

September 1, 2015

The Grant County Commission met at 8AM with Commissioners Buttke, Dummann, Mach, Stengel and Tucholke present. Chairman Tucholke called the meeting to order. Motion by Stengel and seconded by Buttke to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting. Motion carried 5-0. Minutes filed. Motion by Mach and seconded by Stengel to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

**Drainage:** Chairman Tucholke adjourned the Board of Commissioners and convened the commission acting as the Drainage Board. Applicants George Mertens and John Collins were present. Drainage administrator Krista Atyeo-Gortmaker presented the following permit applications.

Permit DR2015-18 by George Mertens in 34-120-49 (Grant Center) on the Faye Matthies property, signed by Farm Manager Thue. The request is to improve farmland by placing tile to drain into the existing tile of George Mertens as completed by permit DR2013-29. The water moves in a northeastern direction into the existing inlet as permitted in DR2013-29. NRCS letter is on file and the certified letter receipts have been received by the Drainage Office. Motion by Stengel and seconded by Dummann to approve DR2015-18. Motion carried 5-0.

Permit DR2015-19 by John Collins in 35-118-49 (Georgia) is to improve cropping practices by routing natural pools of water through tile installation into the south fork of the Yellow Bank which flows in a northeastern direction within his own property and enters a natural run. NRCS letter is on file and the certified letter receipts have been received by the Drainage Officer. Motion by Dummann and seconded by Stengel to approve DR2015-19. Motion carried 5-0.

The Drainage Officer informed the drainage board of a complaint filed in her office of a berm holding back the natural flow of water of an established run under the control of the Army Corp of Engineers in Section 30 of Vernon Township. In accordance with the ordinance, a certified letter has been sent to the landowner and an investigation is being conducted.

This concluded the business for the drainage board. Chairman Tucholke adjourned the Drainage Board and reconvened the Board of Commissioners.

Milbank resident and former commissioner Dick Berens informed the board of his support for the wheel tax increase.

**Highway:** Supt Schultz stated he had a request from the owners of Gunslinger's in Twin Brooks to install a bridge type approach south of their building going into a parking area. The question discussed was if the approach would be a hindrance or an obstruction within the county's ROW. Commissioner Mach stated he would like to look at the site and moved to table the request until the next meeting on September 22, seconded by Dummann. Motion carried 5-0. Another request from Lance and Melissa O'Farrell for signage of a hidden approach or school bus stop by their residence on County Road 7 near Marvin was discussed. Commissioner Dummann will review the site and it was the consensus of the Commission to consider signage at the next meeting. Supt Schultz reported the high reflectivity sign replacement project would begin next month. The company awarded the state contract is planning to complete about half of the county this fall. The entire county will have signs placed in accordance with the motor vehicle uniform traffic control devices manual. He also reported he had received calls last weekend of signs being pulled out of the ground and left on the road as an obstruction. The sign vandalism occurred in Melrose Township. Commissioner Buttke asked Supt Schultz to look at the intersection of County Road #10 and #39 as he had received a call on an asphalt breakup and there is a pot hole developing on the turning wing of the road. Also, a discussion was held on crops growing within the right-of-way which are blocking the line of sight at intersections. Commissioner Tucholke will have Nathan Mueller inspect for violations of Ordinance 1995-3 and mow the crops within the county's right-of-ways.

**2016 Budget Hearing:** The published 9AM hearing for the 2016 budget was held. Present were Treasurer Raynelle Mueller, Roger Loeschke, Clayton Whiting, Gail Whiting, Eileen Fonder, Ginny Tostenson, Jim Ward and Holly Hillbrands. Chairman Tucholke opened the public hearing for questions from the public. Roger Loeschke expressed his concerns of not being made aware the wheel tax and the new levy being raised were for the Highway Fund instead of thinking it would be in the General Fund. Chairman Tucholke stated the article in the local paper and the news reports have all referred to the wheel tax and the new levy specifically for road and bridge purposes. The wheel tax revenue is a designated revenue and has been receipted into the highway fund since 2001. Under SB1, which created the new levy, the law refers to the levy to be used for road and bridges purposes. Chairman Tucholke and Treasurer Mueller explained the licensing of a semi and the semi-trailer. The semi (power unit) is licensed yearly and pays the wheel tax

every year. The trailer that is pulled by the semi has a permanent plate which means it pays the license fee and wheel tax once when the trailer is purchased. If the license plate is lost and needs to be replaced, the fees and wheel tax would be paid again. Roger talked about the conditions of the roads in Vernon Township due to the heavy traffic. Clayton Whiting asked if a fuel tax or another form of tax could be added for the repair of the roads and assessed against the users who haul. The fuel tax is a state revenue source. The county's main source of revenue is property taxes which is limited to increase each year by the CPI and growth factors. The Highway Fund receives dedicated revenue from the wheel tax and motor vehicle licenses and cash from the General Fund is transferred to the Highway Fund to balance the spending. Now, under SB1, all the South Dakota counties have been given the opportunity to levy for additional funding for road and bridge purposes. The new levy is also limited to the CPI and growth factor each year, if the levy is approved. Chairman Tucholke thanked the group of individuals for coming in and for the good discussion on the funding questions. The Commission reviewed revenue and expense projections for the highway fund and the cash applied figure for the 2016 budget in preparation of the final adoption of the 2016 budget to be on September 30 at 9AM.

**Sheriff:** Kevin Owen presented the July statistics report as follows: Average Daily inmate population 6.93; Number of bookings 42; Work release money collected \$610.00; 24/7 Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) fees collected \$102.00; SCRAM (alcohol detecting bracelet) fees collected \$700.00; 24/7 PBT participants 5; SCRAM (Sobriety Program) participants 3; Calls for Service 512; Accidents investigated 4; Civil papers served 37; Cumulative miles traveled 7638; 911 calls responded to 93. Sheriff Owen reported on the work load statistics from 2012 and projected cases through 2015. The statistics show the number of felony drug cases has increased three times since 2014 and he attributes the increase in case load due to having the staff available to investigate cases. He also presented statistics for cases on domestic and sexual assaults and the number of arrests. These numbers have also increased since 2012.

**County Assistance:** Motion by Buttke and seconded by Dummann to approve case PR 2015-04 for payment. Motion carried 5-0.

**Lien:** Motion by Stengel and seconded by Mach to approve a partial lien release on the property described as the North 20 feet of Lot 3, Block 5, First Addition, Town of LaBolt to allow the transfer of the property with the lien to remain after the transfer of the property is completed. Motion carried 5-0.

**Cash Transfers:** Motion by Buttke and seconded by Mach to approve the cash transfer from General Fund as per the 2015 budget. Motion carried 5-0.

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
101 General	201 Highway Fund	250,000
101 General	226 EM Fund	12,000

**Executive Session:** Motion by Dummann and seconded by Buttke to enter into executive session at 10:50 AM for the purpose of a personnel issue(s) pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1). Motion carried 5-0. Auditor Layher was present. Chairman Tucholke declared the meeting open to the public at 11:10 AM. No action taken.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion by Mach and seconded by Stengel to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

1. Approve items to be declared surplus: (5) brown tables located at 4-H grounds, item numbers 1647, 1648, 1649, 1650 and 2263; 4 Drawer File cabinet, number 1619, black chair number 0125, orange chair number 1169, typewriter stand number 1893, (6) metal ash tray cubicles, Eureka Vacuum number 0802, (2) Wind tunnel vacuums
2. Approve list of volunteers for Main Library and Branch Libraries and weather spotters as on file in the Auditor's Office
3. Approve list of library materials to be declared surplus for the months of April-May-June, 2015

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Correspondence:** Commission received an invitation to attend the CapX2020 transmission line ground breaking event in Clear Lake.

**Claims:** Motion by Mach and seconded by Stengel to approve the claims as presented. Motion carried 5-0. AL'S BODY SHOP, repair 240.00; AVERA MCKENNAN SIOUX FALLS, co assist 12,038.17; BERENS, supplies 440.76; BITUMINOUS PAVING, hwy projects 301.08; BOYER TRUCK, parts 295.63; BROWNLEE CONSTRUCTION, gravel crushing 68,848.85; BUREAU OF INFO & TELE, email & internet 440.00; CENTER POINT, books 182.18; CITY OF MILBANK, water & sewer 590.35; COLEPAPERS, supplies 227.16; DAVID W LARSEN, reimburse 4,250.00; DELORIS J RUFER, rent 100.00; DEMCO, supplies 286.04; DON HAUKOS, prof serv 35.00; FLAT RATE, hwy projects 572.50; GLOBAL GOVT ED, supplies 927.73; GRANT CO SHERIFF, postage 2.74; GRANT COUNTY 4-H ASSOC, alloca 2,500.00; IGROW, redbooks 105.25;

L. G. EVERIST, hwy projects 3,272.73; LIBRARY STORE, supplies 6.62; LINCOLN CO AUDITOR, co assist 385.50; MICROMARKETING, book 19.99; MILBANK AUTO PARTS, parts & supplies 1,182.50; MILBANK FORD & MERCURY, prof service 63.00; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY, nat gas 30.00; OFFICE PEEPS, supplies 75.17; POSTMASTER, postage 115.00; REED ELSEVIER, on line charges 695.00; SD CONTINUING LEGAL ED, Dakota Disc 500.00; SD DEPT TRANS, hwy projects 81.24; SEEHAFFER HARDWARE, supplies 113.59; SHOPKO, supplies 2.99; THE PENWORTHY CO, books 56.95; WESTERN SURETY CO, notary bond 50.00; WHETSTONE VALLEY ELECTRIC, rental 25.00. TOTALS: \$99,058.72.

Payroll for the following departments and offices for the month of August 2015 are as follows: COMMISSIONERS 4783.75; AUDITOR 14,528.69; TREASURER 9423.71; STATES ATTORNEY 10,485.10; CUSTODIANS 5039.55; DIR. OF EQUALIZATION 6417.00; REG. OF DEEDS 7570.01; VET. SERV. OFFICER 1365.53; SHERIFF 17,051.76; COMMUNICATION CTR 11,357.05; PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE 3092.80; ICAP 703.80; VISITING NEIGHBOR 2835.18; LIBRARY 11,759.04; 4-H 4545.60; WEED CONTROL 3743.93; PLAN & ZONING 1981.36; ROAD & BRIDGE 49,587.49; EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 3291.00. TOTAL: \$169,562.35.

Payroll Claims: FIRST BANK & TRUST, Fed WH 16,286.42; FIRST BANK & TRUST, FICA WH & Match 20,567.80; FIRST BANK & TRUST, Medicare WH & Match 4810.28; AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE, AFLAC ins. 1746.76; WELLMARK-BLUE CROSS OF SD, Employee and Commission health ins. 41,545.48; DEARBORN NATIONAL, life ins. 229.86; LEGAL SHIELD, deduction 172.30; OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT, deduction 566.00; OPTILEGRA, ins 346.08; ROGENBURG LAW, deduction 350.00; SDSR SUPPLEMENTAL, deduction 150.00; SDRS, retire 18,955.46. TOTAL: \$105,726.44.

It is the policy of Grant County, South Dakota, not to discriminate against the handicapped in employment or the provision of service.

The next scheduled meeting dates will be September 22 and 30, 2015 at 8 AM. Motion by Mach and seconded by Stengel to adjourn the meeting, motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned.

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Karen M. Layher, Grant County Auditor

Clayton Tucholke, Chairman, Grant County Comm.