

The Traill County Commissioners came to order on February 2, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present in person: Eblen, Elliott, Nesvig and Young. Commissioner Amb was present via Webex. On motion of Eblen, seconded by Nesvig and carried to approve the January 19, 2021 minutes as presented.

DOMESTICATION: On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to allow the Auditor to sign the agreement between Traill County and General Roofing & Construction to begin Phase II of the dome restoration in the amount of \$138,547.00 and to send a check in the amount of \$29,346.00 to order the lower dome windows.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: On motion of Amb, seconded by Young and carried to allow the Chairman to sign the 2-year agreement with The Village Business Institute for the County's employee assistance program. The cost for 2021 will be \$2,010.00 (based on \$30.00 per full-time equivalent employee).

AVHS ZONE: Received January board minutes and December financials. Received notice from Department of Human Services on the approval of AVHS Zone's Plan.

TAX DIRECTOR: Kayla Knudson, Tax Director presented an Application for Payments in Lieu of Taxes for U Storage, Hillsboro LLP. On motion of Nesvig, seconded by Eblen and carried to approve the 5-year PILOT for Lot 1, Block 1 part of S1/2 of NW ¼ of 8-145-50.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Jim Murphy, TCEDC Director requested to appoint Jami Hovet to serve on the EDC board. On motion of Young, seconded by Eblen and carried to allow the Chairman and Auditor to sign the Certificate of Appointment.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Corwyn Martin, Road Superintendent updated the board on various issues. On motion of Eblen, seconded by Young and carried to allow Martin to sign an engineering agreement with KLJ to provide a Hydraulic Report for BRC-4906(055) PCN 22887 for the Climax Bridge Replacement. Martin informed the board that the ND DOT will provide \$113,578.88 to Traill County under the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, with funds to be used by 09-30-24. On motion of Nesvig, seconded by Eblen and carried to allow Martin to purchase a 2011 Kenworth Truck from J & M Truck Sales, Barnesville MN for \$37,500.00, and a side dump trailer from I-29 Trailer Sales, Inc., Fargo for \$50,655.00. Matt Lange, KLJ joined the meeting via Webex and gave updates to the board with no motions made.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Stacy Smelden, Deputy Auditor updated the Board on the County's worksite wellness program. NDPHIT has waived the program for 2021 and is granting Traill County the 1% discount on health insurance and the employees participating in the program will receive credit for 6 months (July 2020-Dec 2020). The wellness program will resume in January 2022.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT/WATER BOARD: Charlie Stock, States Attorney presented a Joint Powers Agreement with the Traill County Water Board. The agreement outlines duties and obligations regarding future legal drain crossing improvements. On motion of Nesvig seconded by Young and carried to allow the Chairman and Auditor to sign the agreement.

SNAGGING & CLEARING: (tabled from 01-19-21 meeting) Discussion was held to implement a snagging & clearing assessment to taxpayers to clean out portions of the Goose River and Elm River. Landowners in attendance were Don McInnes, Steve Harrington, Marlin Stokke and Tod Harrington. Landowners stated that the clearing is not necessary at this time and moving the water thru faster will only present more problems and the Highway Department is doing a good job clearing trees as needed during the spring. Water Board members attending were Jason Siegert and Andy Neset said this is a program that is designed by the State and is a burden to the taxpayers, however the clearing does help the water flow and is necessary every few years. Commissioner Eblen stated he has received phone calls from other landowners along the Elm River and they also feel the snagging & clearing is not necessary.

GOOSE RIVER Commissioner Nesvig introduced the following RESOLUTION and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO CREATE
GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01**

WHEREAS, the Traill County Commission (the “County”) and the Traill County Water Resource District (the “District”) have cooperated regarding the creation of GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01.

WHEREAS, the District’s jurisdictional boundaries include certain portions of the Goose River, and the District has concluded certain snagging, clearing, cleaning, and maintenance is necessary in portions of the Goose River within the District’s jurisdictional boundaries.

WHEREAS, more specifically, the District previously declared the necessity to create GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01, a snagging and clearing district under N.D. Cent. Code § 61-16.1-09.1, for purposes of financing and funding a snagging, clearing, and maintenance project on that portion of the Goose River depicted in the map attached to this RESOLUTION as **Exhibit A** (the “Project”).

WHEREAS, the District previously analyzed and investigated that portion of the Goose River watershed in the vicinity of the Project to determine what parcels of real property would benefit from the Project, and approved a preliminary assessment list for GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 comprised of real properties that will benefit from the Project.

WHEREAS, the District and the County cooperated to conduct a joint public hearing regarding the Project and the proposed creation of GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 on January 19, 2021, preceded by all requisite notices in accordance with Section 61-16.1-09.1.

WHEREAS, at the hearing, the District and its engineer explained the necessity for the Project; the lack of a sufficient alternative funding mechanism to fund snagging, clearing, cleaning, and maintenance along the Goose River; the benefits the Project will provide to certain properties within the Goose River watershed; and the need to create GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 under Section 61-16.1-09.1 to finance and fund the Project.

WHEREAS, if both the District and the County approve the creation of GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 by two-thirds votes, the District can levy special assessments against properties that will benefit from the Project, up to a maximum of \$0.50 per acre for ag lands, and \$0.50 per \$500 of taxable valuation for non-ag property.

WHEREAS, under Section 61-16.1-09.1, the total amount of assessments the District collects for the Project must be less than \$100,000.00; following expenditure of all assessments levied for purposes of the Project by the District, if the District wishes to conduct additional snagging and clearing in the same natural watercourse, the District must create a new snagging and clearing district, and must follow all procedures under Section 61-16.1-09.1 to create the new district, including an additional joint hearing with the County.

WHEREAS, the County has reviewed the proposed Project; the County has considered the benefits the Project would provide to certain property within the Goose River watershed; and the County has considered the necessity to create GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01.

WHEREAS, under Section 61-16.1-09.1, creation of GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 requires approval by two-thirds of the County and two-thirds approval by the District.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners, Traill County, North Dakota, declares it necessary to create GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01 for the benefit of the properties within the Goose River watershed that benefit from and rely upon the Goose River for improved drainage and other benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners, Traill County, North Dakota, authorizes, approves, and orders the creation of GOOSE RIVER SNAGGING AND CLEARING DISTRICT NO. 2021-01.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing RESOLUTION was duly seconded by Commissioner Young. Upon roll call vote, the following Commissioners voted aye: Elliott, Nesvig, Young and Amb. The following Commissioners voted nay: Eblen. Two-thirds of the Commission having voted aye, the motion carried, and the RESOLUTION was duly adopted.

ATTEST: Chairman Elliott and Auditor Haugen DATE APPROVED: February 2, 2021

ELM RIVER SNAGGING & CLEARING: Motion was made by Commissioner Young to implement the Elm River Snagging & Clearing assessment, however the motion died from lack of a 2nd.

DES/SHERIFF UPDATES: Steve Hunt, Sheriff met in person and Ben Gates, Assistant DES attended via Webex. Hunt informed the board the flood outlook for Traill County is looking good but will keep the commissioners updated. Gates informed the board on two important bills being read during the legislative hearings. SB2124 removes declaring emergencies from the local level and placing it at the state level. Hunt and Gates both agree it should be a local level declaration. HB 1457 will set a time frame to review declarations at 15 days. Hunt and Gates feel setting a time frame is important, however proposing 45 days would allow sufficient time for reviews. On motion of Amb, seconded by Eblen and carried to allow Ben Gates, Traill County Assistant DES to provide written testimony on Traill County's behalf on SB 2124 & HB 1457.

On motion duly made and carried, the following bills paid by the County Auditor to February 1, 2021 were allowed paid to-wit:

101214	TC Treasurer FOASI	71200.17	82137-82224	January Payroll	222542.58
101217	NDPERS Retirement	45154.43			

On motion duly made and carried, the follow bills presented to the Board were ordered paid, to-wit:

101220	ND BCBS	6064.50	101320	Larson Welding and Machine	10.64
101221	Tina Johnson	69.30	101321	Paul Mueller	75.00
101287	3D Specialties Inc	922.86	101322	ND Assn of Counties Drug	1984.50
101288	Advanced Business Methods	26.49	101323	ND Association of Counties	400.00
101289	ND BCBS	6006.30	101324	North Dakota One Call	1.20
101290	CHS Credit Card	23.00	101325	ND Sheriff and Deputy Assn	500.00
101291	Certified Laboratories	286.00	101326	ND County Treasurer Association	250.00
101292	Code 4 Services Inc	514.25	101327	Northern Safety Technology	506.92
101293	East Central Regional Water	266.91	101328	OK Tire Store	726.16
101294	Kurt Elliott	75.00	101329	Olsen Hardware	256.91
101295	Fargo Forks Freightliner	1362.98	101330	Ottertail Power Company	230.19
101296	Jonathon Folena	73.50	101331	Chicago Power Plan	3140.36
101297	Great America Leasing	117.00	101332	Richland County Jail	330.00
101298	Grand Forks Welding	88.29	101333	Remark Tech Consulting	1340.20
101299	General Roofing Construction	29346.00	101334	Sandbo Plumbing	666.09
101300	Goose River Heating and Cooling	385.00	101335	Seatol	2000.00
101301	James Halvorson	443.34	101336	Sanford Health SD	837.00
101302	Joel Halvorson	443.34	101337	Sorum Oil Co	16407.76
101303	Dewey Halvorson	443.34	101338	Taylor Tools	200.00
101304	Hatton City	8950.41	101339	ND State Radio Comm	240.00
101305	Hillsboro Banner	43.62	101340	Steele County	1332.50
101306	Hillsboro Body Shop	424.48	101341	Traill County Tribune	30.24
101307	Harbor Freight Tools	36.99	101342	The Sidwell Company	4500.00
101308	Hillsboro Municipal Utility	3525.35	101343	Verizon Wireless	333.93

101309	Halstad Telephone Co	102.27	101344	Verizon Wireless	145.13
101310	Information Tech Dept	127.60	101345	Waste Management IL	75.40
101311	J and M Truck Sales	37500.00	101346	Wells Fargo Bank	985.00
101312	Dale Johnson	75.00	101347	Workforce Safety and Insurance	250.00
101313	KLJ Engineering LLC	26949.15	101348	The Sidwell Company	60.00
101314	David Knudsvig	75.00	101349	The Sidwell Company	10200.00
101315	Lawson Products	95.59	101350	NDPERS Insurance	2281.68
101316	Kristin Lee	100.00	101351	ND Public Health Insurance Trust	58292.84
101317	Little Falls Machine Inc	1329.69	101352	ND BCBS	58.20
101318	Jennifer Lindseth	18.28	101353	I 29 Trailer Sales Inc	50655.00
101319	Loffler	206.63	101354	Village Business Institute	2010.00

There being no further business to be brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m. to meet again on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

ATTEST:

Glenda Haugen, Auditor

Kurt Elliott, Chairman