Official Proceedings of the Stutsman County Commission – September 17, 2013

At 8:00 a.m., Chairman Klose called the meeting of the Stutsman County Commission to order. Denny Ova, Dale Marks, David Schwartz, Craig Neys, and Mark T. Klose answered the roll call.

Renee Valenta, Interim County Treasurer, brought attention to two checks that were issued by Stutsman County but had not been cashed for a year. Valenta stated that she had sent out three notices to the individuals regarding the checks and one had been returned due to incorrect address and they have not been able to locate the individual since. Valenta requests that they cancel the checks and send the money to Unclaimed Properties. Motion is made by Ova to cancel the checks and warrants, seconded by Neys. All aye. Motion carried.

Casey Bradley, Auditor/Chief Operating Officer, requests October 1, 2013 Commission meeting be used for the Public Budget Hearing after 6:00 p.m. starting the regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. and park board meeting to follow at 5:00 p.m.

Bradley and Darren Paterka traveled to Fargo to present road projects for house bill money and both projects were approved by the regional committee, funding will begin of February 2014. Stutsman County is under budget which means any federal projects that have happened this year can be resubmitted for extra funding for recoupment of the county's cost share.

Bid opening for Nogosek Township Section 3/10 Grade Raise and Section 9/10 Grade Raise. The bids are as follows: Guthmiller Earthmoving, Inc. for $189,809.00; Lake View for $157,632.00; and RTS Shearing, LLC for $176,932.00. Nenow will take the bids for review the bids, tabulate the bids, and deliver the information to Nogosek Township. Nogosek Township will award Bids opened for Nogosek Township, Section 3/10 Grade Raise and Section 9/10 Grade Raise.

Mary Geffre, Grant Administrator for the South Central Dakota Regional Council, presented the commission with their quarterly reports. Business manager, Duane Spooner resigned and was officially done August 31, 2013 to take his new position as branch manager of the First Community Credit Union in Steele, ND. SCDRC is advertising for two full-time positions currently for a community developer/loan funds manager and also a community planner.

Geffre also informed the commission of the Block Grant projects going on currently in the county that they are handling. The City of Medina lift station construction has been completed, they need to finalize the project with a final walk through and also extend the grant to allow enough time to close out the project. The Stutsman County Courthouse will be bidding for the removal of architectural barriers on the first floor. City of Streeter, City of Kensal, and the James River Seniors Center have applications at Bismarck and will be awarded this spring. The Kensal project causes more research to be done by contacting tribal leaders in the area to make certain there aren't tribal properties in the areas the work will be done in.

Geffre informed the commission that the housing study has been completed and the study is online on the SCDRC's website. Bradley brought questions forward concerning the SCDRC budget proposal the SCDRC submitted. SCDRC proposed a $104,000.00 being allocated for the planner they intend to hire. Bradley questions where the SCDRC can generate $104,000.00 to pay for another full-time staff member. Budget deficit has an increase of 64% since 2012 and commission would like clarification as to how the SCDRC can justify hiring another full-time staff member without a plan to generate the money to pay. Neys requests setting up a special meeting with SCDRC Executive Committee and also have the JSDC Executive Committee in attendance. Bradley will start the next commission meeting at 3:00 p.m. so they can meet with both entities at the same time in the commission room.

Connie Ova, JSDC Chief Executive Officer, approached the commission with Flex Pace loan for Reister Meats of Medina, ND. Currently Reister meats would like to expand the family owned business and applied for the FLEX Pace loan to buy new equipment. The value is set at but not to exceed $10,000.00 and Ova does not believe the total project will not amount to the maximum. The Flex Pace loan will be paid back after the original loan is paid back to the bank. Motion to grant the Flex Pace loan to Reister Meats made by Neys, seconded by Schwartz. Roll call: Ova, Marks, Schwarts, Neys, and Klose all aye. Motion carried.

Ova requested for a property tax reimbursement in the amount of $9,551.98 the county share set at $1,910.40 to come out of the economic development funds. Schwartz made a motion to pay the county's share of the property tax reimbursement, seconded by Marks. Roll call: Marks, Schwartz, Neys, Klose, and Ova all aye. Motion carried.

DeAnn Brunner, JSDC Business Development Coordinator, informed the commission of strategic plan that they would like to bring up to date. Brunner and Holly Miller, Marketing and Workforce developer, solicited and received bids for strategic planning services. KLJ has been recommended by the JSDC Board to facilitate the strategic plan. Cost is set at $3,000.00 plus traveling which they budgeted at $500.00. The JSDC has the ability to apply for a grant to pay but they are unable to apply for the grant until January 1, 2014. The cost would be an 80/20 split between Stutsman County and the City of Jamestown. Brunner stated the county share would be roughly $700.00 and the remaining $2,800.00 the city's responsibility. Motion made by Ova to allow the hiring of KLJ and cost sharing with the city, seconded by Schwartz. Roll call: Schwartz, Neys, Klose, Ova, and Marks vote aye. Motion carried.

Chad Kaiser, Stutsman County Sheriff, updated the commission on the Department of Transportation Grant he had applied for. Stutsman County will receive $10,000.00 for DUI overtime, $2,000.00 for seatbelt overtime, and $2,000.00 for underage drinking overtime. Schwartz made a motion to accept the grant money, seconded by Marks. All aye, motion carried.

Kaiser applied for an equipment grant in the amount of $1,500.00 match grant for radar. Kaiser was accepted to attend the National Sheriff's Institute in Aurora, Colorado for an upper management class for a week. Sheriff Kaiser was one of twenty-six Sheriff's accepted into the class out of the nation and was strictly for first-term Sheriffs. The COPS grant will be awarded in October and the Oil Impact Grant will be awarded within the next couple of weeks.

Motion made by Marks to approve the payment of taxable meals and mid-month bills, seconded by Neys. Roll call: Neys, Klose, Ova, Marks, and Schwartz all aye. Motion carried.

Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 a.m., seconded by Ova. All aye, motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Casey Bradley
Auditor/COO

Mark T. Klose
Commission Chairman