

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF WALSH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**October 15, 2024**

October 15, 2024– 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chair Anderson, Commissioner Suda, Barta, Brintnell, 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 September 17, 2024 Public Budget Hearing minutes, September 17, 2024 Special Budget Review meeting, and October 1, 2024 regular meeting minutes and monthly bills; seconded by Suda. All voted in favor.**

Jason Johnston reported the next jail committee meeting will be held after the November election.

Auditor Quibell stated that a delegate is needed for the North Dakota State Fair. Quibell will reach out to Jon Beneda, who has been the delegate for the county.

Auditor Quibell presented the 3 year delinquent tax listing. After a discussion, **Skorheim made a motion to set the starting sale price for the parcels as the taxes owing, seconded by Barta.** All voted in favor; motion carried.

Herb Winzer gave an update on Veseleyville and the case.

Jason Johnston, Highway Superintendent, appeared for the following:

- Walsh County DOT Project Listing was reviewed.
- Maintenance Certification County Federal Aid Project annual form was presented. **Barta made a motion to sign the form, seconded by Suda.** All voted in favor; motion approved.
- ND DOT bridge inspection cost-share bill was reviewed. After a lengthy discussion, **Brintnell made a motion to approve paying the \$28,722.65 bill; seconded by Suda.** Roll vote Brintnell – Y, Barta – N, Skorheim – Y, Suda – Y, Anderson - Y; motion approved.
- Authorization to hire an asphalt foreman and a position on the bridge crew was presented. **Skorheim made a motion to approve the hiring of these two vacant positions, seconded by Barta.** All voted in favor; motion approved.
- County 9 will be closed near Cashel next week for the Drain 48 bridge replacement.

Jill Denault gave an update on the Human Service Agreement. Cavalier County is requesting compensation to continue to being the host county. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that another conversation will be needed with Cavalier County before a decision can be made.

Katie Thompson, Extension Officer, appeared for the following:

- Luke Lillehaugen, Walsh County Fair Board Member, presented a contract from ICON Engineering for the structural assessment of the fair building. The initial cost associate with the assessment is \$2,500. **Skorheim made a motion to hire ICON Engineering as the structural engineer for the fair building and approve payment of the \$2,500 bill, seconded by Barta.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

- Anna Ramsey was hired for the part time help for the extension office. Katie is looking to hire a few others to cover during the holidays. Katie will report back once she has a plan in place.
- Flooring bids were reviewed from J-Mart Inc in the amount of \$8,614 and two from B & D Flooring and Furniture in the amount of \$6,165.62 and \$4,619.68. Katie went over each bid in detail with the commissioners. After a discussion, it was decided that the commissioners would like to see a bid for vinyl trim instead of oak.
- With the fair starting this week Katie informed the commissioners there are 131 4-H participants this year.

Auditor Quibell reviewed the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) with the commissioner. Walsh County was awarded \$75,370 and after discussing some of the options it was decided that the county would secure the funds for an energy audit for the county buildings. **Suda made a motion to secure the EECBG grant funds, seconded by Brintnell.** All voted in favor; motion approved.

Auditor Quibell reviewed the ARPA and LATCF fund balances. The ARPA fund balance is currently \$1,439,823.00 and the LATCF fund balance is \$40,633.31; totaling \$1,480,456.31.

Stacie Sevigny gave a financial update on the Walsh County Childcare Center and discussed ways in which she plans to generate additional funds. After a lengthy discussion, **Suda made a motion to match the amount the county received in the EECBG grant to the Walsh County Childcare Center in the amount of \$75,370.** No second; motioned failed. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to table this discussion until the second meeting in November.

Meeting adjourned at 11:38 am

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Karen Anderson, Chair

Attest:

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Kristi Quibell, Auditor