REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

May 2nd, 2017

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The Towner County Commissioners met in regular session on May 2, 2017 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.

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

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Motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017 regular meeting and the April 11, 2017 special meeting was made by Boe and seconded by Teubner.  All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

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Kevin Walford with Butler Machinery and Greg Haglin of the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) were on hand to explain the NJPA program to the Commissioners.  NJPA is a government agency that was formed to create an easier purchasing arrangement for local government.  Contracts are bid at a national level so that smaller agency do not have to go through the bidding process.  Membership to NJPA is free.  Motion by Lagein, seconded by Boe to utilize the program for the next blade purchase. All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.  Motion by Weisz, seconded by Teubner to advertise a 2010 motor grader for sale.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.  Motion by Lagein, seconded by Boe to purchase a leased motor grader by also using the NJPA membership.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Matt Johnson, Wold Engineering, stated the change order on the Hansboro road had not been approved and the state was looking for a revised change order showing the decrease of borrow quantity.  Motion by Boe, seconded by Teubner to approve the revised change order.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.  A culvert in a driveway near Hansboro was also discussed.  Johnson would assess the water flow in the area on his way back to Bottineau.

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An employee was present to address a letter he had received from the Commissioners.  The employee was advised to sit down with his supervisors to address the issues.  A road crew employee was retiring and an ad would be placed for a new hire.  Spring flood damage to roads was discussed.  The assessed damage amounted to approximately $400,000.

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Maintenance Supervisor Bill Voight stated the Armory had recently hosted several events.  Voight also stated he was exploring options for getting a leak in the Armory roof fixed.

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Sheriff Kuchar stated things had been fairly quite other than he has a suspicious ring of thefts in the area.  Kuchar feels there is more than one person involved and asked the Commissioners to be on the lookout for strange vehicles.    A new deputy will start on May 5th. Commissioner Teubner gave an update on the Law Enforcement Center.

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Curt Juntunen, County Parks, stated the docks had been put in and there were trees being cleaned up at Snyder Lake.  Planting trees through the Soil Conservation was discussed.

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Bonnie Good gave the Commissioners an update on the farm residence exemptions.  Good stated that 317 applications had been mailed out and there were only 36 non responses.  Good stated she had filed a complaint with the State Tax Department in regards to one of the Towner County Assessors.  The State Tax Department will be here this week to deal with the issue.

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Motion by Weisz, seconded by Boe to approve the Armory Lease with the American Legion.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Lagein, seconded by Boe to approve the Bills. All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Weisz, seconded by Teubner to approve the off premise liquor license application form and to approve an application for July 7th from the Cando Golf Course.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.  Motion by Teubner, seconded by Boe to approve a liquor license for the Cando Golf Club.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Boe, seconded by Weisz to approve the appointment of Tracy Ritterath as the public administrator for Towner County with her appointment to start on May 21, 2017.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Teubner, seconded by Weisz to approve a deed to Lester Anderson.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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The employee EAP contract was discussed.  Motion by Teubner, seconded by Boe to approve the contract.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

A zoning permit for Patrick L. Thompson was reviewed. There were 2 variances requested.  One for 4 acres when 5 is required and one for not meeting the setback requirements.  There was a township road involved in the setback and the Commissioners were concerned about snow and the setback.    Motion by Teubner, seconded by Weisz to approve the permit with the condition the township also approves.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion carried.

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Motion by Boe, seconded by Teubner to approve the United Communications consent to cross a County road permit.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Boe, seconded by Weisz to approve a resolution of sponsorship for a Towner County Housing Authority grant with North Central Planning.  The motion also included a resolution for handicapped access.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

The next meeting was set for June 6, 2017

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The meeting adjourned by motion.

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ATTEST:

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Joni M. Morlock                                                                              Doug Berg, Chairman

Towner County Auditor/Treasurer                                               Towner County Board of Commissioners