

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING-Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

At 8:31 am Chairman Robert Flath called the meeting to order and opened with the pledge to the flag. Commissioners Jason Weigel, Keith Heidinger, and Bruce Klein were also present. Also attending were James Shockman, State's Attorney; Jan Hamlin, Auditor; Darrick Nitschke, Highway Superintendent; Cindy Worrel, Treasurer; and Art Hagebock, LaMoure Chronicle. Attending virtually were Comm Miller and Kimberly Robbins, DES/911 Coordinator.

Chairman Flath called for additions to the agenda. Auditor Hamlin added CPT and 5-County; Comm Heidinger added museum. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Flath called for a review of the April 18, 2023 minutes. A motion was made by Comm Heidinger to approve the minutes, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

Darrick Nitschke, Highway Superintendent, gave an update to the board. He started with the LaMoure County selection committee consisting of Comm Klein, Tim Geinert, and himself, interview two firms to design engineering for project BRC-BRJ-2300(021) 23960 2024. Both firms, KLJ and Moore Engineering, were qualified to do the work and had great presentations. They were scored and there was only one point difference between the two firms. The committee recommends KLJ. Comm Klein made a motion to have KLJ do the engineering for the bridge project, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

Darrick requested that the Highway Department credit card have the limit increase from \$1,000 to \$3,000. They have one item on the card right now that has put it at the limited and had to have an employee use their personal credit care for a large purchase. The increase would help so this doesn't happen in the future. Comm Heidinger made a motion to increase the credit limit on the Highway Department credit card to \$3,000, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

Darrick said the retriever is working well. The crews are blading and plan to start shoulder pulls next week if the frost is out.

Comm Weigel looked at the Nora Township culvert on 66<sup>th</sup> street. There is a FEMA project that will be complete on 65<sup>th</sup> street and that culvert is bigger than the one on 66<sup>th</sup> street. Comm Weigel thought it might work to add another 6-foot culvert on 66<sup>th</sup> street. He will do some more research.

DES/911 Coordinator, Kimberly Robbins started with the 2023 spring flood. The James River in Adrian peaked at 28.19 feet on April 18, 2023 and peaked at 14.61 feet in LaMoure on April 19, 2023. The current releases combined from the Jamestown Reservoir and Pipestem is at 1,000 cfs. The conditions will be monitored and releases adjusted for future rainfall and runoff. The USACE said the most probable peak combined release range is 1,000 to 1,600 cfs.

As of May 1, the Boom Lake level is at 1457.85 feet. The lake is still on a steady rise of around 0.05 feet per day over the last week. The critical action stage is 1458.5. A meeting is scheduled to determine the flood protection plan to reinforce/raise the levees based on forecasted rain, time and any observed natural flow to the south. The Sheriff's Department plans to capture drone imagery. A date will be confirmed with the North Dakota Department of Water Resources when the PRESENS (Pushing RE mote SENSors) unit can be installed.

The cities of Kulm, Edgeley, Jud, Marion and LaMoure have Flood Declarations.

Kimberly informed the board that the State of North Dakota Department of Emergency Services has begun the 2023 Spring Flood Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). Statewide damages must exceed \$1,000,000 for the governor to request FEMA assistance. LaMoure County must

exceed \$18,173 in damages based on FY2023 public assistance thresholds which are due May 12<sup>th</sup>.

The October to December early snow removal data was submitted for the county and townships on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. The October to April data is being collected and is due May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Kimberly informed the board that April 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> was Severe Summer Weather Awareness week. The first outdoor monthly warning test for 2023 will be this Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. The board was in favor of LaMoure County employees taking part in a tornado drill at the courthouse on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The board was also in favor of encouraging LaMoure County employees to participate in Walk@Work wellness program.

Greg Hanson and Clint Knudsen with the Marion Fire Department attended to get approval to consolidate the Marion City and Marion Rural Fire Departments. The Marion Fire Department would cover the same area but under one name. This would allow them to have one certificate of existence as well. The City of Marion and the State Fire Marshall are okay with combining them. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the merge of the Marion City Fire Department to the Marion Rural Fire Department and be called the "Marion Fire Department" with the same coverage area, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Recorder, Laurie Good; Treasurer, Cindy Worrel; and Tax Director, Denice Porter joined the meeting to discuss requiring land survey sales and no longer accepting metes and bounds when recording deeds. Laurie Good said employees are going above and beyond and spending hours on trying to figure out land boundaries. Since some boundaries are unknown, half your buildings could be on your land and the other half on some else's land. The county wants citizens to know where their property is, how many acres or feet they have on that parcel so that they are paying taxes for the correct amount. The concern is that a survey may cost more than the small piece of land being sold. If the county would require it, it would be on anything going forward. Laurie said some counties have policies in place and some don't. More research will be done and brought to the next meeting.

Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve gaming site authorization at Horseshoe Saloon for pull tab dispensing devices and electronic pull tab devices for North American Bison Discovery Center, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

Comm Klein made a motion to obligate the \$785,888 of the ARPA funds to option 2 for the 2024 nine-mile road project which is on CR 35 from Jud to US Highway 281, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried. This project will be a two-inch overlay with milling where needed and the estimated cost for this project is \$2,070,000.

Comm Heidinger let the board know that the museum board met last Thursday, April 27, 2023. They are recommending Sandy Knudsen and Kyle Dathe as new members. One will be filling a vacancy and the other one will be an added board member. Both are willing to accept the positions. The museum board will now have six board members. Comm Heidinger made a motion to appoint Sandy Knudsen and Kyle Dathe to the museum board, seconded by Comm Klein. All voting aye, motion carried.

Auditor Hamlin informed the board that she received an email Monday from Counties Providing Technology (CPT) stating they plan to discontinue providing services in North Dakota on December 31, 2024.

Hamlin also, reminded the board that the next 5-County meeting will be May 18 in Ransom County.

Break 9:45 a.m. to 9:57 a.m.

Comm Klein made a motion to pay the bills presented, seconded by Comm Weigel. All voting aye, motion carried.

<b><u>Vendor Name</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
AFTER HOURS WELDING & REPAID, INC	6,500.00
ALLIED ENERGY	46,630.99
BANKNORTH	830.00
BARNES RURAL WATER DISTRICT	70.30
CAPITAL ONE TRADE CREDIT	155.90
CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	294.16
CITY OF KULM	80.06
CITY OF LAMOURE	94.00
COLE PAPERS INC	338.50
CUSTER HEALTH	380.00
ELSE/MIKE	1,229.98
FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS LTD	310.00
GENERAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	23,450.00
GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS	685.08
GOOD OIL COMPANY	7,343.08
HEARTLAND STATE BANK / VISA	2,109.45
HI-WAY SERVICENTER,INC	3,467.40
HR COLLABORATIVE	100.00
LAMOURE CHRONICLE	555.58
LAMOURE HARDWARE	444.22
LAMOURE PARTS CENTER	1,295.15
LEAF	120.40
MERCK SHARP & DOHME LLC	5,268.15
MIDWEST SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS	1,892.80
ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	313.75
ND DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES	375.00
ND STATE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS	18,762.56
NDACO	1,310.38
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE DEPT 7510	6,035.28
NELSON-GRIGGS DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	100.00
RACINE/JULIANNE	174.02
RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	22,001.21
RIDDLE/JAMES	6.55
ROBBINS/KIMBERLY	166.39
SHOCKMAN LAW, PLLC	2,663.41
STUTSMAN RURAL WATER DISTRICT	52.72
ULMER/AL	140.00
VAN DIEST SUPPLY COMPANY	16,969.15
VERIZON WIRELESS	266.39

Correspondence item was the NDIRF Notice of Annual Meeting in Bismarck.

Chairman Flath adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

APPROVED THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2023

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ROBERT FLATH, Chairman

ATTEST:

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JAN HAMLIN, County Auditor