REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

August 1st, 2017

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The Towner County Commissioners met in regular session on August 1, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the county courthouse.  Vice Chairman Lagein called the meeting to order.  Present were Commissioners Mike Weisz, Ken Teubner and Scott Boe. Chairman Doug Berg was absent.

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

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Motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2017 regular meeting and the July 25, 2017 special meeting was made by Boe and seconded by Weisz.  All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

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Road Superintendent Kevin Rinas stated that Terry Vote had resigned as Superintendent and would like to go back to being a blade operator.  Motion by Teubner, seconded by Weisz to accept his resignation and place him back at the blade operator position with the blade operator salary.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.  Rinas stated that FEMA would be helping out with some of the spring road flooding.

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Bill Voight was on hand to discuss the roof project at the Armory.

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Sheriff Kuchar presented the Commissioners with a proposal to buy a new vehicle out of the 2018 budget.  Stonegarden grant money was available for almost ½ of the vehicle.  Motion by Teubner, seconded by Weisz to purchase the vehicle.  Upon roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed. Commissioners discussed area thefts and drugs with the Sheriff.

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Curt Juntunen, County Parks, was present to discuss park matters with the Commissioners.

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Lindy Berg, NDSU Extension Agent, went over budget issues with the Commissioners.  Berg stated weed spraying in 16-18 Townships had been completed.  Berg informed the Commissioners that she was working towards her master’s degree and other incentives.  Berg requested the carpeting in her offices be replaced.  She would provide estimates at the next meeting.

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Wayne Lingen, County Superintendent of Schools, was on hand to present a revised list of the school district annexation & reorganization committee.  Motion by Boe, seconded by Teubner to approve Michelle Keller and Lynette Lybeck as new committee members.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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Motion by Boe, seconded by Weisz to approve the Northern Plains zoning permit to cross a County road.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

Rob Johnson, Lake Region Law Enforcement, was on hand to give the Commissioners an update on the “Stepping up” initiative.  Johnson stated correction officers were ill equipped to deal with the mental illness and substance abuse issues.  The Committee was put in place to try to talk about the issues and come up with a plan to assess and offer useful services for prisoners.  Johnson also updated the Commissioners on conditions at the jail.  Johnson stated there were still several issues at the jail that needed to be addressed.  Facility repairs were needed as well as mandates that they still are not in compliance with.  Costs are increasing due to mandates, but revenues are not.

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Rolette County Commissioners were available via teleconference to ask the Towner County Commissioners if they were interested in housing prisoners at their new jail facility. The price would be $70-75 per day.  Transports for medical reasons were discussed.  Towner County Commissioners stated they were interested in reviewing a contract.

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County budget issues and employee salaries for the 2018 budget were discussed.

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Regulations regarding bees were discussed.  Currently the State or County have no regulations regarding bees.  Commissioners discussed the County taking a pro-active stance on the placement of bees.

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Motion by Weisz, seconded by Teubner to pay the bills.  All Commissioners voted aye.  Motion passed.

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The next meeting was set for September 5, 2017.

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The meeting adjourned by motion.

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ATTEST:

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Joni M. Morlock                                                                              Dave Lagein, Vice Chairman

Towner County Auditor/Treasurer                                               Towner County