

Dickey County Commission Minutes

Commissioner Meeting April 16, 2024

Chair Jerry Walsh called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioners John Hokana, Brandon Carlson, Kacey Holm, and Marke Roberts were also present. Auditor Sheppard and resident Cindy Bagley were also present. The media was not present. Recited was the Pledge of Allegiance. Sheriff's office personnel, Clerk of Court Andi Schimke, Health District staff Amber Miller, and Administrative Assistant Holly Hokana were present via electronic means.

Carlson made a motion to approve the amended minutes from April 2nd. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Additions to agenda

Co Rd 12
Resolution for Forbes city
Park at Pheasant Lake

Roberts made a motion to approve the vouchers with the addition of a refund to an employee and a payment for a post office box rental for the year. Holm seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Holm made a motion to approve the financials for March 2024. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

States Attorney Kim Radermacher and Health District personnel Allyssa Moch joined the meeting via electronic means at 9:15.

Carlson made a motion to sign the resolution supporting Forbes City in their application for the Rural Slum and Blight grant. Holm seconded. Motion carried.

Sheppard requested the assignment of election inspectors for the 2024 election year. Holm motioned to appoint the two to inspectors, Sonia Meehl for the Oakes Armory voting location and Don Flaherty for the Ellendale Church of the Nazarene voting location. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Administrative assistant Amy Mittleder joined the meeting at 9:20. Clerk of Court/ Park Board member Andi Schimke joined the meeting in person. Mittleder and Schimke discussed with the Commission the responsibilities expected of the park board maintenance person for Pheasant Lake. The Commission reiterated that mowing will only include the beach and the driveway to the beach, the handicap dock area, boat landing, and along with the vault toilet area and the area leading to the picnic area. The Commission discussed the FEMA project for cleanup of trees from the December ice storm at Pheasant Lake. Removal will include only those trees that are in the mowed area of the County Park.

Schimke informed the Commission that there are circumstances beyond her control that will have her office covered by staff from the LaMoure County Clerk of Courts office for part of the day on June 12.

Tax Director Don Flaherty joined the meeting at 9:30 to request direction from the Commission on the hiring of his new deputy. Flaherty has interviewed one individual and plans to interview a second candidate later this week. Flaherty is asking if he has permission to hire, or if he needs to get permission from the Board. Discussion followed concerning the need for background checks on all new hires for Dickey County, no matter what position. Radermacher stated the importance of being consistent with all new hires. Carlson made a motion to have all new hires be subject to a civil and criminal background checks before starting a position with Dickey County, which will require an update to the employee manual. Holm seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Flaherty will finalize his decision and contact Radermacher to investigate the background check. The starting wage for the new hire will start at step 1 on the pay scale.

Walsh had communicated with Flaherty about the possible need to hire a more complete assessment of the Applied Digital property west of Ellendale, as it is a unique layout new to Dickey County. Flaherty presented a quote from Vanguard Appraisals in the amount of a maximum of \$12,000. Vanguard would be able to complete this in late fall, 2024. Flaherty has presented the contract to complete this project to Radermacher for her approval. Contingent on the approval of the contract with Vanguard, Hokana made a motion to contract with Vanguard to complete this appraisal of the Applied Digital property. Carlson seconded. Funds received from the LATCF program will pay this expense. Roll call with Holm yes; Roberts no; Walsh yes; Carlson yes; Hokana yes. Motion carried.

County Treasurer Wonada Lematta and Deputy Treasurer Chris Robey joined the meeting at 9:45 to discuss two CDs that are expiring at Dakota Plains Credit Union. After reviewing the rates, Hokana made a motion to cash the CDs at Dakota Plains Credit Union and place in two CDs at CDARS at BankNorth in the amount of \$500,000 each for six months. Roberts seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Lematta presented the Pledge and Quarterly report for the first quarter 2024. After review, Roberts made a motion to approve the report as presented. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Carlson made a motion to open the

abatement hearing. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Flaherty presented four late home-stead credit applications that are for five parcels and all parcels meet the criteria. Roberts made a motion to approve the applications. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

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

Hokana made a motion to open the hearing to sell the abandoned van. Holm seconded. Motion carried.

The only bid received was in the amount of \$301 from Myron Meyers. Carlson made a motion to accept the bid from Meyers. Holm seconded. Motion carried.

Hokana made a motion to close the bid hearing. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Bagley discussed with the Commission on the purchase of land across from the Weed Board building. Bagley asked for clarification if the Sheriff cold storage will be located on the new parcel or next to the Weed Board building. The Commission stated that decisions are not final on the building across from the Weed Board building. Discussion included the structure of the current building. Bagley stated she had a bid from a contractor for a 40x60 slab of concrete. The closing of the purchase of the land needs completion before any work would begin. Dickey LaMoure Abstract Office will be involved in the closing. Radermacher has compiled a title opinion on the parcel. The date for closing is June 1st or earlier. The purchase agreement states that removal of all materials in the building is the responsibility of the prior owner before closing. The Commission discussed the chemical spill from years ago.

DES/911 Coordinator Charlie Russell joined the meeting at 10:15 to discuss information he had received concerning the chemical spill. Russell remembers submitting the information to the State Health Department, but the state has no record. At the time, the State was changing software platforms, and is not sure of the location of the filing. Conversation continued concerning the removal of the contaminated soil and placement of new soil. The large bent door on the west side of the building will need removal, as well.

Bagley discussed with the Commission research she had completed on the possibility of building a detention center in Dickey County. Bagley stated an employee from Comstock Construction is willing to come speak with the Commission. Bagley stated that the cost of building the same building in Dickey County would be approximately \$4,000,000. Discussion included defining the differences between a jail and a prison, as there are negative feelings to the placement of such a center in our county by residents of the county. Holm asked about the probability of hiring staff when there are no applicants for the current deputy position the county has. Carlson will work with Bagley to research the possibilities.

The meeting went into recess at 10:32, returning at 10:38. Sheriff Estes joined the meeting.

Discussion continued with the lack of support from the community in the past for a project such as this. Estes stated that years ago, there were six counties that had agreed to contract with Dickey County, had we built a jail at that point.

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hagen joined the meeting at 10:45.

Mittleder discussed with the Commission the need for a county mission statement. In applying for grants, a mission statement is a part of most applications and Mittleder is not aware that the county has one. Mittleder presented a sample of another county mission statement. After discussion and review, Mittleder stated she will work with NDSU staff to change the sample and return with a new mission statement more fitting for Dickey County before the end of the meeting.

Hagen presented the contracts for blading of roads and snow removal with the townships. The same townships as last year have again signed contracts with the inclusion of one new township. Holm made a motion to sign the contracts. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

KLJ Engineer Bryan Tykwinski joined the meeting at 10:54.

Hagen informed the Commission on the work done on County Road 14A. Staff worked on the road to level it, removing the large rocks. The plan is to add gravel on the road surface.

Hokana made a motion to open the propane bid hearing. Carlson seconded. Motion carried.

Received were the following bids on the purchase of 20,000 +/- gallons of propane for the 2024-2025 heating season:

Farmers Union Oil Co. \$1.24/gallon
Economy Propane \$1.50/gallon
Agtegra Cooperative \$1.299/gallon
Holm made a motion to accept the bid from Farmers Union Oil Co. Ellendale in the amount of \$1.24/gallon. Carlson seconded. Roll call was unanimous. Motion carried.

Hokana made a motion to close the propane bid hearing. Holm seconded. Motion carried.

The Commission discussed with Hagen the use of part of the building purchased across the road from the Weed Board building. It would be a cold storage building for equipment. A concrete floor would be the preference of Hagen.

Tykwinski presented a map of the county with information concerning all paved roads in Dickey County. The map broke down the needs of work needed on each road, including historic dates for past work. The total cost to complete all sealcoat work in Dickey County is approximately \$3,000,000. Discussion included the possibility of receiving prairie dog funds again in 2024 or 2025.

The Commission discussed the possibility of sealcoating miles this year. Tykwinski stated that he will go with Hagen and assess the roads, with an update given at the next meeting. Hagen will also check with LaMoure County to see if they are applying sealcoat on their highway that connects to Dickey County Road 8. Combining the two projects to reduce expenses for both parties should be a consideration. County Road #12 projects will occur in 2025 and 2026.

Mittleder returned with a proposed mission statement. Mittleder needs the mission statement for grant applications. A decision is to use the proposed statement as it reads, until further discussion.

Holm made a motion to adjourn at 12:14.

Salaries	178,458.12
Central Business Systems INC	
Chads Electric INC	109.91
Chads Electric INC	98.00
Cole Paper	1,051.53
Dickey County Fair Board	1,144.49
Dickey County Leader	56,290.00
Dinger Danielle	445.82
Ellendale True Value	11.00
Flaherty Don	22.14
Jarman's Water Systems	64.32
Miller's Fresh Foods	195.00
Montana Dakota Utilities	17.96
ND County Commissioners Assoc.	90.61
	100.00
Overpayment Refund	31.30
Overpayment Refund	194.16
Overpayment Refund	339.11
Overpayment Refund	109.12
Overpayment Refund	6.59
Q & N Corporation	1,954.99
Q & N Corporation	2,422.00
Schimke Andi	85.74
Sheppard Wanda	106.26
Wald Lori	181.25
Aramark	184.20
Matheson Tri-Gas INC	663.62
North Dakota One Call	10.40
Pomp's Tire Service INC.	606.96
Southeast Water Users	118.28
Vistos Carquest	197.62
Dakota Plains Credit Union	290.91
Dickey County Hwy Dept	204.61
NDACO and Tribal Veteran	
Service Officers	120.00
NDACO and Tribal Veteran	
Service Officers	50.00
Amazon Capital Service	455.79
Central Business Systems INC	
	439.32
Kiser Breana	896.37
Purdue University	500.00
Farmers Union Oil Co	75.00
John Quandt	10.05
Moore Engineering INC	102.50
Ellendale City Auditor	510.73
Cities, Townships, Schools	179,803.18
Monthly Expenses	9,789.23
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	48,241.88
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	448.04
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	8,223.10
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	445.36
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	126.26
Community Volunteer EMS	
of LaMoure	151.89
Kulm Ambulance Corps	203.77

Edgeley Ambulance Service	173.40
Oakes Volunteer Ambulance Service	1,861.80
Ellendale City Auditor	2,269.09
Oakes City	425.19
Garrison Diversion	1,236.82
James River Soil Conservation	1,995.85

Ellendale Fire	1,188.55
Oakes Fire	1,217.12
Dickey County Senior Citizens	1,179.01
Dickey County Historical	294.82
Dickey Sargent Irrigation District	2,074.64
State Treasurer	852.49
Dickey County Treasurer	835.00
ND Public Employees Retirement	1,614.00
	528.00
Wex Health Inc	1,060.83
ND Public Employees Retirement	671.14
	60.00
Wex Health Inc	60.00
ND Public Employees Retirement	0.07

	2,042.52
Allard Trophy Company	179.00
Amazon Capital Service	172.96
Aramark	145.56
Arcasearch Corporation	587.93
Balco Uniform	1,452.60
Cole Paper	74.38
Dakota Plains Credit Union	73.79
Dickey County Hwy Dept	700.92
Dickey County Hwy Dept	91.33
Dickey County Leader	218.00
Ellendale True Value	53.99
Farmers Union Oil Co	105.61
Graham Tire Co	652.00
Gulke Corey	267.25
Information Technology Dept	

	1,521.95
Lematta Wonada	163.41
Napa Central	27.95
NDSU Extension Services	40.00
Quadiant Leasing USA, INC.	294.99
Q & N Corporation	606.98
Q & N Corporation	241.99
Q & N Corporation	1,916.99
Sleep Inn & Suites	192.60
Sports Awards	16.75
Z's Fresh Market	31.91
Agtegra Oakes	858.04
Aramark	184.20
Blumhardt Chevise Pontiac	2,758.60
Design Manufacturing inc	552.01
Dickey County Leader	224.00
Economy Oil Co	1,573.05
Ellendale True Value	476.53
Farmers Union Oil Co	2,712.96
Fullerton City Auditor	42.00
Maple River Colony	1,175.00
Matheson Tri-Gas INC	2,331.72
Montana Dakota Utilities	346.99
Ottertail Power Company	73.20
Southeast Water Users	56.53
KLJ Engineering LLC	5,507.79
Office of Attorney General	330.00
Stutsman Correctional Center	250.00
Stutsman Correctional Center	

	4,200.00
The Medicine Shoppe	12.93
Dickey County Hwy Dept	297.12
Haakenson Jean	202.74
House of Glass INC	468.00
Farmers Union Oil Co	180.76
Napa Central	53.93
Spraysync	660.00
Dickey Rural Networks	231.00
Postmaster Ellendale	72.00
At&t Mobility	773.76
Dakota Electronics	1,692.00
Dakota Plains Credit Union	476.14
Dakota Plains Credit Union	249.00
Dakota Plains Credit Union	231.33
Dakota Valley Electric Coop	316.00
Dickey County Hwy Dept	65.01
Dickey Rural Networks	1,737.08
Office of Attorney General	7,794.02
Human Services	4,052.47
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	24,519.87
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	3,489.55
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	1,614.00
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	528.00
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	115.88
Wex Health Inc	1,060.83
ND Public Employees Retirement	
	671.14
Affac	2,486.28
Delta Dental Plan of MN	2,477.07
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.	468.56
ND Child Support Division	200.00
Tyler Technologies	2,475.00
Respectfully Submitted	
Gerald Walsh, Chairman	
Wanda Sheppard, Auditor	
(May 16, 2024)	

Extension Connection: NDSU to you

The evolving role of food pantries in community support

Food pantries are pivotal players in community assistance providing individuals and families with the support they need when facing food insecurity. Food pantries across the nation are evolving their roles in communities to offer a broader range of services. From addressing immediate hunger needs to providing resources for other social service opportunities to tackling the underlying issue of food insecurity, food pantries plates are fuller these post-COVID days.

Often stocked with donations from individuals, businesses, and community organizations, food pantries offer a lifeline to individuals facing hunger. However, the role of food pantries extends far beyond emergency aid. Recognizing that food insecurity stems from other issues such as poverty and job loss, many pantries have expanded their services to address these factors. Some now offer additional support such as job training programs, access to healthcare resources, and referrals to social services.

By offering these supplementary services, food pantries empower individuals and families to address the root causes of food insecurity and work towards self-sufficiency. Whether through educational workshops on nutrition and budgeting or by collaborating with healthcare providers and schools, food pantries can leverage additional resources to better serve their communities. One successful partnership throughout North Dakota and western Minnesota is that of food pantries



Danielle Dinger, Extension Agent/Family & Community Wellness

and the Great Plains Food Bank. Founded in 1983, the GPFB has a rich history of providing food assistance to those in need. What began as a modest operation out of a small warehouse has now grown into the largest hunger relief organization in North Dakota. The GPFB partners with five other food banks in the Upper Midwest as well as local growers and distributors to bring in regular loads of surplus fruits and vegetables then distributes that surplus to both urban and rural communities.

Through ideas such as community gardens, mobile pantries and online social service visits, communities are reshaping how food assistance is defined. If you or someone you know needs food assistance in Dickey County, the Ellendale Food Pantry is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. In Oakes, please contact your local clergy member for additional information. As well, information on the SNAP program in North Dakota can be found at <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/apply-forhelp/snap>.

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New Listing: 214 N. 11th St., Oakes, ND



This 3 bedroom, 2 bath house was built in 1958 and features a one stall detached garage and shed in a fenced in back yard. Approximately 1,232 square feet. Hardwood floors under carpet on the main level. Partially finished basement with propane fireplace and laundry room.

New Listing: 307 S 6th St., Oakes, ND

One bedroom cottage ^{style} with detached garage. A very nice home ^{new shingles} **Pending** \$35,000

Listing: 1508 Hickory Ave., Oakes, ND

3 bedroom plus bonus room ²¹pm home built in 1963, two stall attached garage and ⁶ attached garage. Large fenced in yard. **Pending** \$187,000

Listing: 909 Main Ave, Oakes, ND

Charming two bedroom, one and a half bath home built in 1937. Kitchen and bathrooms have been updated as well as new flooring throughout the house. Many updates, including barn doors which add character and functionality. Move in ready!
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ANALYSIS OF THE STATEWIDE MEASURE APPEARING ON THE ELECTION BALLOT JUNE 11, 2024

The following analysis is for the measure appearing on the statewide Primary Election ballot on June 11, 2024. This publication is required by section 16.1-01-07 of the North Dakota Century Code to enable voters to become familiar with the effect of proposed measures. The full text of each measure is available on the Secretary of State's website at vote.nd.gov or by requesting a copy from the Elections Division, Secretary of State's office at (800) 352-0867, ext. 328-4146, or from the office of any County Auditor.

In addition, as required by section 16.1-01-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, a copy of the Legislative Council's report on the estimated fiscal impact of initiated Measures No. 1 is available on the Secretary of State's website at vote.nd.gov, by calling (800) 352-0867, ext. 328-4146, or by writing to Secretary of State, 600 E Boulevard Avenue Dept 108, Bismarck ND 58505-0500.

Analysis of Initiated Constitutional Measure No. 1

Initiated Constitutional Measure No. 1 was placed on the ballot by petitions circulated by a sponsoring committee. If approved, it would add a new article to the North Dakota Constitution. Under the measure, no person may be elected or appointed to serve any portion of a term representing North Dakota in the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives if that person could be 81 years old by December 31 of the year immediately preceding the end of the term, and any such person is prohibited from appearing on the ballot. If a superior law requires age-limited candidates to appear on the ballot in a primary or general election, the candidates' age on December 31 of the year immediately preceding the end of the term they are seeking must be printed next to the names of all candidates for all federal legislative offices in future elections. The article also requires the Attorney General to zealously defend Section 4 of the article in the courts of this state or of the United States. The article would become effective immediately upon approval by the voters. If the measure conflicts with any other provision of the state constitution, the measure states it would prevail over the other constitutional provisions.

The estimated fiscal impact of this measure is \$1,000,000.

Voting "YES" means you approve the measure summarized above.

Voting "NO" means you reject the measure summarized above.

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