

Mercer County Commission Minutes December 5, 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, Treasurer Dawn Grannis, HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteinner, Sheriff Terry Ternes, Highway Road Superintendent Elroy Opp, Assistant Road Superintendent Dennis Olheiser, Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt, Building Maintenance Supervisor Jim Albers, City of Hazen Auditor Monte Erhardt, Ramsey Hill Logistics Representative Justin Tucker, NDDOT State Maintenance Engineer Brad Darr, Core Facility Solutions Kris Schwab, Coteau Freedom Mine Environmental Specialist Darren Hellman, Dakota Central Human Services Zone representative Maurice Hardy, and Summit Carbon Solutions Environmental Specialist Amanda Hoffer.

Pledge of allegiance was said.

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

Deputy Auditor Mark Erhardt notarized the official swearing in of new commissioners Mark Pierce and Casey Voigt.

Bauman moved to approve the November 20, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Board reviewed vouchers. Folk moved to approve all bills as presented. Bauman seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The following bills were approved for payment ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS \$1,096.73; AED EVERYWHERE \$1,966.94; ARMOR INTERACTIVE \$1,310.14; ASKIM, CRAIG \$393.93; RICK BAUMAN \$2,296.86; BEULAH JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY \$1,084.33; BRONSON'S MARKETPLACE \$5,852.26; BROWN BUMBALOUGH, DUSTIN \$45.00; LUCKYS TOWING AND REPAIR \$400.00; BURLEIGH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. \$53.00; CHARM-TEX, INC. \$227.40; CITY OF BEULAH \$94.34; WESTERN PLAINS PUBLIC HEALTH \$4,234.17; D&E SUPPLY CO INC \$130.32; DAVIS, SHANNAN \$60.00; DIRECT MED \$79.79; ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INC \$1,329.56; FASTENAL COMPANY \$64.21; WEX BANK \$2,814.42; FREY, TRAVIS \$299.24; GORDON, SHELDON \$20.00; GRINSTEINNER, ALICE \$718.50; HAZEN HARDWARE HANK \$25.57; HAZEN MOTOR CO \$93.20; AUTO VALUE \$744.38; INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS, INC \$3,444.61; KEMMIS, BRENT \$50.00; KRAUSE SUPER VALU \$146.52; LANGOWSKI, GONTRAN \$67.00; MCLEAN COUNTY SHERIFF \$2,100.00; MENARDS \$205.70; MERCER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT \$1,774.91; MERCER COUNTY TREASURER \$5,820.70; MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES \$60.16; OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL \$1,460.00; ND DEPT OF CORRECTIONS & REHAB \$150.00; NDEAFCS \$125.00; NDAE4-HYW ATTN: JILL MURPHY \$100.00; NEUBERGER OIL CO \$22,622.92; NEUMILLER, JEN \$426.40; NORTHWEST TIRE AUTO SERVICE INC. \$700.00; OFFROAD SOFTWARE, INC. \$2,025.00; ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS INC. \$56.20; PFLIGER, METTA \$438.33; PHARMCHEM, INC \$2,280.71; POITRAS, RACHEL \$64.49; POSTMASTER \$50.00; LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT, INC \$246.51; RADAR SHOP \$494.00; RADISSON HOTEL -BISMARCK \$99.00; RDO

EQUIPMENT CO \$4,827.83; RUD PROPANE LLP \$4,761.56; DANA SAFETY SUPPLY, INC. \$235.00; TAYLOR, LIZA \$50.00; TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC \$2,280.00; UNIFORM CENTER \$510.93; UNRUH CATTLE COMPANY \$1,680.00; VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC. \$2,480.00; VERIZON WIRELESS \$1,095.42; WOLFF, KARL \$54.92. (CHECK#s 51588-51647) TOTAL \$88,418.11.

HR/EM Director Alice Grinsteiner requested to have the current burn ban rescinded due to changed weather conditions. Bauman moved to rescind the current Mercer County burn ban. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. Voigt moved to approve the renewal of the Joint Powers Agreement between Mercer and Ward Counties for the care and custody of juveniles at the Ward County Juvenile Detention Center. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bauman moved to approve the Sheriff's purchase of a youth bureau car in 2024 and a transport van in 2025 maintaining that both purchases are within the Sheriff's budgets. Voigt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Recessed at 09:44 a.m.

Reconvened at 09:55 a.m.

Core Facility Solutions Managing Partner Kris Schwab gave a building maintenance update and stated that a vaporizer is needed for the south tanks by the chillers. This work will get done in the Spring of 2025.

NDDOT State Maintenance Engineer Brad Darr presented the state plan of enlarging the 129,000 lb. large truck network to include ND22, ND48, and ND200, which runs through Mercer County due to a request from Ramsey Hill Logistics LLC. Ramsey Hill Logistics LLC representative Josh Tucker answered the board's questions regarding this project request. Darr pointed out that the State is meeting with all entities that this project will impact and gathering feedback to aid in making a final project recommendation. Pierce moved to acknowledge the presented state project and supports the state in doing its due diligence and in making the final recommendation for this project. Folk seconded. Pierce, Folk, and Wolf voted aye. Voigt and Bauman voted nay. Motion carried.

Dakota Central Human Services Zone representative Maurice Hardy discussed possible office space options available to have a social services person available once a week within the county to meet with patients.

Pierce moved to have the next commission meeting, at the Mercer County Museum in Beulah on December 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Folk seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Folk moved to have the January 1, 2025, meeting moved to Thursday, January 2, 2025, due to the holiday. Pierce seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Portfolio Updates were given.

The following portfolio and board assignments were given:

Voigt – Treasurer and HR/EM portfolios. Committees include; Planning & Zoning voting member, Water Resource Board.

Pierce – Planning and Zoning alternate, Mercer County Ambulance Board, Lewis & Clark Regional Development voting member, Library Board, Mercer County Economic Development, Gas & Oil Counties voting member, Coal Conversion/Vision West, and Western Dakota Energy voting member.

Wolf – Airport Authority Board.

Bauman – Lewis & Clark Regional Development alternate.
Folk – Tax Director portfolio.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Mercer County Museum in Beulah, North Dakota. The meetings can be viewed online at www.mercercountynd.com

Approved: _____
Gene Wolf, Chairman

Attest: _____
Carmen Reed, Auditor