** TOWNER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**Doug Berg, Chairman**

**David Lagein, Vice Chairman**

**Mike Weisz**

**Scott Boe**

**Ken Teubner**

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**TOWNER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

October 6, 2020

The Towner County Commissioners met in regular session on October 6, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the county courthouse. Chairman Doug Berg called the meeting to order. Present were Vice Chairman David Lagein, Commissioners Mike Weisz, Ken Teubner and Scott Boe.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Boe and seconded by Teubner. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2020 regular meeting was made by Lagein and seconded by Weisz. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Jessica Tagestad, Wold Engineering, went over the Federal Aid list. The NDDOT wants to meet virtually with the Commissioners. Tagestad would set up a virtual meeting with the NDDOT and let the Auditor know when it was. Prairie Dog funding was discussed with Tagestad. Repairing a culvert in Cando Township was discussed. Commissioners discussed boring it. Motion by Boe, seconded by Teubner to approve the yearly maintenance agreement with NDDOT. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. A public meeting about the road project east of Cando will be held on October 21, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. at the County Shop.

Maintenance Supervisor Bill Voight stated he would like to open the Armory to walkers. Commissioners felt this would be a good idea. Hours for walking would be posted on the front door. Voight stated he had hired part time help. Moving the Veterans Service office was discussed. Voight discussed ADA compliant projects. Replacing the door at the Memorial building was discussed as well as other projects in the entry way were discussed.

Rhonda Allery, Mountain Lakes Human Service Zone Director, was on hand to go over their budget. The phones at Towner County were discussed. Allery will have a proposal for a new phone system at some point. Motion by Lagein, seconded by Boe to ratify the Social Services budget. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Lindy Berg and Dena Kemmet, NDSU District Director, were on hand. Kemmet gave an update on the extension funding. The home rule charter, which does affect extension services was discussed. Berg updated the Commissioners on how she felt the contract weed spraying had gone very well. Berg stated Lake Region Roundup had been canceled. Berg was coming up with ideas to disseminate the Round Up information.

Motion by Boe, seconded by Teubner to pay the bills. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

The budget hearing was opened. A taxpayer was on hand and expressed their concern over the large increase of taxes specifically public health. The taxpayer commented on several of the salaries including that of the Commissioners, the Auditor, the Deputies, the Maintenance Department, and the Emergency Manager. A discussion was held about the budget. The Commissioners felt the only thing that could be cut is $80,000 they had in the budget to finance the engineering for a Federal Aid bridge project. Motion by Lagein, seconded by Weisz to accept the budget with no decreases. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. The budget hearing was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Sheriff Kennedy stated they were working on mail box thefts. Kennedy also stated there had been several internet scams that local residents had fallen for. Kennedy stated he had grant money for radios next year as well as Stone garden grant money to subsidize deputy salaries. Kennedy stated the 911 services with Cavalier County was going well.

Motion by Teubner, seconded by Boe to appoint David and Jannel Lagein to the State Fair Board. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Weisz, seconded by Lagein to approve an application for abatement of taxes for 2020 for a homestead tax credit for Eugene Pennell Jr. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Weisz, seconded by Boe to approve a zoning permit for Roger Kurtti. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Boe was appointed to the Canvass board for the General Election.

The next meeting was set for November 10th.

The meeting adjourned by motion.

ATTEST:

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Joni M. Morlock Doug Berg, Chairman

Towner County Auditor/Treasurer Towner County Board of Commissioners