

Dickey County Commission Minutes

Commissioner Meeting October 1, 2024

Chair Jerry Walsh called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. Commissioners John Hokana, Brandon Carlson, Kacey Holm, and Marke Roberts were also present. Auditor Sheppard and resident Cindy Bagley were also present. States Attorney Kim Radermacher and Health District staff Roxanne Holm and Kerry Waldo were present via electronic means. The media was not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additional Load limits on county roads Paving of Co Rd 3 west of Oakes Voting booths in Oakes Holm made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

County Agent Administrative Assistant Monica Pakonen and Clerk of Court Andi Schimke joined the meeting via electronic means at 9:15. County Agent Breana Kiser, NDSU Central District Director Dena Kemmet, and NDSU Interim East District Director Alicia Harstad joined the meeting at 9:28.

Sheppard requested the addition of a voucher in the amount of \$552.50 to transfer FEMA money received for cleaning downed trees on county property at Pheasant Lake. The reimbursement has been received. Holm made a motion to approve the vouchers with the addition of the transfer of funds. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Kemmet spoke with the Commission concerning the official resignation of Family and Community Wellness Agent Danielle Dinger, who officially started in LaMoure today. Walsh and Holm both expressed concern that Kemmet had not contacted the Commission about the pending resignation, stating it is hard to fix a problem if you are not aware of the problem. Kemmet recognizes that she should have reached out to Chair Walsh. Kemmet is requesting a motion from the Commission to fill the position because Kemmet can't open the position until the Commission has done so. The importance of the position and the individual's involvement with the schools was also discussed. Holm made a motion to authorize NDSU to fill the position. Carlson seconded. Roll call was Carlson yes; Hokana yes; Holm yes; Roberts no; Walsh yes. Motion carried. Kemmet requested one of the Commissioner serve on the search committee. Roberts personally thanked Dinger for her hard work and time of service with Dickey County.

The Commission went into recess at 10:05 and returned at 10:15.

Applied Digital staff Martin Vega and Andrea Mireles joined the meeting at 10:15.

Roberts made a motion to approve the final 2025 Budget. Holm seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Roberts made a motion to open the Omitted Tax hearing. Carlson seconded.

Motion carried.

Sheppard reviewed the six properties in question for the omitted tax hearing. Two parcels (#07210001 and #08083000) are land purchases from an exempt property to a non-exempt property. These values are prorated based on the day of the sale. The next two parcels (#02130002 and #00619750) are land purchases of property that no longer qualify for farm residence exemption because of the purchase. These values are prorated based on the day of the purchase. The last two parcels (#00890875 and #01980625) are properties that have new homes that were not included in the original assessment. Hokana made a motion to approve the new values to be added to the tax rolls on the above properties. Holm seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Holm made a motion to close the omitted tax hearing. Hokana seconded. Motion carried.

Holm made a motion to open the abatement hearing. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Sheppard presented one parcel filing (parcel #10321000) for 100% homestead credit for the tax years 2022 and 2023. Sheppard stated the landowner meets the qualifications for the 100% credit. Holm made a motion to approve the abatement as presented. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Holm made a motion to close the abatement hearing. Carlson seconded. Motion carried.

KLJ Engineer Bryan Tykwinski and Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen joined the meeting at 10:40.

Hagen presented a permit from Scott German to run a tile line under County Road 14 in section 16 of Lovell Township south of the Ludden curves on ND Highway 11. The tile permit was approved previously by the Water Board. Dakota Improvement completed the work and has put gravel on the road. German has agreed to pay the cost of putting the road back to its original condition. Carlson made a motion to approve the utility permit. Holm seconded. Motion carried.

DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell and Applied Digital representative Nick Phillips joined the meeting at 10:45.

Carlson commended the Highway Department on the paving completed on the west side of Oakes on County Road 3. The transition is very smooth and completed on time.

Hagen discussed with the Commission the railroad crossing east of Oakes that the county has had safety concerns reported from a concerned citizen. A decision was made to have the crossings looked at by the state of North Dakota.

Hokana has received many phone calls concerning load limits on county roads during harvest time. Hagen stated the weight limit is 105,500 unless

posted. A farmer can pay for a 10% harvest permit from the state which only applies to state roads, allowing them to be 10% overweight. Currently, getting that harvest permit does not carry over to county roads. Roberts made a motion to approve the use of the state issued 10% harvest permit on county roads. Carlson seconded. Roll call was Hokana yes; Carlson yes; Walsh no; Roberts yes; Holm yes. Motion carried.

Elden Township Supervisor Gary Dathe joined the meeting at 11:00. Ellendale Township Supervisor Joel Hamar and NDACo Executive Director Aaron Birst joined the meeting via electronic means at 11:05.

Hagen and Tykwinski discussed the funding for County Road 12 with the Commission. There are two possible options, both costing the county the same amount of money. Holm made a motion to use the option to use county funds after the state project funds have been used, which postpones those expenses to 2026. Hokana seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Phillips discussed with the Commission the traffic issue at 87th Avenue, as well as 95th Street. Phillips is requesting the state of North Dakota to install turn lanes on Highway 11 going east and west and a turn lane on Highway 281 at 95th Street. The grant funding that could be used for this project would need the two township roads be converted to county roads. Phillips discussed a sample cooperative agreement he has from McKenzie County, which would be a possible contract the group could work with. Applied Digital is willing to work with the county to pay for the cost of the road, as the intersections are creating a safety hazard for those using those roads.

Phillips recognizes that the township board is basically volunteer position and does not have the budget to complete this project. Phillips is not sure of the reasoning for Ellendale Township to not agree with the county making the road a county road. Phillips stated in his opinion it is the decision of the county whether to convert the road to a county road or not.

Dathe stated that the biggest concern for Elden Township was the maintenance of the road with the heavy use on the township road. Elden Township would lose two miles going west from Highway 281 on 95th Street to 87th Street and one mile south on 87th Street. Dathe felt that the citizens of Elden Township were less concerned with the change, if the county took the road over as a county road.

Radermacher has reviewed the Century Code concerning this issue. Radermacher is not sure of the issue that Ellendale Township has concerning this road.

Phillips stated that he wants the County and Applied Digital to follow the appropriate steps. Phillips stated they

just need a motion to change the road to a county road.

Hamar reminded the Commission that the number one industry in Dickey County is agriculture. The county is busy enough with the roads they currently have. The example of the repair on County Road 2 that has not been done was used as an example. Hamar stated that Applied Digital has agreed to do maintenance on the road, such as cables by the holding ponds, but that has not been done. The slope of the ditches is not correct and that has not been fixed. Ellendale Township does have the equipment to continue to maintain that road.

Phillips stated that the cable by the ponds has not been done yet, but the agreement was that it was to be finished when the ponds were finished. The ponds have not been finished at this time. Phillips stated that they are trying to address the slope issue on the ditches but are having a hard time communicating with the township.

Vega discussed the issue of the township having time to maintain the road. In his discussions with Martin Construction, Vega felt that Martin Construction will only get to this road once or twice a month. Vega stated that the real problem is the road safety. Phillips and Vega both stated that the communication with the township is hard and often no response. Applied Digital was requesting the signature on a form from Ellendale Township. Hamar stated the township board felt that it was not in their best interest to sign the form.

The discussion concerning the safety of all Dickey County residents was discussed in detail. Holm stated that safety is his main concern, not so much the paving of the roads. Roberts stated that he will not vote against what the township's position

Carlson made a motion to investigate the acquisition of 87th Avenue and 95th Street in order that turn lanes can be placed on Highway 11 and Highway 281 for the safety of all the people in Dickey County. Hokana seconded. Discussion followed with Hokan expressing disappointment that Ellendale Township is not thinking about the safety issue regarding the turning lanes. Tykwinski stated there are some things he felt needed to be addressed before we go much further with the process. Radermacher will work with Phillips on a possible agreement between Dickey County and Applied Digital that was discussed earlier. Roll call was Carlson yes; Walsh yes; Roberts no; Holm yes; Hokan yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27.

Social Security

Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor
Russell Gloor, Association of Mature Citizens

Ask Rusty - Ask Rusty - -- About Signing up for Social Security and Medicare Part B at 70

Dear Rusty: I just turned 69 years old in August 2024 and am still working full time. I signed up for Medicare Part A but, it is my secondary insurance because I have great health insurance through where I work. My wife is retired and has Medicare Part A but, is on my insurance also, and she is taking Social Security. Our plan is for me to work until August 2026 when I'll be 71. I'll file for Social Security when I turn 70, and bank all of it for a year until I retire. That is money we plan to use for travel and fun things. I have three questions: when should I file for my Social Security so it starts in September; when do my wife and I file for Medicare Part B (with a supplement) so it starts in September; and are there negative tax implications to this plan that I haven't thought of? Signed: Needing Info

Dear Needing Info: Sounds like you have a great strategy planned for your personal Social Security benefits and your Medicare Part B enrollment for both of you. To your questions:

If you will be 70 in August 2025, you can apply for Social Security about 3 months prior (e.g., in May 2025). Just be sure to specify that you wish your SS benefits to start effective with the month of your 70th birthday. Signing up a few months early is perfectly okay – you will indicate your desired benefit start date on your application, and that is when SS will start your benefits. Remember, SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so your first payment will be received in September 2025 (on the 2nd Wednesday if you were born before the 11th of the month).

As for Medicare Part B coverage for you and your wife, both of

you can enroll in Medicare Part B a couple of months prior to you leaving work, but request that Medicare Part B coverage starts in the month your work coverage ends. In other words, you can enroll in Medicare before you retire from work but request that your Part B coverage starts in the first month your employer coverage ends (to avoid any gap in healthcare coverage). Obviously, you should begin your private supplemental healthcare coverage to coincide with the start of your Medicare Part B coverage. Regarding the tax implications, just be aware that a portion of your received Social Security benefits become taxable income if your Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) as a married couple exceeds certain thresholds. FYI, "MAGI" is your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on your tax return, plus 50% of your received SS benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had. If you file your taxes as "married/jointly" and your MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes taxable income (at your normal IRS tax rate). Income tax on SS benefits occurs when your MAGI is over the thresholds for your tax filing status, so you should plan accordingly. If your MAGI will be consistently over these thresholds after you retire from working, you may choose to have income tax withheld from your SS benefits, which is easy to do by submitting IRS FORM W-4V to your local Social Security office.



TRUCK DRIVER WANTED

Dakota Plains Feed & Grain in Hecla is looking for a feed truck driver. CDL & Med Card required. Will Train. Benefits available.

605-725-6906

NOTICE

THE DICKEY COUNTY WEED BOARD wishes to inform the residents of Dickey County that road right-of-ways will be sprayed, and that spraying will continue for the duration of the summer and fall.

TRUCK DRIVER WANTED

Agriswine Alliance is looking for OTR livestock truck driver. Med card and CDL required. Will Train. Benefits available.

605-725-6906

Are you 62 or older?

Rental help is available!



Great Plains Housing Authority rental assistance can help put money back in your pocket to better afford groceries, medical expenses, and more! Contact GPHA to apply at 701-252-1098 or apply online www.greatplainsha.com.

Available only to residents in Stutsman, Foster, Eddy, Wells, Logan, Dickey and Sargent Counties.
300 2nd Ave NE - Suite 200 | Jamestown, ND 58401



FARMLAND FOR SALE

Sargent County Farmland

Sealed bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the office of Even Law Office, PLLC, for the sale of farmland being sold by the Fredrickson family, situated in the Sargent County, North Dakota, described as:

NE 1/4 Less Sublot 1 of E 1/2 NE 1/4 Section 30 - T131, R55, Sargent County

Submit written bids to Even Law Office, in person 326 5th St., by mail PO Box 1, Cogswell, ND 58017, or via email: leeanneven@drtel.net by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024. Please indicate a bid for farmland is enclosed. Bids should be for the total price of the parcel and not by the acre. Bid should include the bidder's phone number and email address. Oral bidding for the highest bidders to take place on Monday, November 4, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. Parties do not have to appear in person for oral bidding.

Terms: 10% due on day of bidding. Closing within 30 days after offer accepted.

For more information, including a bid packet, contact LeeAnn Even at Even Law Office, PO Box 1, Cogswell, ND 58017, Phone (701)724-3772 email: leeanneven@drtel.net.

Seller reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



Take charge of your health!

Call 1.800.44 WOMEN for information about breast and cervical cancer screening services.

North Dakotans Partnering for Women's Health a collaboration making women's health a priority

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR SALE

Rutland, North Dakota

Sealed bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at the Rutland-Cayuga Rural Fire District building in Rutland, North Dakota, for the sale of the two (2) former fire halls in Rutland and Cayuga, North Dakota being sold by the Rutland-Cayuga Rural Fire District, situated in Sargent County, North Dakota, described as:

N 75' Lots 1 & 2, Block 3, Devlin's 1st Addition, Cayuga Lots 17-20, Block 1, Cooper's Addition, Rutland

Submit written bids to Even Law Office, in person 326 5th St., by mail PO Box 1, Cogswell, ND 58017, or via email: leeanneven@drtel.net by 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. Please indicate a bid is enclosed for either the former Rutland Fire Hall, the former Cayuga Fire Hall, or both fire halls. Bid should include the bidder's phone number and email address. Oral bidding for the highest bidders to take place on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at 123 Bagley St., Rutland, ND 58067. Parties do not have to appear in person for oral bidding.

Terms: 10% due on day of bidding. Closing within 30 days after bid accepted.

For more information, including a bid packet or to tour either building, contact LeeAnn Even at Even Law Office, PO Box 1, Cogswell, ND 58017, Phone (701)724-3772 email: leeanneven@drtel.net.

Seller reserves the right to reject any or all bids.