

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSONER
MEETING- October 6, 2020**

The Board of LaMoure County Commissioners met Tuesday, October 6, 2020 with Chairman Keith Heidinger, Commissioners Bruce Klein, Lee Miller, Bob Flath, and Marvin Schulz, Highway Superintendent Josh Loegering, Auditor Jan Hamlin, and Treasurer Cindy Worrel at the courthouse. Attending by teleconference were State's Attorney James Shockman, Clerk of Court Billi Warcken, DES/911 Coordinator Kimberly Robbins, Recorder Laurie Good, Patty Wood Bartle from the Edgeley Mail and Art Hagebock from the LaMoure Chronicle. Chairman Heidinger called the meeting to order at approximately 8:33 a.m. with the pledge to the flag.

There were two additions to the agenda. Chairman Heidinger added new museum board members and Comm Miller added NDIRF inspection of playground equipment. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Comm Miller. Motion carried.

Chairman Heidinger asked if there were additions or corrections to the September 15 Commissioner meeting minutes or the September 29 budget meeting. There were none. Comm Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Comm Flath. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Josh Loegering asked the board to review and approve the weed mowing and hay bale removal notice to be published in the paper. Comm Flath made a motion to approve the notice, seconded by Comm Klein. Motion carried. The Highway Department is back to four ten-hour days Monday through Thursday. The hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The crew will be crushing gravel in the Kartes pit until the end of the season. They will move to the county pit in the spring of 2021. Loegering has submitted a railroad crossing on CR 63 north of ND 13 to NDDOT for review. The onsite meeting with NDDOT will be October 14 at 2:45 p.m. Loegering went over some options to fund road projects. The Bank of North Dakota has local government loan programs (2% interest). The application due date is October 29 and the funds are awarded in November of 2020. Current bond rates are around 1.38%. He would like to see CR 35 from US 281 to CR 66-12 miles-2" overlay-\$2,400,000 (minimum payment \$107,000/year for 30 years) to be considered. The other project to consider is CR 35 from CR 163 to US 281-4.5" overlay after roadway widening-\$2,200,000 (minimum payment \$98,000/year for 30 years). Loegering then went over the 2020 Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Local Roads need study-LaMoure County results: 2021-2040 gravel road needs (township and county)-\$52.5 million (\$5.6 million per year). The 2021-2040 paved road needs for county are 58.1 million. To maintain the paved roadways in the county the following is what it will cost: 2021=\$5.1 million; 2023=\$8.3 million; 2025=\$11.6 million; 2027=\$8.7 million; 2029=\$4.9 million. The county current bridge needs are seven bridges at a cost of \$9.4 million. There are three bridges in the bridge bundling projects. The other four bridges are Heinrich Bridge-southwest of Adrian, Jawaski Bridge-south of Adrian, Quast Bridge-northwest of Grand Rapids, and the Brunsman Bridge-north of LaMoure. The LaMoure County Federal Aid Program 2021 will be discussed with NDDOT on October 12, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. There needs to be a plan in place but it can be changed. The current plan is six to seven-mile overlay project in 2023-2024 (\$1.0-\$1.4 million); Lake Road from ND 13 to the county line in 2023; CR 62 from Berlin to ND 34 in 2025; Litchville Road CR 35 to ND 46 in 2027. Loegering then went over the current projects. The shoulder pull on CR 34 east of CR 60 is finished, the shoulder pull on CR 35 west of Jud started last week and should be finished by the end of this week. They are working on graveling bad spots on the county line west of Cottonwood Lake. They installed five 48" culverts on a Bear Creek Crossing in Black Loam Township. The grinding project for the City of Edgeley is complete. They will stabilize with BaseOne next spring. They will need to do some asphalt patching this fall. Josh presented the LaMoure County Federal Aid Program plan for 2021 through 2027. This can be changed. Comm Klein motioned to approved the plan presented, seconded by Comm Flath. Motion carried.

County Federal Aid Program 2021		Federal Aid Funds Available:			
		2021 (Est. Allotment) \$ 243,602			
		2021 (Est. Total) \$ - 114,932			
Project No./ Type of Work	Project Location	Length	Estimated Total Cost	Federal Aid	Bid Date
SC-2335(---) PCN ----- 2" HMA Overlay	Co Rd 60 From ND 13, S to County Line	6	1,200,000		2023
SC-2325(---) PCN --- 2" HMA Overlay	Co Rd 62 From Berlin to Co Rd 34	4.5	1,000,000		2025
SC-2339(---) PCN --- 2" HMA Overlay	Co Rd 60 From Co Rd 35 to ND 13	7	1,400,000		2027

Federal Bridge Program				
Project No./ Bridge No.	Project Location	Estimated Total Cost	Federal Aid	Bid Date
BRR-0023(050) PCN 22776	LaMoure Co Bridge Bundle	1,500,000	1,213,950	5/21

Other Federal Aid Program (TAP, RRX, ER)					
Project No./ Type of Work	Project Location	Length	Estimated Total Cost	Federal Aid	Bid Date
HEC-0023(056) PCN 22926 Inslope Repair – Grandview Township	1 MI N OF CMC 2314, 2 MI W OF CMC 2335	0.5	317,694	257,110	11/12/21

Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners

Date

DES/911 Coordinator, Kimberly Robbins, requested LaMoure County sign the Subgrant Agreement for Public Assistance for DR 4553 which is flooding from April 1-25, 2020. She is currently submitting sites with a deadline of October 14th for townships. Comm Schulz motioned to approve and sign the agreement, seconded by Comm Miller. Motion carried. DR4475 is the fall flooding of 2019. The deadline for completion of sites for damage repair is June 21, 2021. LaMoure County may be able to request an extension from the State of North Dakota. Townships must provide an update on inundated roads for this disaster before the June 21st deadline. A balance of over \$170,000 of funds are available for township repairs. DR4444 is the spring flood 2019. The deadline for completion will be December 12, 2020. LaMoure County may be able to request an extension from the State of North Dakota. Townships must provide an update on inundated roads from this disaster before the December 12th deadline. A balance of over \$40,000 of funds are available for repairs. DR4509 is the pandemic. LaMoure County has one open project for expenses in review.

Terri Potts with the museum board let the commissioners know that Ron Schmoker and Dorothy Banderet will be leaving the board. Comm Flath made a motion to accept the resignation of the two individuals and appoint Larry Kaul to the museum board, seconded by Comm Schulz. Motion carried. The other name suggested lives out of county so State’s Attorney James Shockman will check with the museum board to see if they have any bylaws in reference to out of county board members. Comm Klein mentioned that Terri Potts requested to have a commissioner back on the museum board and would like to be notified when the park board meetings are so museum members can attend.

Comm Miller said that Mark Verke with NDIRF met with Kevin Shockman and himself to inspect the playground equipment at LaMoure County Memorial Park. Mr. Verke said there is need for a few adjustments on the old equipment. Comm Miller said that Mr. Shockman could make the adjustments. As far as new equipment, Mr. Verke said to contact some companies for their suggestions.

Public Health Administrator, Jessica Duffy, gave an update on COVID. She went over the symptoms: sore throat, fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tight chest, congestion, and runny nose. Many times, symptoms are mild and they can be mistaken as a common cold or allergies. If

you are questioning symptoms, get tested. As of October 7, LaMoure County has had a total of 68 cases. The cases last week were 13 and the current active cases are 24. All four schools in the county have had at least one case. One school had three cases. Masks and social distance have been required. The North Dakota data is slightly different from the Whitehouse Coronavirus Task Force Report. The state data has LaMoure County in the blue while Whitehouse data has LaMoure County in the yellow. Testing is available at local clinics if you have symptoms but call for an appointment. Testing is done with LaMoure County Public Health in LaMoure every Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There is testing in other county communities Wednesday afternoons as necessary or per community request. Testing through the county is currently free to the public. The results times vary from both clinic or county/state which has been two to four days. Some clinics/hospitals have rapid test but supplies are limited. All nursing homes have testing on a state schedule. Some are weekly and others are bi-weekly, depending on if they have had a case or not. The Governor has moved testing of nursing homes to priority as cases are increasing. Quarantine is what you are asked to do if you are a household contact and it is recommended also for close contacts. Household contacts are anyone who lives in the same home. You all share a kitchen, bath or living space. Close contacts are someone you have been within six feet of for 15 minutes or more (co-workers, friends). Isolation is mandatory for positive cases. Quarantine is recommended for household contacts regardless of masks. Quarantine is optional for close contacts if both are wearing masks. The Governor's new order states that if two people are within six feet of each other and both are wearing a mask appropriately and one person becomes a positive case the close contact does not have to quarantine. The contact can continue to go to work or school and other activities but are asked to wear a mask to protect others in case they themselves become a positive case. If both contacts were not wearing masks, this order does not pertain and close contacts are asked to quarantine. You still need to check with your workplace policy. Once someone is exposed to COVID it generally takes two to four days before they can shed the virus and share it with others. In some cases, it takes fourteen days which is why we ask people to quarantine for fourteen days. People can be contagious two days prior to having any symptoms. We ask people who have not been masked and have had contact with a known case two days prior to symptoms and during symptoms to quarantine. Isolation of a case is minimum of ten days. Household contacts are asked to quarantine for 24 days; ten days that the case is in isolation and then 14 days from the last day the case is considered positive. What we can do in our communities to slow the spread is to minimize gather sizes; ND map says we are blue but the Whitehouse Corona Virus Task Force has LaMoure County as yellow with recommendations of gatherings of ten or less. Businesses can require employees to wear masks and ask patrons to mask up to reduce transmission within their businesses and reduce chances of employees being out due to quarantine or illness. We can wash our hands often, stay six feet apart, and stay home if you can. Vaccines are getting closer to being distributed in the near future. The two vaccines will both be a two-part series 21 or 28 days apart. The two types cannot be interchangeable. The vaccine will only first be available to high risk populations over the age of 18 and focusing on those over the age of 65. The vaccines could be ready to start the first phase of distribution as early as November and be widely available the first part of 2021. The discussion then went to the courthouse COVID prevention. The EOC met yesterday and had lengthy discussion on the subject. There are more cases now than when the courthouse was locked down earlier this year. It is a critical time for our staff and we need to try and keep them all safe. Comm Flath stated that we need to get through this election and we have limited staff to do that. There are some people who don't trust the drop box and they don't trust the mail. They will have to make a phone call from the door to have someone from the Auditor's Office meet them at the door to get their ballot. The Auditor's Office is willing to do that. They can also make an appointment with the Auditor's Office if they want to do that. The drop box is secure. There is a camera on it at all times. The Auditor's Office requested that anyone entering their office needs to wear a mask. They will be masked. Currently if you both have masks on and someone tests positive the other individual will not need to quarantine. Each office can decide their office requirements. Anyone from the public that comes into the courthouse should mask. Clerk of Court Billi Warcken was asked what the court calendar looks like. She said the Master Court calendar is all set up for Zoom. There have been some in person requests, and a couple jury trials pending in November and December which would have to be in person, but if the courthouse is closed those can be rescheduled as well. The board would like to get through the election and re-evaluate the COVID numbers and possibly open back up before the end of the year. Chairman Heidinger asked Jessica Duffy if the Health Department would approve locking the doors for a while. Ms. Duffy said the Health Department would be fine with that. Comm Flath motioned to pass a resolution to lock the doors on the courthouse and make appointment only meetings with a mask required until further notice starting October 7, 2020 due to the increase in COVID-19 numbers in the county, seconded by Comm Klein. Roll call vote Klein-yes, Schulz-yes, Miller-yes, Flath-yes, and Heidinger-yes. Motion carried. LaMoure County Public Health requires the public to wear a mask because they need to continue to see patients so will be open for hands on care only.

Break 9:55 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.

Tax Director, Denice Porter, said that the county is sitting at 92% on Commercial, Residential, and Agricultural values and the state has approved the values. Vangaard reviewers are here now and things went well for residential reappraisals. There are nine properties that will be going to the annual tax lien sale in November. They are located in LaMoure, Jud, Verona, and Dean Township. Commissioners Flath, Klein, and Heidinger will need to go set the value with Ms. Porter before the first meeting in November.

Comm Flath gave an update on the Memorial Park Stream Bank. He met with the federal individuals that have been working on the project. The EWP (Emergency Water Protection) will cost share 75% county share 25%. They have the design done and cost share estimate complete. The timeline needs to be done as quickly as possible. Comm Flath has contacted some contractors but no one has returned his phone call. The Highway Department can move some rocks and sand to bring the cost down. There is hope that the project can be extended since no contractor can be found at this time.

Treasurer, Cindy Worrel, wanted to say that the drop box can be used to drop off your tax statement payments. She said that payment can also be dropped off at bank locations; Heartland, BankNorth, and Dakota Heritage. You can also pay by credit card but there is a small fee. Ms. Worrel will send a receipt in the mail. The drop box is secure and anything for any department can be dropped in there.

The commissioners decided not to change anything from the preliminary budget. The total for the 2021 budget is \$8,456,411. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the 2021 budget, seconded by Comm Schulz. Roll call vote Flath-yes, Miller-yes, Schulz-yes, Klein-yes, and Heidinger-yes. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension Agent, Julianne Racine, will nominate Dennis Wendel to the North Dakota State Fair. Comm Flath made a motion to appoint Julianne Racine, Eric Lahlum, and Dennis Wendel to the North Dakota State Fair, seconded by Comm Miller. Motion carried.

Auditor, Jan Hamlin, reported that this year's estimated tax statements were outsourced to a different company called Presort Plus. Last year's outsource cost was \$4,201.42 and this year's cost was \$2,036.09. There was a small issue with the envelopes but that has been worked out. As of October 5, 2020, 1583 ballots have been sent and 289 ballots have been returned. The Edgeley National Guard Armory Gymnasium will be the only polling place election day and the hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. You can also drop your ballot off in the drop box at the courthouse the day before the election, November 2nd by 5:00 p.m. or mail your ballot by November 2nd. That is the day is must be postmarked. Ms. Hamlin said that some election workers that were going to work have contacted her and said they will not be able to work. She will need to find replacements. It was brought up to get the ballots back early so they get to the Auditor's Office.

The Anne Carlsen Center sent a letter requesting LaMoure County Commissioners to write a letter of support for a new facility. The Anne Carlsen Center is pursuing USDA Rural Development financing for the project. The letter would help as part of their USDA application. The total cost of the project is \$41 million. They have already raised \$11 million in cash, and promises and pledges of \$12 million to capital campaign goals. Comm Klein made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Comm Miller. Motion carried.

The appraisal hearing date is set for November 5.

The next meeting will be done virtually. Chairman Heidinger will be at the courthouse and rest of the board will be on their Surface Pros.

The commissioners reviewed the bills. Comm Flath made a motion to approve the bills presented, seconded by Comm Miller. Motion carried.

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ALLIED ENERGY	66.00
AT&T MOBILITY	61.11
BANKNORTH	580.00
BARNES RURAL WATER DISTRICT	96.45
CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	88.80
CHS DAKOTA PLAINS AG	90.00
CITY VIEW FUEL	64.15
COLE PAPERS INC	1,165.04
COMPUTER EXPRESS	2,027.95
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	1,183.80
DACOTAH PAPER CO.	38.10
DAKOTA DYNAMICS	1,000.00

DICKEY RURAL COMMUNICATIONS	1,723.91
DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS	231.00
DUFFY/JESSICA	552.58
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE, LLC	438.36
FERNANDES/ROBERT	44.99
GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS	8,243.56
GOOD OIL COMPANY	84.52
GORDY'S GRILL & FILL	910.22
HEARTLAND STATE BANK / VISA	3.00
HENRY SCHEIN	1,768.00
HI-WAY SERVICENTER,INC	1,037.64
HOME SHOP/THE	208.38
HOPKINS MEDICAL PRODUCTS	41.95
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS LLC	42.73
INTERSTATE BATTERY SYSTEM OF ND	479.80
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	166.85
K.P. SHOCKMAN TREE MOVING	380.00
KETTERLING/JACKIE	97.75
KLJ ENGINEERING LLC	14,707.93
KULM HARDWARE & HOME CENTER	42.93
KULM MESSENGER	407.38
LAMOURE CHRONICLE	1,076.58
LAMOURE CITY	183.81
LAMOURE DRUG STORE	25.59
LAMOURE FOODS, INC.	17.97
LAMOURE HARDWARE	240.30
LAMOURE PARTS CENTER	797.89
LAMOURE PRINTING COMPANY	37.50
LARSON GRAIN CO	37.50
LEAF	121.00
MINN-KOTA COMMUNICATIONS INC	2,114.88
MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	33.87
ND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	16.00
ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS	120.00
NDLTAP	100.00
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	3,154.19
PETERSON/LORI	27.68
POTTS/TERRI	94.77
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC	193.95
PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT	369.84
PURCHASE POWER	2,015.00
QUILL CORPORATION	185.31
R & S COLLISION CENTER, INC.	95.00
RACINE/JULIANNE	460.33
SANDNESS/SHANNON	62.10
SANFORD	100.00
SANOFI PASTEUR INC	2,451.84
SEACHANGE PRINT INNOVATIONS	25.00
SHOCKMAN/KEVIN	51.75
SOLINGER'S LUMBER INC	50.03
STUTSMAN RURAL WATER DISTRICT	51.58
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP.	2,907.00
TRUENORTH STEEL	9,212.00
VAN EEDEN/CLARA	267.95
VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC.	33,775.70
VERIZON CONNECT NWF INC	210.47
VERIZON WIRELESS	1,214.72
WALKER/DELIA	97.50

There being no further business, Chairman Heindinger adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020

KEITH HEIDINGER, Chairman

ATTEST:

JANICE HAMLIN, County Auditor