

The Traill County Commissioners came to order on Tuesday, **December 15, 2020** at 8:00 a.m. with the following members in-person: Commissioners Eblen, Elliott, Young and Amb. Commissioner Nesvig attended via Webex. On motion of Elliott, seconded by Nesvig and carried to approve the minutes of 12-01-20.

COUNTY DEED: On motion of Young, seconded by Amb and carried to allow the Chairman and Auditor to sign a County Deed with Robert A. Andre, as his contract for deed has been paid in full.

REMARK TECHNOLOGY: On motion of Amb, seconded by Young and carried to allow the Chairman to sign the 2021 technology contract with Remark Technology, and pay the entire bill in January saving the county \$4,701.00.

EMAIL RECEIVED: An email from Gail Mooney was received concerning COVID Cares Act funds. No action was taken.

HEALTH INSURANCE: On motion of Elliott, seconded by Amb and carried to approve a request of \$58,625.44 for the down payment of our new health insurance policy with NDPHIT.

TAX DIRECTOR: Kayla Knudson, Tax Director met with the Commission. On motion of Elliott, seconded by Young and carried to continue to value Ag land without the use of modifiers. On motion of Amb, seconded by Elliott and carried to allow the Chairman and Auditor sign a 2 year contract with Sidwell Company for the Traill County GIS maintenance services.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Corwyn Martin, Road Superintendent and Matt Lange, KLJ updated the board on various issues. Preliminary work will begin on the Climax bridge. Received notice from Byron Fuchs, ND DOT on the Governor's budget address which talks about bonding and the use of the Legacy Funds interest to help with bridge repairs. More information to come later. Bridge 228, Kaldorville will be in the February 2021 bid letting.

PHONE POLICY: Discussion was held on the different rates provided to department heads for cell phone use and possibly implementing a policy and give all the same rates. No action was taken at this time. Discussion was also held concerning the Human Service Department employees receiving \$50.00 per month for internet usage and \$50.00 per month for personal cell phone usage going back to March when employees were allowed to work from home because of COVID. Kim Jacobson, AVHSZ Director explained that her Social Service Board approved the expense at their April 2020 meeting, as some employees had to increase their internet usage at home due to work activities and when the majority of their time was spent working from home. No action was taken at this time. Glenda Haugen, County Auditor will bring a spreadsheet on the expenses to the next meeting.

COURTHOUSE CLOSED: Discussion was held on bringing back all employees, to work in their offices. Kim Jacobson, AVHSZ Director noted that the State DHS has recommended her department remain working remotely. Chairman Eblen asked the Auditor to send a request to Department Heads to come to the next meeting to discuss coming back to the offices.

COVID-CARES ACT FUNDS: Commissioners invited all Traill County City Leaders to attend the meeting via conference call with the following members on-line : Hatton Council Member Mark Duncan; Hillsboro Mayor Terry Sando and Auditor Ashely Frederick; Mayville Mayor Steven Bensen and Council Member Charlie Moen; Portland City Mayor Sven Mickels, Council Member JoAnna Nielson and Auditor Nadine Rygg. No representation from the cities of Buxton, Clifford, Galesburg, Grandin and Reynolds. Ben Gates, Traill County DES Assistant, Steve Hunt, Sheriff and Charlie Stock, States Attorney also attended. Gates explained how and why the state decided to send funds to the counties and the 8 largest cities. ND OMB sent funds to the 8 largest cities and all 53 counties based solely on the cost of law enforcement personnel payroll costs within the entities. Using the law enforcement costs was just the methodology they used to distribute the funds. The county has control of the funds with the state asking the funds to be used for property tax relief. HILLSBORO: Frederick told commissioners that other counties are refunding the cities based on the percentage they pay into the county budget for the Sheriff deputies. All cities in Traill could use the funds to help pay for the expenses they have incurred during COVID. Gates asked Frederick if Hillsboro had filed any claims with FEMA, as FEMA will reimburse expenses on a 75/25 split with expenses such as PPE, sneeze guards and hand

sanitizers. FEMA will not cover wages or technology expenses. Frederick stated Hillsboro filed a claim for \$4,000 but were denied. Stock explained the different programs out there to help agencies with expenses and encouraged all in attendance to apply and Gates will be glad to help with paperwork. HATTON: Duncan reported that Hatton didn't have a lot of expenses but also questioned how the funds would be disbursed. MAYVILLE: Benson reports that Mayville had minor PPE expenses and quarantined employees. Moen also raised questions on the disbursement of funds. PORTLAND: Mickels reported minor zoom expenses and asked the commissioners to check with Cass County to see how they disbursed their funds. Commissioner Eblen explained that each county has control of their own funds and the main focus for Traill County is to make sure the funds are used to reduce property taxes which will help all citizens of the county. COVID isn't going away anytime soon and we do not know if funds for the Health District will be available come January 1, 2021 which could result in expenses the county will be responsible for.

On motion of Nesvig, seconded by Young to ask the cities to submit their COVID related, non-budgeted expenses to the Traill County Auditor for review. Upon roll call vote, Commissioners present and voting aye: Eblen, Elliott, Nesvig, Young and Amb, motion passed.

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

100918	ND Public Health Insurance	58625.44	100951	Napa Mayville	13.78
100919	3D Specialties Inc	1824.00	100952	Farnams Genuine Parts	138.12
100920	Advanced Drainage Systems	1229.92	100953	NDACE Conference	275.00
100921	Ada Electric Inc	220.00	100954	ND 24 7 Attorney General	300.00
100922	Les Amb	432.68	100955	Nodak Electric Coop	53.76
100923	Aramark	389.00	100956	Olsen Hardware	252.42
100924	Buxton Farmers Union	1564.78	100957	Opp Construction	5175.00
100925	MHD Berts Truck Equipment	25.67	100958	Ottos Welding	196.00
100926	Business Essentials	206.37	100959	Portland Farmers Union	123.52
100927	Century Link	84.00	100960	Post Board	135.00
100928	Crane Johnson lumber	1128.37	100961	Chicago Power Plan	127.92
100929	Code 4 Services Inc	3094.25	100962	Praxair	328.02
100930	Forrest Derosier	100.00	100963	Richland County Jail	852.21
100931	Kurt Elliott	75.00	100964	Remark Tech Consulting	356.00
100932	Ewing Oil	375.86	100965	Swanston Equipment Co	673.12
100933	Safety Permanency	1042.88	100966	Sorum Oil Co	12025.67
100934	Forterra Pipe and Precast	1240.00	100967	Spring Prairie Electric	275.50
100935	Gompf Displays Inc	49.95	100968	Charles Stock	60.00
100936	Glenda Haugen	600.00	100969	Sturdevants	43.16
100937	Hillsboro Banner	240.25	100970	Safety Permanency	2725.00
100938	Hatton Coop Oil Co	78.03	100971	Toshiba Financial Serv	303.86
100939	Hillsboro City	1071.88	100972	TC Economic Development	1117.75
100940	Hope Municipal Utilities	988.74	100973	Waste Management	74.75
100941	High Plains Technology Inc	589.00	100974	Wilson Brothers ND	136.20
100942	Information Tech Dept	1446.60	100975	Wright Implement	648.80
100943	Dale Johnson	75.00	100976	John Wright	80.04
100944	David Knudsvig	75.00	100977	West Side Steel	266.81
100945	Jill Lagein	205.32	100978	Xcel Energy	250.07
100946	Lawson Products	5.53	100981	Discovery Benefit Fees	66.00
100947	Mayport Hardware Hank	384.08	100986	TC Treasurer FOASI	63801.74
100948	Midstates Wireless	72.00	100988	NDPERS Retirement	42424.89

100949	Magnusons Tires and Service	48.99	100992	TC Treasurer FOASI	404.08
100950	Paul Mueller	75.00	100993	TC Treasurer	1445.73

There being no further business to be brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m. to meet again on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

Attest:

Glenda Haugen, Auditor

Thomas Eblen, Chairman