

Special Meeting Minutes of the Board of Ward County Commissioners

April 12, 2022

The special meeting of the Ward County Commission was called to order by Chairman Rostad at 9:00 AM with Commissioners Anderson, Fjeldahl, Pietsch, and Weppeler present. Also present were department heads Brian Vangsness, Dana Larsen, Derrill Fick, Jason Blowers, Jennifer Wiechmann, Kerriane Boetcher, Kristin Kowalczyk, Marisa Haman, Noreen Barton, Robert Roed, Roza Larson, and Tammy Terras.

Doug Diedrichsen, Planning & Zoning Administrator appeared regarding a Plat Application for Juniper Properties LLLP for the following described property: Proposed Outlot 1 being a portion of S2 35-155-86. The applicant is proposing to parcel an outlot, proposed Outlot 1 is 152.40 acres. This outlot is for future agricultural purposes. Tolgen Township zoning applies with the township recommending approval. Planning Commission recommends approval based on findings of facts and staff recommendations.

A second Plat Application was submitted for Juniper Properties LLLP for the following described property: Proposed Outlot 1 being a portion of N2 35-154-86. The applicant is proposing to parcel an outlot, proposed Outlot 1 is 218.22 acres. This outlot is for future agricultural purposes. Mandan Township zoning applies with the township recommending approval. Planning Commission recommends approval based on findings of facts and staff recommendations.

Moved by Comm. Pietsch, seconded by Comm. Fjeldahl to approve both Plat Applications for Juniper Properties LLLP as recommended by Planning & Zoning Committee. Roll call; all voted yes; motion carried.

Internal applications for the American Rescue Plan Act funds were reviewed.

Marisa Haman, Auditor/Treasurer, spoke regarding the ballot/tax payment drop-box, office automatic door locks (which are addressed in a separate item), and voting booths. Approved to move forward were the drop-box and voting booths (door locks will be addressed in the security portion).

Major Larry Hubbard, Chief Deputy, appeared to speak to Ward County Old Highway Department fuel tank conversion and camera addition. Both items moved forward.

Brian Vangsness, Facilities Director, spoke regarding courthouse improvements of blinds and carpet in judge's chambers which moved forward.

Dive team support truck was unsupported.

Courthouse and Administrative building water fill stations and breakroom door were discussed but at this time will not move forward.

Dana Larsen, Highway Engineer, spoke regarding loss of revenue from gas tax, highway department building purchase, water service for Sawyer shop, and salt storage building. All moved forward with the exception of the salt storage building. The Commission would like to see figures brought back for a building half the size and will revisit this item at a later date.

Jason Blowers, IT Director, brought forth the following items which will move forward: Meeting room network cabling for live stream and online meetings, VMware Server replacement, and High Point VMware Essential to Essential Plus software license. The upgrade to the Commission Chambers audio system and microphones was denied for now. The Electro Watchman bid is to be brought back for review after a demo has been scheduled and reviewed by Commissioners.

Major Paul Olthoff addressed the Ward County Detention Center camera replacement which moved forward.

Major Hubbard appeared again and spoke regarding Ward County Detention Center East exterior camera addition along 4<sup>th</sup> street, which was approved to move forward.

Kerrienne Boetcher appeared regarding the Ward County Public Library New Bookmobile. Ms. Boetcher will be applying for grants and is looking for funding to cover the remainder of the bookmobile. The \$80,000.00 already budgeted for a bookmobile is to be used first with an amount of up to \$220,000.00 being approved to move forward depending on how much money the library receives in grants. The other two items, a book sanitizer and new computer stations to separate patrons, will not move forward.

Recess at 11:05 AM.

Meeting was reconvened at 11:15 AM.

Travis Schmit, Assistant Engineer, spoke regarding NDSU Ward County Extension's request for a vehicle, which was denied at this time. Mr. Vangsness spoke regarding the tables and chairs. There are some available in another building NDSU department can look at. This item will be revisited closer to NDSU Extension's move date. The Smart TV request is also put on hold to see if the TV's in the building they are moving to will work. The Meeting Owl Pro requested by NDSU Extension has been approved to move forward. An interactive whiteboard request and office ergonomics request of \$1,000.00 were both denied.

Travis Schmit spoke to the request from Ward County Park District for Old Settler's Park security camera system and a water line improvement project. These two items have been moved forward.

Mr. Schmit also discussed the Olson apartment building demolition in Kenmare which has been approved to move forward.

Also moving forward is the purchase of a drone for Ward County Weed Control to which Darrell Fick spoke to.

Last item discussed was Minot Central Dispatch recording equipment asked for by Ward County Emergency Management. Jennifer Wiechmann appeared to speak on this item. The State has mandated an update to an 800 megahertz system. It was approved to move forward covering 35% of the cost.

Mr. Schmit will compile a table with all responses that were given (definite yes, partial approval, and no) to the next Commission meeting.

There will be a meeting on May 24, 2022 at 9:00 AM to review external applications.

At 11:53 AM with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED THIS 3RD DAY OF MAY, 2022

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Chairman, Ward County Commission

ATTEST:

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