

Gregory County Commission Proceedings

The regular meeting of the Gregory County Commission was held Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in Burke with the following members present: Jeff Johnson, Myron Johnson, Jessy Biggins, Kelsea Sutton (via Zoom) and Bob Hausmann. Also present: Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor.

The meeting was opened and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Myron Johnson to approve the agenda for the meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Bob Hausmann to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2020 meeting with the following clarifications/corrections:

- The Register of Deeds office is fully staffed and open during the absence of the Official for personal (medical) leave.
- Mona Taggart inquired as to the need for an attorney to assist with completing an application for tax abatement/refund – the Auditor will assist Ms. Taggart.
- The date for the bid letting of gravel crushing and gravel supply will be held on October 27th to meet statute for publication of the bid letting notices.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conflicts of Interest: The Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest from members present. None were notated.

Ex-Parte Communications: The Chair inquired if there have been any ex-parte communications by any member present. None were notated.

Public Input: The Commission opened the floor for public input. No one appeared before the Commission.

Executive Session: Motion by Kelsea Sutton, second by Jessy Biggins to enter into executive session at 9:05 a.m. to discuss personnel. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Myron Johnson to adjourn from executive session at 9:15 a.m. with no action taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Plat Approval: The following plat was presented for approval: Lot 4, Hoar First Subdivision, located in the NE¼ of the NW¼ Section 33, T96N, R67W (to plat Lot 4 and to abandon Lot 2 only).

Motion by Bob Hausmann, second by Myron Johnson to offer the following Resolution of Approval:

APPROVAL – GREGORY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Whereas: the owner of the land herein platted as **LOT 4, HOAR FIRST SUBDIVISION**, located in the NE¼ of the NW¼ of Section 33, T 96 N, R 67 W of the 5th P.M., Gregory County, SD, having presented to the Gregory County Board of Commissioners the described plat, and that the platted lands are outside the

platting jurisdiction of any municipality and that it appears that this plat meets all requirements of SDCL 11-3-8, NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the plat be approved this 20th day of October, 2020.

Upon roll call: Kelsea Sutton-aye; Bob Hausmann-aye; Jessy Biggins-aye; Myron Johnson-aye; Jeff Johnson-aye. Resolution passed.

Plat Approval: The following plat was presented for approval: Rolling Hill's Subdivision, located in the S½ of the SW¼ of Section 14, T97N, R72W (small acreages are being platted- will remain AG until sold).

Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Bob Hausmann to offer the following resolution for approval:

APPROVAL – GREGORY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (SDCL 11-3-8)

Whereas: the owners of the land herein platted as **ROLLING HILLS SUBDIVISION**, located in the S½ of the SW¼ of Section 14, Township 97 North, Range 72 West of the 5th P.M. Gregory County, SD, have presented this plat to the Gregory County Board of Commissioners for their consideration and approval, and it appears that the land lies outside the platting jurisdiction of any municipality, and WHEREAS: and that it appears that this plat conforms to all requirements of SDCL 11-3-8, NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the plat be approved this 20th day of October, 2020.

Upon roll call: Kelsea Sutton-aye; Bob Hausmann-aye; Jessy Biggins-aye; Myron Johnson-aye; Jeff Johnson-aye. Resolution passed.

Register of Deeds Office Update: Kerri Grim, Register of Deeds, met with the Commissioners to advise them that her office has been fully open and operational during her medical leave. Ms. Grim explained the recording process and standards per SD statutes.

Ms. Grim provided an update on the status of the new software program in the Register of Deeds office, and the program is fully transitioned. Ms. Grim advised of meeting with Rosebud Title Company (Doug Pochop) and Gregory County Title Company (Rachelle Norberg) to discuss their concerns of the recording process of instruments when the Official is on leave. Ms. Grim requested that the title companies present concerns to the Official prior to meeting with Commissioners in the future.

Prior to Ms. Grim being on medical leave, the Official was training the deputy on the recording process of instruments. Ms. Grim is back to work full time and continues the training process with the deputy. The Official currently requires the deputy's recordings to be reviewed prior to finalization, in addition the deputy has requested the Official review instruments she has recorded.

The Commissioners encourage the Resister of Deeds to work towards having the deputy fully able to record documents by year end. Ms. Grim once again stated that she will continue to work to fulfill the Commissioners' request, however, the liability is on the Official.

Travel Request: Motion by Myron Johnson, second by Bob Hausmann to approve the following travel request:

Laura Kahler, 4-H Office
(shared with Tripp County)

– 4-H Advisor Training at Mitchell

– November 5, 2020

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Holiday Leave: Motion by Jessy Biggins, second by Kelsea Sutton to follow the State of South Dakota’s policy for employee leave:

November 26-27, 2020 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

December 24-25, 2020 (Christmas Holiday)

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

November Commission Meeting: Motion by Myron Johnson, second by Bob Hausmann to reschedule the first meeting of November for November 5, 2020 in order to canvass November 3, 2020 General Election results. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

District III Weed and Pest Meeting: Motion by Myron Johnson, second by Jessy Biggins to authorized travel for DeWayne Bennett to attend a meeting of the District III County Weed departments on October 28, 2020. The meeting may be canceled and rescheduled via zoom. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Retirement Notice: DeWayne Bennett advised the Commission that he plans to retire as Weed Department Supervisor before the next weed spraying season, but would like to continue on as a highway department employee. The Commission will take up filling the position later in the winter and appreciates Mr. Bennett’s early notification.

Highway Department Report: Brad Ellwanger, Highway Department Supervisor, reported on road maintenance and repairs throughout the county.

Tractor Rental: The Commission discussed the need for renting a mower tractor and purchase of a mower. The Highway Superintendent will check into quotes for tractor rental or lease.

Adjourn: Motion by Kelsea Sutton, second by Jessy Biggins to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST: _____
Julie Bartling, Gregory Co. Auditor

Jeff Johnson, Chair