

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAMOURE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING-Tuesday, December 17th, 2024**

At 8:30 a.m., Chairman Jason Weigel called the meeting to order and opened by reciting the pledge of allegiance. Commissioners: Keith Heidinger, Robert Flath, Bruce Klein and Wayne Wald were present. Also attending were Jan Hamlin, Auditor; Darrick Nitschke, Highway Superintendent; Brandy Rolland, State's Attorney Paralegal; Art Hagebock, LaMoure Chronicle, Bryan Tykwinski, KLJ; Trent, Butler Machinery; Tim Leppert; and Joel Leppert. Attending virtually was Kimberly Robbins, DES/911 Coordinator.

Chairman Weigel called for additions to the agenda. The addition was reviewing of dates for a joint meeting with Dickey County for LaMoure Fire Department to establish a rural fire protection district. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Comm Klein. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chairman Weigel called for a review of the December 3rd commissioner meeting minutes. Comm Flath made a motion to approve the commissioner minutes, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Highway Superintendent, Darrick Nitschke, handed out the LaMoure County Road project planning for 2025 with estimated miles and estimated cost. Comm Wald had some questions on how the bidding process works so Darrick explained the process. Chairman Weigel said that the county reaches out locally first. Darrick also mentioned that if the county does a lot of business with one local entity, they look to other local business for services to support them as well. Comm Wald made the suggestion to put up some flags on CR 34 as there was an area with some sharper rocks.

KLJ, Bryan Tykwinski, updated the commission on some projects. The paperwork has been submitted for the replacement of bridges by Grand Rapids and Adrian and are just waiting on federal highway to review the environmental documents. These projects should have a March bid opening. Pricing for bridges are looking lower than last year. The same contractors will be doing the replacements and removals. The FEMA box culvert north of Edgeley will have a February bid opening. Bryan submitted the application to the Transportation Innovation Program through the NDDOT for the hot in place recycle. The second bridge replacement south of Adrian is on track for a 2027 bid opening.

Treasurer, Cindy Worrel, presented the board with abatements. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the abatements as presented, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried

Tim Leppert and Joel Leppert came to the board with concerns of wind towers and power transmissions. They are requesting knowledge of who authorized something so life changing. The board responded with it is up to townships and the township zoning boards to shut those projects down. The Leppert's feel that the county itself should be zoned to protect all people who don't want these changes. The county has looked into zoning at one time and there is a lot of cost to it and the commissioners feel it is not their place to be telling townships what they can and cannot do.

Chris Cook, Ottertail Power Company, present a quarterly report on the JETx project. The CPCN permit was received and completed in late 2024. About 57% easements have been signed for LaMoure County. LaMoure County has an addition permit that needs completing from each township, Conditional Use Permits. At this time Adrian- 74%, Russel- 89%, Wano and Willowbank 25-35% signed CUP.

Break 10:12 a.m. to 10:22 a.m.

Sheriff, Robert Fernandes, introduced the new Sheriff Deputy, Trace Goven. Fernandes also informed that board that he will be having another Deputy starting in the beginning of January.

The Sheriff's department had previously applied for the "Back the Blue" grant and has received it. Sheriff Fernandes is requesting that Chief Deputy Fleck and himself split the grant, since they were the only two officers here when the grant was awarded. The total grant received was \$5,769, so the split would be \$2,895 per officer. Comm Klein made a motion to approve the split of Back the Blue grant between Sheriff Fernandes and Chief Deputy Fleck, seconded by Comm Flath. All voting aye, motion carried.

Rabbit Hole and Memorial Park Country Club submitted their 2025 Beer and Liquor applications with Sunday openings. Comm Heidinger made a motion to approve the Beer and Liquor applications, seconded by Comm Wald. All voting aye, motion carried.

Auditor, Jan Hamlin and Deputy Auditor, Shanel Bohnenstingl presented to the board the HR module through our current software, CPT. This module would provide staff the ability to view their W-2, paystubs, work history, and benefits. It is fully integrated with our payroll system. There is a \$8,000 one-time fee for the program module, \$520 one time- installation fee and a \$314 monthly fee with a 3% increase every year on the monthly fee. The county currently has the funds for this as there was no change in program software like initially budgeted for. At this time the board is passing on adding this module to our current software.

Comm Flath made a motion to enter into a contract for services with South Central Dakota Regional Council, seconded by Comm Heidinger. All voting aye, motion carried.

Former Comm Lee Miller is the representative for Community Action. Auditor Hamlin reached out to the Community Action board on this topic and Miller has been very active on the board and they'd like to keep him. He will be serving under the private sector and Griggs County will appoint a commissioner.

The LaMoure Fire department has turned in a petition to establish a Rural Fire Protection District. There needs to be a public meeting with Dickey County. The board has set the public meeting for January 14th at 8 p.m. with Dickey County at the LaMoure County Courthouse basement meeting room.

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

| <u>Vendor Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| ADVANCE BUSINESS METHODS | 527.31 |
| ALLIED ENERGY | 35,742.30 |
| ALLSTATE PETERBILT | 6,776.94 |
| AT&T MOBILITY | 62.42 |
| BANKNORTH | 630.00 |
| BEAR CREEK GRAVEL LLC | 2,036.40 |
| BEK SPORTS NETWORK | 189.58 |
| BOBCAT OF GWINNER | 221.92 |
| BUILDERS MART | 10,629.90 |
| BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY | 1,608.52 |
| CENEX FLEETCARD | 903.80 |
| COLE PAPERS INC | 54.06 |
| COMPUTER EXPRESS | 1,916.99 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY | 2,622.00 |
| DACOTAH PAPER CO. | 199.75 |
| DAKOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC | 75.98 |
| DICKEY RURAL COMMUNICATIONS | 1,088.21 |
| DUFFY/JESSICA | 350.45 |
| FLATH/ROBERT | 608.54 |
| GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS | 836.76 |
| GOOD/LAURIE | 281.07 |
| GWORKS | 7,420.00 |
| HEIDINGER/KEITH | 710.88 |
| HENRY SCHEIN | 196.86 |
| HIGH PLAINS WATER | 252.00 |
| IAAO | 240.00 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT | 1,946.15 |

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|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| I3G MEDIA | 785.00 |
| KLEIN/BRUCE | 418.09 |
| KLJ ENGINEERING LLC | 8,893.28 |
| KNIFE RIVER | 55,865.74 |
| KULM MESSENGER | 34.90 |
| KUSTOM MACHINE INC | 87.50 |
| LAMOURE CHRONICLE | 1,397.38 |
| LAMOURE COUNTY MUSEUM | 1,018.98 |
| LAMOURE FOODS, INC. | 76.47 |
| LAMOURE HARDWARE | 2,111.42 |
| LAMOURE PRINTING COMPANY | 477.70 |
| LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT, INC | 52.74 |
| MANDAN SPORTING GOODS | 1,410.00 |
| MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES | 65.60 |
| NATHAN O'BRIEN CONTRACTING | 2,925.00 |
| ND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION | 31.50 |
| ND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | 391.11 |
| NORTH DAKOTA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION | 285.00 |
| OAKES TRUCK & TRAILER, LLC | 4,944.41 |
| OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL - 1250 | 1,300.00 |
| OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY | 2,589.38 |
| PHARMCHEM INC | 63.90 |
| PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT | 37.71 |
| QUILL CORPORATION | 723.66 |
| ROBBINS/KIMBERLY | 53.60 |
| SENGER/JULIE | 480.00 |
| STUTSMAN COUNTY CORRECTION CENTER | 400.00 |
| SUNSET LAW ENFORCEMENT | 1,127.20 |
| TAYLOR PRINT IMPRESSIONS, INC | 867.76 |
| TRI-COUNTY NEWS | 34.90 |
| VALLEY PLAINS EQUIPMENT | 338.40 |
| VAN EEDEN/CLARA | 53.60 |
| VERIZON WIRELESS | 299.50 |
| VISTOS CARQUEST | 468.56 |
| WALD/WAYNE | 253.60 |
| WEIGEL/JASON | 353.60 |
| WEX HEALTH, INC. | 83.00 |

Chairman Weigel adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2025

KEITH HEIDINGER, Chairman

ATTEST:

JAN HAMLIN, County Auditor