

**Mercer County Commission
Minutes
January 04, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Travis Frey. Present were Commissioners Gene Wolf, Jamee Folk, Liza Tayler, Rick Bauman and Auditor Samantha Melberg. Others present during portions of the meeting were Carmen Reed, Ken Miller, Ashley Miller, Sheriff Ternes, Tax Director Cyndi Zueger, Tim Barth, Troy Hanson, Sheralynn Ternes, Renee Miller, Ron Miller, Jessica Horner, Margie Ternes, Hope Ternes, Asher Horner, Devon Ternes, Cassidy Horner, Pam Pehl, Dawn Grannis, and Dan Arens of BHG News.

Frey turned the meeting over to Auditor Melberg to reorganize the board for 2023. Melberg called for nominations for the Chairman. Bauman moved to nominate Frey as Chairman. Melberg asked if there any other nominations. Taylor moved for nominations to cease. Bauman seconded. On roll call vote for Frey as Chairman; Taylor aye, Bauman aye, Folk aye, Frey aye, Wolf aye. Motion passed.

Auditor Melberg turned the meeting over to Chairman Frey. Frey asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Bauman nominated Wolf as Vice Chairman. Folk moved to cast unanimous ballot for Wolf as Vice Chairman. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. motion passed.

Wolf moved to approve the agenda with additions. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Wolf moved to approve minutes from the December 21, 2022 minutes as presented. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

The board reviewed the bills. The following bills were approved for payment. (Check #47457-47495)

ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$889.74; CRAIG ASKIM \$255.15; BEULAH JOB AUTHORITY \$1,001.00; BRONSON'S MARKETPLACE \$4,809.13; LUCKY'S TOWING & REPAIR \$500.00; CHARM-TEX INC. \$267.20; CORE FACILITY SOLUTION \$41,593.00; DIRECT MED \$467.59; DIRT PRO SERVICES \$165.00; FARMERS UNION OIL CO \$44.14; FIRESIDE OFFICE SOLUTIONS \$347.90; WEX BANK \$3,085.58; TRAVIS FREY \$206.24; HAZEN MOTOR CO \$88.58; HAZEN MOTOR CO/FARM IMPLEMENT SHOP \$350.00; INTERSTATE ENGINEERING INC \$32,000.00; KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$56.24; RELX INC. DBA LEXISNEXIS \$199.00; SAMANTHA MELBERG \$100.00; KURT MILBRADT \$175.00; MDU 112.36; NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES \$450.00; ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES \$43,862.61; ND COUNTY AUDITORS ASS'N \$125.00; ND COUNTY TREASURER'S ASSOC \$125.00; NEUBERGER OIL COMPANY \$2,135.70; NORTHERN INTEGRITY HEATING AIR \$1,995.00; OK AUTOMOTIVE \$69.28; PENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE \$33.06; METTA PFLIGER \$561.56; PHARMCHEM, INC. \$1,737.95; RACHEL POITRAS \$332.28; REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABOATORY INC \$252.50; CARMEN REED \$170.10; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC. \$3,856.82; VERIZON WIRELESS \$824.27; NATIONAL SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION \$71.00 (Totaling: \$143,737.77)

Request to hold Lewis & Clark bill #48277 for the wrong dates on the invoice. Wolf moved to approve the bills without Lewis & Clark bill #48277. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Tax Director Zueger presented temp use permit renewals;

- Temp Use #601 Trotter Construction ---Scoria Pit-NW4 28-144-86 Renewal, Wolf moved to approve permit #601. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Folk asked to recuse herself from voting on permits #602 & #603.

- Temp Use #602 Buffalo Sands ---Aggregate Materials Operations-NE4 23-144-86 Renewal, wolf moved to approve permit #602. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.
- Temp Use #603 Buffalo Sands ---Haul Road-W2 14-144-86 Renewal, Wolf moved to approve permit #603. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.
- Temp Use #604 Wayne Boeshans ---Gravel Pit-SW4 21-146-88 Renewal, Wolf moved to approve permit #604. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.
- Temp Use #605 North Dakota Proppant ---Sand and gravel mining- W2 10-144-85 Renewal, Wolf moved to approve permit #605. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.
- Temp Use #606 Energy Sand Solutions ---Sand mining-S2 5-144-85 Renewal, Wolf moved to approve permit #606. Taylor seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Auditor Melberg discussed empty lots in what used to be the city of Mannhaven. There is an interested party who would like to purchase these lots but there are no documents of last ownership. Commissioners would like to get the States Attorney opinion before moving forward.

Frey presented the new federal mileage reimbursement that was passed to 65.5 cents per mile. Wolf moved to increase Mercer County mileage reimbursement to \$0.66 per mile. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Auditor Melberg gave update to the Landfill Land Lease between Mercer County and Adrian Mittlesteadt. He no longer wants to lease the land and has an interested party to sublease for the rest of his contract. Commissioners would like States Attorney opinion on this subject as well.

Auditor Melberg administered the Oath of Office to the Elected Sheriff, Terrance Ternes. Ternes requested to adopt the Mercer County Sheriff's Department Policy and Procedure Manual. Rick moved to adopt the Policy and Procedure Manual. Wolf seconded. Taylor and Folk recused themselves from the vote. Bauman aye, Wolf aye, Frey aye. Motion passed.

Recess 10:05 am

Reconvened 10:19 am

Discussion was held regarding the Mercer County Vacation rollover policy. Issues will be sent to the policy committee for review.

Treasurer Grannis gave treasures report. Commissioners would like to continue to hold monthly treasures report.

Portfolio updates were given.

911 Coordinator/Emergency Manager Reed gave update for the discussion of separating these two positions. Reed would like to retain the Emergency Manger position after she takes office for Auditor.

States Attorney Schwarz entered the meeting. Schwarz gave his opinion on the Mannhaven lots. There needs to be some investigation on last ownership and make sure it is not with other governmental interests. Then there can be discussion about placing it on the tax sale. Schwarz also discussed the Landfill Lease and stated he would like to see the signed agreement.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 18, at 9:00 AM in the boardroom of the Mercer County Government Center in Stanton, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at www.mercercountynd.com

Approved: _____
Travis Frey, Chairman

Attest: _____
Samantha Melberg, Auditor