

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Courthouse with Chairman DeJong presiding. Those present were Commissioners DeJong, Rhody, Jaeger, Homan, and Kreutner. Also present was Auditor Korth. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was then called to order by Chairman DeJong.

Approval of Agenda

- 1) Jaeger moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion of County support in the State widening the approach off Hwy 22 to Deuel County Cenex. All voted yes and the motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

9:00 Jamie Broksieck Highway Superintendent

Broksieck brought several highway matters before the Commissioners. He received an LPA Fund Extension through SDDOT on Agreement #716933. This is an extension to the original agreement from August 2019. 2) Rhody moved, seconded by DeJong to approve and sign Amendment 1, Agreement 716933 for extending the expiration date to 12/31/2025 for LPA Funding in regards to the 2019 Highway Infrastructure Program with the SDDOT. All voted yes and motion carried.

Broksieck presented a funding proposal from the SDDOT for safety by eliminating the curve on intersection of 166th and 467th. County cost estimate is \$11,500 with 90% funded and 10% match or total cost of \$115,000. The Board is in support of this project.

9:15 Opening of Sealed Bids for Truck Bodies

Two bids were received for truck bodies. One from Sanitation Products in the amount of \$ 84,618.00 and one from Northern Truck Equipment Corp in the amount of \$102,712.00. This included all options with breakdown of bids on Truck portion plow hitch & install, reversible snow plow, mid-mount 10' wing, upgrade to stainless steel dump body and pup pull plate.

3) Rhody moved, seconded by Kreutner to award the bid of the truck dump body to Sanitation Products as they had the lowest bid of \$84,618.00. All voted yes and motion carried.

Broksieck suggested Bid Letting proposals for asphalt concrete overlay on County Roads 314 and 516. 4) Kreutner moved, seconded by Homan to publish Notice to Bidders for sealed bids for asphalt overlay on County Road 314 from 188th St. and 483rd Ave east 4.5 mi to MN State line. And County Road 516 from 188th St and 486th Ave going north 3 mi. Bids will be opened Tuesday Aug. 17th at 9:15 a.m. at the regular commission meeting. All voted yes and motion carried.

Broksieck reported Jacob Salanoa has accepted the position of Highway Truck Driver/Blade Operator and will begin July 26th.

Broksieck reported for Weed Supervisor Keith Goens on a pickup found within budget for the Weed Department. The purchase was a 2018 Ford F250 from a State bid for \$35,000 within the Weed Budget. There is a 30-day return policy on the vehicle.

Broksieck reported on a meeting with Nextera on the Crowned Ridge wind tower project and the conditions of the roads and repair. Discussion was further held on the Invenergy project and road safety signs needed.

9:45 Emergency Manager Sheila Monnier

Monnier gave updates on her department. 5) Rhody moved, seconded by Jaeger to approve the travel request of EM Sheila Monnier for overnight stay (lodging for 9/15 & 16) in Watertown Sept. 13-17th for an EM Conference because of training into the evening and nights. All voted yes and motion carried.

6) Rhody moved, seconded by Jaeger to approve and sign the LEMPG formerly SLA quarterly report for Emergency Management. All voted yes and motion carried.

Discussion was also brought forth concerning fire danger within the County.

10:00 Director of Equalization Donna Rhody

Director Rhody was not able to attend the meeting. Chairman DeJong reported that Thomas Pauli has completed State certification as an appraiser and on the request of Director Rhody, his new step and grade will be effective July 7, 2021. 7) Homan moved, seconded by Kreutner to approve the new step and grade rate of \$17.72/hr. for Thomas Pauli in accordance with the Director of Equalization appraiser pay scale effective July 7, 2021. All voted yes and motion carried.

10:15 Community Health Nurse Tammy Baer Quarterly Report

Baer met with the Commissioners and gave them a quarterly update of the Community Health Nurse Office activities. She gave an overview of the stats within the quarter ending June 2021. Client contacts were both up and down, WIC numbers remained consistent. August 9th is the Back To School Fair which brings a busy time. The Cancer Walk is Sunday August 15th and a Bike Safety presentation will be held at the Cancer Walk. Summertime immunizations and physicals are very busy. Covid vaccines are still available. Discussion was held on Covid and the vaccinations given by her office.

10:30 Deuel County Soil Conservation District

Deuel County Soil Conservation District Manager Carrie Wetz met with the commissioners concerning a budget request for 2022. She reported on the District happenings within the last year. The Conservation District request is the same as in previous years at \$9000.00 annually. The Board will hold their budget meeting July 27th and will consider the request. They felt it very important to support their local Conservation District.

10:45 Deuel Area Development Inc. (DADi) Director Tammy Krein

Krein met with the commissioners for the 2022 Budget request. DADi is requesting \$18,000 for the current part time position. She further updated the Board on her vision for DADi. She has been attending seminars and meetings. She updated the Board on upcoming developments in housing as well as industry. Housing is a big concern within the County. In place of her part time position she also asked them to consider a request of County funds in the amount of \$35,000 to fulfill the opportunity of a full time director position in collaboration with the Clear Lake City Council. This is in addition to the industry funds the County normally contributes. The Board meets July 27 to review the 2022 budget and will take these requests into consideration.

11:00 Eric Munz, PUC Liaison for Deuel County and Eric Ginn PMP, P.E. Project Manager for Invenergy

State's Attorney Jared Gass led the discussion which was recorded for this portion of the meeting. Munz met with the Board of Commissioners to discuss the Deuel Harvest Wind Tower Project in northern Deuel County managed by Invenergy. Also present for discussion were Bill Goetz, Jim Dailey, Township Supervisors Charles Meyer, Calvin Musch and Casey Magedanz, as well as other concerned citizens.

Munz stated his role as PUC Liaison is to get a mutual agreement between Government Entities (the County) and other sides (Invenergy). Gass stressed that post construction surveys have not been completed. Munz recommendation said to take both Banner Engineering and Invenergy's engineering report, review the evidence and formulate a plan.

Eric Ginn from Invenergy had concerns about the filing with the PUC. He understands there are complaints about the roads but stressed Invenergy is not finished yet. He has asked the townships to prepare proposals for what is needed and he is also waiting on the post construction survey. Ginn feels he has been very upfront and doesn't feel there's lack in communication and transparency. He stated documentation is needed for negotiation and resolution. Ginn very much stressed there was no lack of response and communication on the part of Invenergy.

Commissioner Kreutner asked for completion time frame; Ginn stated issues need to be worked out and he doesn't have a time frame – at least a couple months.

Commissioner Jaeger asked for determination on cause of damage; he also feels he has been left out of the communication and then he has to field questions. Ginn responded that he is open to communication as

he knows only one side of the story gets through. Dailey was concerned about the monitoring of gravel on the roads and has concerns about the shortage.

Goetz asked for clarification on reimbursement or proposals and why townships would have to be involved in doing the work while waiting for funds. Ginn said most have been paid very timely. Some disagreed. Ginn also said it is better to have the work done locally and efficiently. Many questions arose over culverts, post and pre-construction conditions. Ginn does need documentation. Much discussion was held from Township representatives on lack of communication in the past and having to suffer the burden of proof. Ginn cannot speak for past miscommunication and doesn't disagree with concerns. Munz stated issue resolutions always require burden of proof. Others expressed extreme disappointment in the process as well as the conversations prior to the project that now have led to disappointment.

State's Attorney Gass wrapped up the discussion stating Eric Munz is the point of contact for complaints and asked Eric Ginn what is the most efficient way to handle issues going forward. Ginn needs the post construction survey for unbiased documentation in which he will review over the next few weeks. Ginn also encourages townships to submit proposals and to have Banner Engineering be closely engaged in the process.

11:00 State's Attorney Jared Gass

Gass presented property in Astoria taken by tax deed. 8) Rhody moved, seconded by Kreutner to declare the following described property: W1/2 Lot 9 & Lot 10 Blk 10 Original Plat, Astoria, Deuel County, SD as surplus property to be sold at public auction at a time deemed by the Deuel County Board of Commissioners. All voted yes and motion carried. Gass said a second property in Astoria that previously was up for auction and brought no sale should also be included on the auction. 9) Jaeger moved, seconded by DeJong to advertise notice of public auction to be held Tuesday, August 17th at 10 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Courthouse for the following described properties: W1/2 Lot 9 & Lot 10 Blk 7 Original Plat, Astoria, Deuel County, SD and W1/2 Lot 9 & Lot 10 Blk 10 Original Plat, Astoria, Deuel County, SD. All voted yes and motion carried.

Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2(3) for the Purpose of Consulting with Legal Counsel on Proposed Litigation

10) Rhody moved, seconded by Jaeger to move into executive session per SDCL 1-25-2(1) for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel on proposed litigation. All voted yes and motion carried.

11) Rhody moved, seconded by Homan to have Chairman DeJong declare the meeting out of executive session at 12:21 p.m. All voted yes and motion carried.

12:15 Sheriff Cory Borg

Borg wanted to remind the residents of Deuel County that there is still a burn ban in effect and Resolution #21-19 will not be rescinded at this time. This is also supported by the fire chiefs as well as Emergency Manager Sheila Monnier. Permits will be granted through the Sheriff's Office in special situations for open burning.

Borg is working on getting with the cities of Deuel County about 2022 police contracts and proposing an increase because of fuel costs. 12) Jaeger moved, seconded by Kreutner to approve the police contract price of \$36.25 per contract hour. That is a .75/hr. increase over 2021. All voted yes and motion carried.

Borg also gave updates on driver's licensing in the Sheriff's Office.

Discussion was held about the intersection Hwy 15 and Hwy 22. Borg says there is a safety issue and would like to see a flashing stop sign at that corner. Chairman Jaeger stated DCFU Manager Feilmeier said they will be contacting SDDOT about expanding the approach to DCFU off of Hwy. 22. The County is in support of widening this approach.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Cash Balance Sheet

13) Jaeger moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the cash balance sheet for the month of June. All voted yes and the motion carried.

DEUEL COUNTY AUDITOR'S ACCOUNT WITH TREASURER

END OF MONTH CASH BALANCE	JUNE 2021
CASH TOTAL	\$ 1,481.83
CHECKS TOTAL	\$ 17,938.43
CASH ITEM	\$ 0
CASH CHANGE SHERIFF	\$ 50.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS ON HAND	\$ 19,470.26
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$ 286,795.38
MM DNB NATIONAL BANK	\$ 4,063.33
PREMIUM MM FIRST BANK & TRUST OF TORONTO	\$5,995,367.39
CREDIT CARDS	\$ 666.53
CD'S \$250,000 DNB	\$ 250,000.00
\$0 FIRST BANK & TRUST	
REVOLVING LOAN	\$ 27,582.93
GRAND TOTAL CASH ASSETS	\$6,583,945.82
GL CASH BALANCE BY FUNDS:	
GENERAL	\$4,393,605.09
SP REVENUE FUNDS	\$1,729,898.49
TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS	\$ 460,442.24
townships \$57,262.76 cities \$20,392.27	
schools \$151,675.46 rural fire \$306.47	
TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER CASH	\$6,583,945.82

Public Comments

Commissioner Homan commented on the Deuel County Industrial Fund and Deuel Area Development and shared their profit/loss statement for 2020.

Warrants

14) Kreutner moved, seconded by Rhody to approve warrants paid early and approval of regular warrants to be paid. All voted yes and motion carried. *Warrants to:* AT&T Mobility 200.20 Utilities, B-D Rural Water 36.00 Utilities, Bjerke Sanitation 40.00 Utilities, Century Link 358.79 Utilities, City of Watertown 3883.85 911 Surch, FedEx 5.09 Postage, First Bank & Trust 2608.80 Credit Card, H-D Electric 444.38 Utilities, Otter Tail Power 1320.68 Utilities, Tri State Water 17.97 Supplies, USPS 2000.00 Postage, Wheelco 21.11 Repairs, Summer Adler 426.96 Dispatch, The Alibi 144.00 Supplies, Steven Bohlen 1000.00 CSR Deputy, Rebecca Burns 773.86 Dispatch, Darren Engesser 1000.00 CSR Deputy, Paul Brandt 1432.75 Zoning & Travel, Mike Dahl 2396.32 Zoning & Travel, Kevin DeBoer 1926.40 Zoning & Travel, Dennis Kanengieter 2245.70 Zoning & Travel, SD Dept. of Rev 140234.04 Fees to State with \$114.62 Excise Tax & \$353.22 Sales Tax, SDACO \$282.00 M&P Due to State. *Taxes:* Schools 151675.46, Towns 28402.15, Townships 75563.79, EDWDD 73.97, Rural Fire 306.47.

Adjournment

There being no further business 15) Rhody moved, seconded by DeJong to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes and motion carried.

Gary DeJong, Chairman
Deuel County Commission

ATTEST:

Mary Korth, Auditor

Published one time at the approximate cost of _____.