

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**June 18, 2024**

June 18, 2024– 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chair Anderson, Commissioner Brintnell, Suda, Barta, and Skorheim

At 9:00 am the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order and bills were reviewed.

**Brintnell moved to approve the June 4, 2024 minutes, monthly bills, seconded by Suda. All voted in favor.**

Ron Jurgens gave an update on the jail project.

Kaitlin Atkinson, from Vison Zero, presented the commissioners with a Crash Summary Report from 2018 – 2023 for Walsh County. She reviewed the report in detail with the commission.

Terry Novak and Bruce Ellingson appeared to discuss the septic tank requirements in Walsh County and North Dakota as a whole.

The Commissioners re-convened as the County Tax Equalization Board at 9:55 a.m. Ed reported that he worked with the City of Park River and Matt Byron on the appeal that was made on Mr. Byron's value. Ed presented the commissioners with a proposed 2024 assessment of \$495,000, down from \$525,800. **Suda made a motion to reduce the 2024 assessed value to \$495,000 for Matt Byron, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Ed Sevigny then presented the 2023 sales ratio with residential being at 82.0% and commercial at 100%. The average value per acre for agricultural land in Walsh County is \$987.85 which is similar to last year. Total true and full valuation for 2024 is \$1,316,343,154; an increase of \$55,685,729. Each township and city assessment sheet were reviewed for increases or decreases in local assessments. Walsh County is within tolerance and met the state requirements so no recommendations were made. **Motion by Barta to approve the 2024 County Tax Equalization assessments as presented; second by Skorheim.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Ed Sevigny presented an abatement application for Michael E & Kristy L Stoltman for their property at 5796 158<sup>th</sup> Ave NE for the tax years 2022 and 2023. They applied for a Farm Residence Exemption and it was Ed's recommendation to approve the abatement application. Walshville Township did approve the abatement application. **Brintnell made a motion to approve the abatement application for Michael E & Kristy L Stoltman, seconded by Suda.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Stacie Sevigny, JDA Director, reviewed in detail the first six months with the commission.

Ron Jurgens requested a motion to hire for the vacant Park River position and the vacant Deputy position that the Sheriff's Office currently has. **Skorheim made a motion to approve filling both positions, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Chair Anderson reviewed a letter that will be sent on behalf of the Walsh County Commissioners in support of Matejcek Dam Alternative 2. **Suda made a motion to approve signing the letter for the Matejcek Dam Rehabilitation Project, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Jason Johnston reviewed the premium discounts that the county received for participating with the Safety Program. Jason reviewed the Annual Highway Department Report with the commissioners.

Commissioner Barta reported that Jim Schanilec removed himself from the Housing Authority Board. The vacancy will be filled at a later date.

Chair Anderson reported that there were 17 logos submitted for the new logo contest. The finalists will be presented at a meeting in the future.

Dawn Mandt, Red River Regional Council Director, reviewed the Preservation and Reinvestment Initiative for Community Enhancement (PRICE) Program with the commissioners. Dawn requested a \$20,000 contribution from Walsh County. The program will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am

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Karen Anderson, Chair

Attest:

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Kristi Quibell  
Auditor