** TOWNER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**Doug Berg, Chairman**

**David Lagein, Vice Chairman**

**Matt Odermann**

**Robert Hallaway**

**Lance Teubner**

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**TOWNER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

January 4, 2022

The Towner County Commissioners met in regular session on January 4, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the county courthouse. Chairman Doug Berg called the meeting to order. Present were Vice Chairman David Lagein, Commissioners Matt Odermann, Bob Hallaway and Lance Teubner.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Odermann and seconded by Lagein. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2021 regular meeting and the December 23, 2021 special meeting was made by Lagein and seconded by Odermann. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Vice-Chair Lagein opened up nominations for Chairman. Doug Berg was nominated. Odermann moved and Teubner seconded to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Berg. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Chairman Berg opened nominations for Vice-Chair. Dave Lagein was nominated. Odermann moved and Teubner seconded to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Lagein. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Sheriff Hillier stated he had put an order in for 2 new computers. Hillier stated he was trying to get the Sheriff’s office on a rotation schedule for equipment. End of year stats were given to the Commissioners. The Commissioners questioned how and when calls were made. Mental health issues the department deals with were discussed. A policy on employees reporting violent issues to the Sheriff was discussed.

States Attorney Josh Frey stated the opioid case was settled. He doesn’t know if or when the County would see any money from the settlement. Frey stated he was working on the letters involving road right-of-way infringement.

Emergency Manager Lori Beck described the IPAWS program which is a reverse 911 system and an emergency notification system. Motion by Odermann, seconded by Hallaway to approve the IPAWS participation plan. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. Commissioner Odermann questioned how much the radios were going to cost for the emergency responders to become compliant with the SIREN program. Beck stated the radios would cost the responder units approximately $2,000 per radio. The Commissioners had previously discussed helping with those costs.

Wold Engineering recommended the bridges in Maza Township should not be repaired and should be replaced. The rough estimate to repair the bridges was $530,000 for the west bridge and $380,000 for the east bridge. These estimates were given providing that no other conditions were uncovered, which was unlikely. The Water Board was also present for the discussion. There were no representatives of Maza Township present. A delineated watershed area was discussed. The map showed all water flowing into the area involving the bridge.

A grant application for HB 1505 funds was discussed. The County had several bridges that are in need of replacement. Wold Engineering and Road Superintendent Kevin Rinas recommended the County apply for bridge numbers 119-37.0 and 101-06.1. These 2 bridges had the lowest rating and highest amount of traffic, which was a criteria for the grant. Motion by Odermann, seconded by Teubner to follow the recommendation and apply for grant funding under HB 1505 for the two bridges. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. Jessica Tagestad, Wold Engineering, presented the plans for project for BRO-0048(022), two bridges in Monroe and Grainfield Township. Tagestad reviewed the project with the Commissioners. Motion by Odermann, seconded by Hallaway to approve a utility relocation permit for Northern Plains related to the project and wave the permit fee. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Gary Larson was present and wanted to express his opinions to the Commissioners.

The Commissioners discussed a threat made to the road department by a citizen. The Commissioners referred Rinas to the Sheriff’s department to report the incident.

Motion by Odermann, seconded by Teubner to pay the bills. Upon roll call vote, all commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Odermann, seconded by Hallaway to approve the resolution for the Cafeteria plan. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

A bonus for a previous employee was discussed. Motion to not pay the bonus by Hallaway, seconded by Odermann. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Amendments to the 2021 budget were reviewed. Motion by Odermann, seconded by Lagein to approve amendments as recommended by the County Auditor. Upon roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. Auditor Morlock presented a year end financial report to the Commissioners.

The next meeting was set for February 8, 2022.

The meeting adjourned by motion.

ATTEST:

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Joni M. Morlock Doug Berg, Chairman

Towner County Auditor/Treasurer Towner County Board of Commissioners