

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES

December 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Gene Wolf. Present were Commissioners Jamee Folk, Mark Pierce, Rick Bauman, Casey Voigt, Auditor Carmen Reed and Dan Arens of the Hazen Star. Others present during the meeting were States Attorney Todd Schwarz, Sheriff Terry Ternes, NDSU Extension Agent Craig Askim, Tax Director Jennifer Neumiller, Interstate Engineering representatives Damon DeVillers and Harvey Fitzgerald, Summit Carbon Solutions Representatives Amanda Hoffer and Dave Nehring, Coteau Freedom Mine Darren Hellman, Ramsey Hill Exploration representatives Chris Cahoon, and Bryce Fontaine, Frey Consulting Travis Frey, ND Proppant Tim Barth and Cindy Johnson.

Pledge of allegiance was said.

Voigt moved to approve the agenda as amended. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Voigt moved to approve the December 5, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Board reviewed vouchers. Folk moved to approve bills with following changes; holding the Legend Air bill for \$742.50, changed Sheriff's bills of Lignite Tire from \$180.00 to \$936.00 and Midco Communications from \$190.54 to \$381.08. (Note: Sheriff Terry Ternes, being present, approved these bill changes.) Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$217.47; BECHTOLD PAVING INC \$464,022.83; BENCO EQUIPMENT CO \$342.50; THE BEACON \$4,739.07; BRIDGING THE DENTAL GAP \$310.00; BUTLER MACHINERY CO \$1,255.89; CHARM-TEX, INC. \$1,100.14; CITY AIR MECHANICAL, INC. \$22,165.00; CITY OF GOLDEN VALLEY \$29.75; CITY OF STANTON \$6,508.96; CORE FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$46,586.51; D&E SUPPLY CO INC \$1,389.61; DACOTAH PAPER CO \$778.60; DAKOTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS INC \$48.99; DAKOTA PUMP & CONTROL CO, INC. \$1,023.00; EGGERS ELECTRIC MOTOR CO \$2,097.84; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$62,576.00; FIRESIDE OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$109.44; GRANNIS, DAWN \$69.68; HAZEN HEALTH PHARMACY \$305.82; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$188.89; HAZEN MOTOR CO \$1,262.79; HAZEN STAR \$1,238.14; HIGH PLAINS CONCEPTS \$50.00; HOUSTAN ENGINEERING INC \$3,636.60; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT \$5,910.54; JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL \$37,379.26; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES \$180.00; LIGNITE TIRE SERVICE \$936.00; MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$381.08; MIDWEST DOORS INC \$300.00; MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS \$57,972.48; NAPA \$743.38; ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION \$163,799.96; NDSU \$210.00; QUANDIENT FINANCE USA, INC \$1,000.00; NEUBERGER OIL CO \$2,162.25; ND ENVELOPE COMPANY \$250.00; OCV, LLC \$10,487.00; ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS INC. \$132.50; POSTMASTER \$600.00; PROFESSIONAL HEATING & COOLING \$12,700.00; PRO FORMS \$202.46; PUKLICH CHEVROLET, INC \$26,500.00; RDO EQUIPMENT

CO \$21,720.00; REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LAB \$191.10; REED, CARMEN \$600.00; ROUGHRIDER ELECTRIC COOP \$953.79; SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY \$57.28; STARK COUNTY \$5,000.00; THE HUB \$153.48; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC \$3,660.00; VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC. \$6,937.20; VERIZON WIRELESS \$1,068.36; VOLK, GINGER \$30.54; WEST RIVER TELECOMMS \$2,509.96; NATIONAL SHERIFF'S ASSOC. \$125.00. (CHECK#s 51672-51728) TOTAL \$986,907.14.

Recessed at 10:01 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:07 a.m.

Tax Director Jennifer Neumiller presented the three Update/Rewrite Ordinance RFP bids received from Frey Consulting, Donovan and Kaffar, PPLP with Apex Engineering Group, and SRF Consulting Group. Board reviewed a request from Interstate Engineering to also be included in this bid. Pierce moved to accept the three bids received within the timeframe allotted and move forward with the States Attorney's review and advisement. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Neumiller requested to have one portfolio holder for both the Tax Director and Planning & Zoning, which Voigt agreed to. Neumiller has now obtained her class one certification for Tax Assessor.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #638 Energy Sand Solutions--Sand mining--S2 5-144-85--Ben Thomas--Renewal, for six months, to allow for requested paperwork be provided. Pierce seconded. Folk moved to amend motion to three months. Amendment failed. Folk moved to amend motion to one month. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Amendment carried. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Pierce moved to approve Temp Use # 639--Casey Voigt Scoria Pit--NW4 31-143-88--Casey Voigt--Renewal. Voigt recused himself. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #640 Wayne Boeshans--Gravel Pit--SW4 21-146-88--Boeshans--Renewal. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #641 Basin Electric--Laydown Yard--NE4NE4 20-144-84--Basin Electric--Renewal. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #642 The Coteau Properties--Test Hole Drilling--Section 32 T145 R88; Sections 1,2,3,11,12 T144 R89; Sections 25&36 T146 R87; Sections 28,29,30,31,32,33 T146 R86; Sections 4 & 5 T145 R 86--Renewal but some new locations. Pierce recused himself. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bauman moved to approve Temp Use #643 Summit Carbon Solutions ---Test Wells--NE4NE4 22-142-88--BK Fischer-Renewal. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Pierce moved to approve Temp Use #644 Summit Carbon Solutions ---Test Wells--NE4 35-141-88--Milton Flemmer- Renewal. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Pierce moved to approve Temp Use #645 Summit Carbon Solutions ---Test Wells--S2S2 12-142-88--Archie Erickson- Re-

newal. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #646 Strata--Portable Crushing--A portion of 24 acres in SW4 T144 R 84--DLG Investments--Renewal. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #647--Randy Byrum--Sand Pit & Overburden Pit--20 Acres w/in the E2 of SE4 of 32-145-87--Renewal. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #648--Randy Byrum--Scoria Pit--S2N2 of 33-145-87--Renewal. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #649--Ramsey Hill Exploration--Aggregate Materials Operations--NE4 23-144-86--Anthony Folk--Renewal. Folk recused herself from voting on Ramsey Hill Exploration Temp Use #649 and Temp Use #650. Bauman seconded. Bauman moved to amend motion to three months. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Amendment carried. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #650--Ramsey Hill Exploration--- Haul Road-W2 14-144-86--Gary Lenius-Renewal. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve Temp Use #651--North Dakota Proppant ---Sand and gravel mining--W2 10-144-85--Donald Hoge- Renewal. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Voigt moved to approve Temp Use #652--LeeRoy Fischer--Scoria Pit--SE4 of 3-143-89--Joe Reich-Renewal. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

NDSU Extension Agent Craig Askim gave his year-end report. Discussed the extension office lease agreement renewal. Commission requested a list of all county office leases with costs before deciding on the final extension renewal decision.

Folk moved to approve WRT Utility Permit #1765 for 3rd Street NW, located 6.5 miles NW from Hazen as presented. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bauman moved to approve the Sheriff's November revenues of \$43,152.71. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to approve the Recorder's November revenues of \$6,850.00. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Wolf is reviewing the Per Diem rates verses the IRS rates.

Folk moved to approve putting out an RFP for a County Engineer. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Auditor will put it together and forward to States Attorney for advisement at January 2, 2025 meeting. Bauman moved to appoint Folk to the Western Plains Public Health Board. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Discussed Sheriff's budgeted funding. Portfolio Updates were given.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at www.mercercountynd.com

Approved: Gene Wolf, Chairman
Attest: Carmen Reed, Auditor
(01-09-2025)

Hazen gets back on track with win over Jaguars

Bison go on 16-10 run in final period for the win

BY MARK WEBER
SPORTS EDITOR

The Hazen girls basketball team picked up a much-needed victory over a quality opponent heading into the new year, as the Bison pulled out a 45-39 win over Northern Cass, Dec. 28, at Carrington High School.

The Bison improved to 3-5 on the season with the win, while Northern Cass, which plays in Class A Region 1, lost for just the second time in eight outings so far this season.

Hazen Head Coach Patty Mosset said it was a quick turnaround for the Bison, who were coming off a decisive loss at the hands of fourth-ranked Carrington the previous day, where they were plagued by poor shooting and turnovers. However, Hazen was able to turn in a much better performance in this game, and the Bison were able to play well down the stretch to preserve the victory.

“Our girls were determined to improve on their performance from the day before. They were in the gym early to get some extra shots before we left for the game, and they also watched film during the ride,” Mosset said. “Our coaching staff was very optimistic that their determination would pay off, and it did. They were getting off better shots, and I think that helped build their confidence as the game went on.”

Hazen built a 14-6 advantage after one quarter, but NC chipped away, and even though the Bison remained in front for the rest of the first half, the Jaguars closed the gap to 21-19 at the intermission. The game stayed tight throughout the second half, with the score deadlocked at 29-29 heading into the fourth quarter. However, Hazen ended the game on a 16-10 run over the final eight minutes to pull out the win.

Hazen shot just 36% (13 of 36) from the field overall, and misfired on 15 of 17 shots from three-point range. However, the Bison connected on 58% (11 of 19) of their shots from inside the arc, and they attempted 30 free throws in the game,

converting on 17 of them for a 57% showing. NC hit 13 of 16 (81%) shots from the free throw line, but the Jaguars hit on just 11 of 46 (24%) field goals in the game.

Macee Smith led Hazen with 14 points to go along with five rebounds and two steals, while Lauren Doll netted 10 points, six rebounds and a pair of steals, and Macey Van Inwagen tallied eight points, five rebounds, and game-highs in steals (3) and assists (3). Ava Jungers added seven points and three rebounds, and Emily Erhardt (6 rebounds), Lexus Gerving (2 steals) and Miranda Mosset chipped in two points apiece for the Bison.

Haidyn Crockett provided nearly all of NC's offensive production as she canned four three-pointers and went 10 for 10 from the stripe on her way to a game-high 34 points. Crockett also had two steals and a game-high seven rebounds, while Carly Rider scored three points with six rebounds, and Abby Winterquist (4 rebounds) and Olivia Olson (2 steals) scored one point each for the Jaguars.

“This was a good game for us to get back on track. The girls showed improvement in a lot of things, including rebounding, and we are hoping to build off that and continue to improve as we move into our region schedule in a couple of weeks.”

Scoring Summary

N. Cass	6	13	10	10	39
Hazen	14	7	8	16	45

Team Stats	NC	Hazen
Field Goals	11-46 (24%)	13-36 (36%)
Free Throws	13-16 (81%)	17-30 (57%)
Rebounds	31	33
Turnovers	18	19
Team Fouls	25	18

Individual Scoring

Northern Cass: Haidyn Crockett 34, Carly Rider 3, Olivia Olson 1, Addy Winterquist 1.

Hazen: Macee Smith 14, Lauren Doll 10, Macey Van Inwagen 8, Ava Jungers 7, Emily Erhardt 2, Miranda Mosset 2, Lexus Gerving 2.

3-Pointers: NC (4-15): Crockett 4, Hazen (2-17): Smith 1, Jungers 1. Fouled Out—Hazen: Mosset, Jungers.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PERFORM COUNTY ENGINEERING AND AFFILIATED SERVICES FOR MERCER COUNTY

Mercer County is requesting the services of qualified engineering firms to provide county engineering and affiliated services. This work can include but is not necessarily limited to planning, design, bidding, and construction management of the county road system. Firms are invited to submit a proposal for the project listed above. The Proposals shall provide the following information:

- Past Performance
- Ability of professional personnel
- Willingness to meet time and budget requirements
- Location
- Recent, current, and projected workloads of the persons and/or firms
- Related experience on similar projects
- Recent and current work for the County

The proposal pages shall be numbered and must be limited to 10 pages in length. Proposals that exceed the 10 page length requirement will not be considered. The cover letter will not be counted as one of the 10 pages. The

proposal should list the personnel who will be assigned to work on the project, including titles, education, and work experience. Mercer County will only consider proposals received prior to 4:00 P.M.(CT), February 4, 2025. Late proposals will be deemed unresponsive. The consultant's proposal may include an appendix. Resumes, references, a statement of qualifications and other materials outlining experience may be included in an appendix. The appendix will not be considered as a part of the 10 page proposal. Each proposal will be evaluated by a selection committee. Mercer County will conduct interviews. Interviews will take place on a date to be determined by the County. Fees shall be negotiated with the successful firm. If the fee cannot be agreed upon, the County reserves the right to terminate negotiations, and then negotiate with the second and third ranked firms in order, if necessary, until a satisfactory contract has been negotiated. All costs associated with the proposal shall be borne by the

proposer. The County reserves the right to reject any and /or all proposals and to not award contracts for any and /or all projects. Engineering firms interested in performing the work shall submit seven (7) hard bound copies and an electronic pdf file of their proposal to: Mercer County Auditor
PO Box 39
Stanton, ND 58571-0039
701-745-3292
careed@nd.gov
Title VI assures that no person or group of persons may, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs or activities administered by the Department. For information regarding the Title VI Program see the NDDOT website at: <https://www.dot.nd.gov/about-nddot/civil-rights/title-vinondiscrimination-and-ada>

(01-09-2025) (01-16-2025)
(01-23-2025) (01-30-2025)

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