

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSONER MEETING-  
March 16, 2021**

The Board of LaMoure County Commissioners met Tuesday, March 16, 2021, with Chairman Lee Miller, Commissioners Bruce Klein, Bob Flath, Jason Weigel, Keith Heidinger, Highway Superintendent Josh Loegering, State's Attorney James Shockman, and Auditor Jan Hamlin at the courthouse. Attending by teleconference were DES/911 Coordinator Kimberly Robbins, Treasurer Cindy Worrel, Patty Wood Bartle from the Edgeley Mail, and Art Hagebock from the LaMoure Chronicle. Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at approximately 8:35 a.m. with the pledge to the flag.

Chairman Miller asked for any additions to the agenda. Auditor Hamlin said that Tax Director Denice Porter would like to add parcel fees. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Comm Klein. Motion carried.

Comm Weigel made a motion to approve the March 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes, seconded by Comm Klein. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent, Josh Loegering, gave his report. The 2021 steel culvert bids saw a 26% increase. TrueNorth was the low bidder and Contech was the other bidder. The 2021 concrete culvert bids saw a 3% increase. Forterra was the low bidder. The 2021 plastic culvert bids saw a 13% increase. Prinsco was the low bidder. The 2021 road oil bids saw a 16% decrease. Flint Hills Resource was the low bidder. Comm Heidinger made a motion to accept all bids for culverts and road oil, seconded by Comm Weigel. Motion carried.

Josh said that there will be a truck driver job opening in early April.

Josh ordered the new gooseneck trailer with hydraulic ramps for \$21,000. It will be here in May. He said he received the \$27,000 crusher overhaul invoice. This only happens once every five years. The new sign truck estimate is approximately \$100,000. The Stepp Crack Sealer was repaired with a new oil pump and 24V alternator. He plans to keep this one and use both crack sealer machines.

Josh said that there are three bridges on CR 35 that need guardrail repair which will be approximately \$7,700. There are also three cable guardrails north of LaMoure which will cost approximately \$3,500. The bridge bundling project is scheduled for bid openings in May. The crew did pothole patching on CR 34 from the west hill of Grand Rapids to US 281. They have done four miles of crack sealing on CR 62. The bridge south of Verona needs a new abutment post which the county can repair.

DES/911 Coordinator, Kimberly Robbins, started with open burning. NDCC 33-15-04-02 states burning is prohibited if the fire index is in the extreme category as issued by the national weather service, or if a burn ban is declared by state or local officials. A fire danger rating level takes into account current and antecedent weather, fuel types, and both live and dead fuel moisture. Currently over 20 counties have restrictions based on the fire danger rating or total burn bans. A fire danger rating is set every morning by the national weather service and the national fire service. Edgeley Fire Department has been dispatched to three grass fires and one other fire department has been dispatched to one since January 1. You would have to declare a disaster before a burn ban could be put in place. The last time LaMoure County declared a fire emergency disaster was in May of 2018. LaMoure County has not seen a very high or extreme fire danger rating this year. Comm Weigel said that for right now we don't need a burn ban. LaMoure Fire Chief, Art Hageback, also said we are fine for now. The board will wait until the next meeting and review it at that time. Kimberly said that the Jamestown Sun did an article about the James River and that is why she was asked to bring it up.

Kimberly said that the date was incorrect on the DR4553 disaster letter she sent out to the townships. She mailed a new letter with the correct date. The correct date is January 9, 2022, not 2021.

The next agenda item was the inmate housing agreement with Burleigh Morton County Detention Center. State's Attorney, James Shockman, said that he did review it and he didn't have any issues. The cost to house a prisoner would be \$75.00 per day. James said that with COVID it has been very difficult to find places to house prisoners on short notice so it would be a good idea to have another avenue. Comm Heidinger made a motion to sign the Burleigh Morton County Detention Center Agreement, seconded by Comm Klein. Motion carried.

Public Health Director, Jessica Duffy, gave a COVID update. LaMoure County currently has one active case as of Saturday. The total cases to date are 499 and 17 total deaths. LaMoure County Public Health had tested over 8,000 since May of 2020. They have PCR, Binex (Rapid), and the spit tests. The testing

in LaMoure County has greatly declined. Most tests currently are for international travelers and few with symptoms. Testing hours have been cut to Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Public Health is using the Moderna vaccination. It is a two-dose series and is 95% effective. The other two doses vaccine is Pfizer which is also 95% effective. Johnson & Johnson is a one dose and 72% effective. It is available at the LaMoure Drug Pharmacy and is first-come, first-serve. Public Health is vaccinating group C1. The location sites in the county are LaMoure, Edgeley, Kulm, Jud, and Marion. Call 883-5356 to get an appointment for the COVID shot. CDC guidance is continuing to wear masks and social distance until we have a majority of people vaccinated. 30% of LaMoure County has had at least one shot. The state is at 24.6%. The goal is 70% the population.

Tax Director, Denice Porter, joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m. Denice told the commissioners that the current assessment fee for assessing in the townships is \$1.00 per parcel and in the cities \$2.00 per parcel. Denice didn't feel a need for an increase. The commissioners decided to keep the parcel fees at the current rates.

There was an application for On the Way Bait, Inc./Lona Kratz for a beer and liquor license. The State's Attorney said that the application wasn't correctly filled out. The commissioners decided to have the applicant complete a new application with the needed information and resubmit.

The Abatement Hearing for Todd Vogel started at 9:15 a.m. Todd Vogel was present via teleconference. Todd's application was an abatement for Disabled Veterans Credit. Tax Director, Denice Porter, said that he is eligible. The Homestead and Veterans Credit have been submitted to the state so Denice will submit this one next year for reimbursement. Comm Flath made a motion to approve the abatement for Todd Vogel, seconded by Comm Heidinger. Motion carried. Todd Vogel thanked the commissioners.

An application for a local permit was filed by Brooke Robert for NBHA ND02 (National Barrel Horse Association). It is for a raffle and the proceeds will go towards the end of year awards for winners. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Comm Weigel. Motion carried.

Comm Klein talked on the FEMA 2009-2011. He has been working with the other commissioners, Josh, Kimberly, Jan, and Cindy about the funds that have been sitting in the 2009 and 2011 FEMA disaster accounts. The county was required to maintain those funds until those events were closed. They closed approximately two years ago. The funds cannot collect interest and they need to be disbursed. What we came up with is \$2,000 blading credit per township for the 2021 blading season. The funds will also be used for is funding approximately \$60,000 for culverts this year. The funds cannot be used on FAS roads. The culverts will need to be on township roads. Between the two items it will bring the funds sitting in those accounts down to about half. Comm Klein talked with the state auditors and they are fine with that. That gives us time to see how these programs work and adjust for next year. Hopefully next year we will have the rest of the funds disbursed. Auditor Hamlin requested that \$4,522.05 be transferred from FEMA account 0219 to FEMA account 0223 so all the funds are in one account. Comm Klein made a motion to move the funds, seconded by Comm Flath. Motion carried. Kimberly Robbins asked who will write the letter to the townships in reference to the credit. Josh Loegering will write the township letters. Comm Heidinger made a motion to give the townships a \$2,000 blading credit and transfer the \$60,000 from the FEMA account to the culvert account for the 2021 season which is April 1, 2021, seconded by Comm Weigel. Motion carried.

Break 9:31 a.m. to 9:46 a.m.

Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Comm Flath. Motion carried.

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ALLIED ENERGY	550.62
AT&T MOBILITY	61.72
BUILDERS MART	66.00
BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	2,386.14
CASS COUNTY HEATING INC	11,387.32
CENEX FLEETCARD	1,507.51
CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	82.31
CITY VIEW FUEL	42.76
COLE PAPERS INC	49.35
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER EMS OF LAMOURE	400.00
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	1,183.80
DAKOTA DYNAMICS	1,000.00
DAKOTA PLAINS AG	2,278.10

DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC	148.98
DAKOTA VALLEY SERVICES	125.80
DICKEY RURAL COMMUNICATIONS	318.77
DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS	231.00
EDGELEY AMBULANCE	850.00
FLATH/ROBERT	200.00
GENERAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	27,236.21
GRAHAM TIRE ABERDEEN	0.20
HEIDINGER/KEITH	296.32
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT	1,281.85
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS LLC	24.83
KLEIN/BRUCE	210.08
LAMOURE CHRONICLE	336.00
LAMOURE CITY	193.31
LAMOURE DRUG STORE	37.77
LAMOURE FOODS, INC.	46.75
LAMOURE HARDWARE	350.48
LEAF	121.00
LEXIPOL LLC	3,115.00
LITCHVILLE BULLETIN	71.50
MATTHEW BENDER & CO INC	68.10
MIDSTATES EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY	3,525.00
MILLER/LEE	264.96
ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	10.00
NDSU DEPT 3110	200.00
NEWMAN SIGNS INC	125.70
OAKES TRUCK & TRAILER CENTER	561.70
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY	3,812.41
PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT	449.55
QUALITY INN	86.40
QUILL CORPORATION	70.48
RECORD KEEPERS LLC	7.20
ROBBINS/KIMBERLY	247.10
SHOCKMAN LAW, PLLC	2,490.18
STEPP MFG	2,755.95
STUTSMAN COUNTY CORRECTION CENTER	2,325.00
VERIZON CONNECT NWF INC	210.47
VERIZON WIRELESS	299.74
WALKER/DELIA	45.00
WASTE MANAGEMENT	188.40
WASTE-NOT-RECYCLING, LLC	1,572.00
WEIGEL/JASON	244.80
WEX HEALTH, INC.	249.00

There being no further business, Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

APPROVED THIS 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2021

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LEE MILLER, Chairman

ATTEST:

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JANICE HAMLIN, County Auditor