \$86613.08, \$23368.27, \$40.56, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$232.16, Security Benefit \$1951.10, AFLAC \$1223.08, Nationwide \$1321.23, \$1891, Colonial Life \$31.25, Otter Tail \$9276.09, \$2852.18, Pierce Co. Payroll \$32296.18, \$9168.78, \$34.40, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$62.34, Otter Tail \$262.31, ND PERS \$30961.94, ND PHIT \$74030.99, HACTC Bills \$41323.57, ND Child Support \$76, ND PERS \$688.48, Bohl, Joe \$202.34, Christenson, Mike \$123.95, Migler, Dave \$223.78, Fritel, Karin \$316.68, Mack Law Office \$383.70, Heseb Unlimited \$65.50, B & M Laundry \$68.47, Circle Sanitation \$201.25, Rugby Lawn Care \$1280, Stein's \$559.10, ESS \$9287.41, Quadiant Financing \$500, ITD \$3846.58, Brad's Towing \$1472.50, HACTC \$66.96, \$12448.18, Computer Express \$1450, NDACO \$89.78, I Solved \$279.48, Matthew Bender \$301.61, Wieler, Tanya \$2000, RDO \$66.96, H.E. Everson \$44.19, Home of Economy \$38.72, NAPA Rugby \$26, Newman Signs \$190.29, PS Garage Doors \$680.92, Rugby Lumber \$40, Zeien, Paul \$164.15, Heart of America Ag Services \$58637.80, Redwood Toxicology \$56.37, NDSU Ext. \$25, Pierce Co. Tribune \$1303.92, Rugby Hardware Hank \$134.28, Envision \$10673.19, Rugby Service Center \$2257.15, City of Rugby \$664.54, LaRocque, Frank \$246.56, Dakota Fire Extinguishers \$178.74, Pierce Co. Treasurer \$676.51, Zacher, James \$120, Siegler, Kelsey \$235.17, Ward County Sheriff \$32.67, Klebe, Brenden \$469, Rugby Broadcasters \$76, KHND \$125, Office of Atty. General \$620, Linde Gas & Equip. \$159.40, Christenson Electric \$80, C & H \$200, Light & Siren \$587, KZZJ \$189, Herald Press \$106.40, Rockin Relics \$150, Freitas, Shawna \$88.44, Hagen, Yvonne \$329.08, Schneibel, Nancy \$355.88, Migler, Marvin \$100, Lynnes, Dennis \$4.99
Grand Total \$527,366.68