

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**April 18, 2023**

April 18, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Commissioners Skorheim, Barta and Brintnell attended the Snag & Clear Public Hearing in the Farmers Room. Commissioner Anderson attended via Zoom.

The process for approving the project and the proposed project were presented to the group. The project will include approximately 2.5 river miles. The assessment would be .50¢ an acre. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

At 5:00 p.m. the commissioners moved to the commission chambers, the meeting was called to order and bills were reviewed.

Members present: Chairman Skorheim, Commissioners Barta, Brintnell and Suda. Commissioners Anderson participated via zoom at 5:30 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m. the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Commissioner Brintnell moved to approve the April 10, 2023, regular meeting minutes, monthly bills, Valley Snowdrifters Gaming Site Authorization, additions of Snag and Clearing Project Assessment and Star Net.** Second by Barta. Motion carried.

Brent Nelson, Emergency Manager, appeared to give a flood update. Flooding started on Friday. He provided river levels which are changing all the time. Most of the water is from overland flooding. There are 23 county roads closed that he is aware of. Sunday night they were sandbagging the City of Forest River and then on to the City of Minto. Every flood is different. Commissioners thanked Brent, Jason and all the volunteers for their work. They had a good response when asking for volunteers. The public is grateful for all their efforts.

Brent Nelson thanked Auditor Molde for her time here, he has enjoyed working with her and wished her good luck in her retirement.

Jason Johnston, Highway Superintendent, appeared for the following:

- Wade Thompson from KLJ was present for some housekeeping matters for the upcoming bridge projects. Presented a market analysis for each of the sites which is required for temporary right of way easements while working on the projects and gave the fee for each site. **Motion by Barta to accept the market analysis and fee for the 3 sites and move forward with the project.** Second by Suda. Upon roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.
- Presented a drainage permit for Jeremy Fricke which was approved by the water board. **Motion by Anderson to approve and sign the drainage permit for Jeremy Fricke, Section 17, Grafton Township.** Second by Brintnell. Upon roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.
- Presented a utility permit for Nodak Electric. **Motion by Brintnell to approve the utility permit for Nodak Electric, Sections 9 & 10, Dundee Township.** Second by Anderson. Upon roll call vote all vote yes. Motion carried,

- Gave an update on open positions. Has 3 people from last summer coming back this year. Has Tanya checking into if under 18 can assist with janitorial duties. Also discussed other options such as hiring out again, hiring someone to do cleaning and mowing.
- Lost 1 bridge in Fertile Township due to flooding. People are driving past road closed signs. They are put up for the safety of the public. Shared a picture of tires strapped together in front of a county culvert.
- Has decided to not to purchase the reclaimer.
- Commissioners thanked Jason for keeping them informed during flooding.

Tanya Weiler, HR Director, appeared for the following:

- Discussed the administrator/auditor position. They received 19 resumes. The advertisement requested that a county application also be submitted. Only 5 applicants followed the directions. The deadline was last Friday the 14<sup>th</sup>. How do we want to proceed? It was suggested that we weed out those that didn't follow instructions. Create a committee with Commissioners Brintnell and Barta, along with the sheriff and state's attorney and 2 other department heads. The committee will screen the applications and hopefully have some interviews lined up for next Monday or Tuesday.
- Also discussed auditors' position during the interim. Deputy Auditor Richardson will step up and the other offices on the floor have offered to help out. Deputies from the auditor's office will request time off from portfolio holder, Commissioner Brintnell. Auditor will also look for mentors for the new Tyler Software. The Auditor's Association is also available for questions and assistance. Commissioner Barta thanked Auditor Molde for her service.
- The uniform timesheets were sent out. If anyone has issues, they should reach out to Tanya immediately. Will visit with Sondra about the procedure for submitting. Hardcopies may still need to be provided.

There was a public hearing for the Park River Snag and Clearing on 2 ½ miles of the Park River. The assessment would be .50¢ an acre. **Motion by Barta to approve the 50¢ assessment for the Snag and Clearing of 2 ½ miles of the Park River.** Second by Anderson. Upon roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.

Star Net the monitoring system for the Nelson County pump expires on April 18<sup>th</sup>. If you want to continue getting reports you need to request them. Commissioner Barta request that we still get reports. Nelson County is already pumping and shouldn't be.

Next meeting will go back to Tuesday mornings reviewing bills at 8:30 and meeting starting at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Dennis Skorheim, Chair

Attest:

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Kris Molde, Auditor