

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSONER MEETING-  
December 7, 2021**

The Board of LaMoure County Commissioners met Tuesday, December 7, 2021, with Chairman Lee Miller, Commissioners Bruce Klein, Keith Heidinger, Jason Weigel and Bob Flath, State's Attorney James Shockman, Auditor Jan Hamlin, and Art Hagebock with the LaMoure Chronicle at the courthouse. Attending by teleconference was Patty Wood Bartle with the Edgeley Mail. Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. with the pledge to the flag.

Reorganization of the board was tabled until the next meeting.

Chairman Miller asked for additions to the agenda. Comm Klein added 5-County meeting, Chairman Miller was asked to add State Homeland Security Funds, and Treasurer, Cindy Worrel, added update on tax statements. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Comm Weigel made a motion to approve the November 16 minutes, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Treasurer, Cindy Worrel, gave an update on the tax statements. She said they were done in-house this year. Mailing took a day and a half. It went really well. Christine Schmidt did about 70% of the mailing. Cindy said she did an amazing job and is asset to the county. There were over 10,000 pieces of paper processed and mailed. The statements were mailed Monday. Payments can be dropped off at Heartland Bank, Heritage Bank, BankNorth, and the drop box on the east side of the courthouse. You can also pay in person or by mail. Cindy then went over the abatements. Most of them were farm exemptions and changes didn't get done due to the new law in effect that started this year. The farm exemptions are now a yearly process. There was a city exemption that was not added. There were some properties that were mixed up and needed to be fixed. This will decrease the true and full value \$716,839 and the decrease in taxes will be \$6,325.22. The last one was a notice of increase. We had a meeting December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The taxpayer was fine with the value. This one is not an addition but had to be noted since a letter was mailed out and we needed to finish the process. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the omissions and additions presented, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the beer, liquor, on/off sale, and Sunday opening licenses for Dakota Summers, Edgeley Splicken Country Club, and City View Fuel LLC, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

The 2022 commissioner meeting dates are listed below:

January 4	January 20
February 1	February 15
March 1	March 15
April 5	April 19
May 3	May 17
June 7	June 21
July 7	July 19
August 2	August 16
September 8	September 20
October 4	October 18
November 1	November 15
December 6	December 20

Comm Klein made a motion to approve the 2022 meeting dates, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried. All meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise posted prior to the meeting.

There was discussion on the holiday courthouse closing for Christmas. Auditor Hamlin said that the courthouse will be closed Friday, December 24, which is in observation of Christmas Day. Employees will not get the half day off for Christmas Eve. Some counties have decided to be closed all day, some will close at 12:00 p.m., others at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 23. Other counties will not close at

all on Thursday. Auditor Hamlin said that on years where Christmas falls on a Tuesday the commissioners have given the employees all of Christmas Eve Day off. The commissioners will discuss the closing at the next meeting.

Comm Klein gave an update on the last 5-County meeting. Legislators were in attendance. They gave a report on the state ARPA funds. They will be distributing funds in January or February and can be used for road projects in 2022. Prairie Dog is still alive. The buckets are still filling but are very slow because of oil prices. They said maybe by the end of the biennium the first bucket might fill which is a 400 million bucket. The proposed CO2 pipeline that will go from the ethanol plants to oil areas has had some controversy. Summit is the company they were staking land out before talking with the landowners. They are working on this and some of the line will go through LaMoure County. There was discussion that some counties give employee safety clothing and equipment to highway departments. Comm Flath had discussion about home values and the inflation and how it is affecting the sales ratios. It was a good meeting.

DES/911 Coordinator, Kimberly Robbins, gave her presentation. She started with DR 4613 Subgrant Agreement which was the June 2021 heavy rain event that caused flooding in the north part of LaMoure County. This is an agreement between the State of North Dakota Department of Emergency Services and LaMoure County for public assistance for this disaster. The county has validated those damages. The state and FEMA are now ready to reimburse the county for those damages. The grantee is Justin Messner, Disaster Recovery Chief and Kimberly is the subgrantee. Comm Weigel made a motion to sign the public assistance grant program subgrant agreement and designate Kimberly Robbins as the primary agent and Josh Loegering as the alternate agent, seconded by Comm Klein. All voting aye, motion carried. Kimberly then presented on the 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program. It is an annual grant funded by FEMA. FEMA releases grants to the state, then the state releases funds to the local jurisdictions. The purpose of the grant is to enhance the capability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism or other catastrophic events. LaMoure County applied for this grant and has received notice that they have been awarded \$21,045. There is no cost share for the grant. The approved items are 29 security/safety film for courthouse windows \$5,075, two bullet resistance windows for the Sheriff's Office \$9,630, 25 biometric devices for each desktop computer \$2,550, and training/travel for Law Enforcement Active Threat Trainer \$3,790.

Public Health Director, Jessica Duffy, gave a COVID update. They are testing with PCR and binex rapid. They have a lot of international travelers which increased testing since the end of harvest. The rolling 14-day average for positivity rate in LaMoure County is 8%. They would like to see that closer to 3%. The current known active cases are 13. LaMoure County had 476 cases in 2020 and 275 in 2021 for a total of 751 since the pandemic began. There were 17 total deaths in 2020 and zero deaths in 2021. Public Health continues to use the Moderna and Pfizer for vaccinations. There are boosters, for everyone eighteen and older, six months after the second shot. Moderna is half a dose and Pfizer is a full dose. Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) doses are available at LaMoure Drug. They are now requiring the Janssen to have a second shot two months after the first one. LCPHD has been to Kulm, Marion, Jud, and LaMoure for booster clinics. The booster is available at LCPHD as walk-ins from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. almost every Friday except on holiday weekends. There have been 4,530 does of COVID vaccines administered in LaMoure County. The newest vaccine is COVID PEDS vaccine which is made by Pfizer. LCPHD does offer these and side effects have been very minimal. LaMoure County currently is 54.6% vaccinated. The goal is 70%. There are no cases of the new variant Omiron in North Dakota. It is in Minnesota. It is a fast-spreading variant. The symptoms do not appear to be more or worse than other variants. The best protection against any form of COVID continues to be vaccination. Vaccination against any illness does not mean you will not contract the virus. What it does mean is that your body was given the blueprint on how to fight against it, resulting in less severe cases and less shedding/spreading of the virus to others.

Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ALLIED ENERGY	52.74
AT&T MOBILITY	61.34
BANKNORTH	580.00
BARNES RURAL WATER DISTRICT	56.68
BLUE 360 MEDIA	382.73
BUILDERS MART	109.00

CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	478.47
CITY OF KULM	95.96
COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,679.99
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	1,183.80
DACOTAH PAPER CO.	21.14
DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	87.50
DAKOTA DYNAMICS	1,000.00
DICKEY RURAL COMMUNICATIONS	1,191.32
DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS	231.00
DIRECT ELECTRIC INC	233.65
ECONOMY OIL INC	1,166.17
EVERSPRING INN & SUITES BISMARCK	172.80
GOOD OIL COMPANY	4,244.00
HEARTLAND STATE BANK/VISA	2,047.17
HI-WAY SERVICENTER,INC	336.00
HOMAN/CAROLINE	228.64
HOME SHOP/THE	344.87
IAAO	225.00
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT	1,379.60
JAMESTOWN COMMUNICATIONS	110.00
K.P. SHOCKMAN TREE MOVING	640.00
KULM HARDWARE & HOME CENTER	34.82
KULM MESSENGER	262.71
KULM SERVICE	185.15
LAMOURE CHRONICLE	991.95
LAMOURE CITY	173.81
LAMOURE DRUG STORE	6.99
LAMOURE FOODS, INC.	50.94
LAMOURE HARDWARE	1,419.48
LAMOURE PARTS CENTER	1,527.13
LAMOURE PRINTING COMPANY	243.45
LEAF	120.40
MAC'S HARDWARE	129.75
ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	12.00
ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	144,019.28
NEWMAN SIGNS INC	2,318.00
NORTH DAKOTA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION	1,120.00
NORTHWEST TIRE INC	6,267.08
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL - 1250	565.00
OST BODY & PAINT	240.00
PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT	15.60
QUALITY ENGINE & MACHINE INC	262.39
R & S COLLISION CENTER, INC.	2,600.00
RACINE/JULIANNE	304.64
RADAR SHOP/THE	294.00
RECORD KEEPERS LLC	7.20
RM STOUTD, INC	1,632.59
ROBBINS/KIMBERLY	249.34
SANDNESS/SHANNON	122.08
SHOCKMAN LAW, PLLC	2,300.00
SIGN SOLUTIONS	1,296.37
STUTSMAN RURAL WATER DISTRICT	52.53
TRUENORTH STEEL	1,960.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	719.57

There being no further business, Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

APPROVED THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021

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BRUCE KLEIN, Chairman

ATTEST:

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JAN HAMLIN, County Auditor