Gregory County Commission Proceedings

The regular meeting of the Gregory County Commission was held Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Burke with the following members present: Jessy Biggins, Byrain Boes, Doug Janousek, Lance Matucha and Jeff Johnson. Also present: Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor and Patty Connealy, Gregory Times Advocate.

Chair Jessy Biggins called the meeting to order and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Byrain Boes to approve the agenda as presented with the following addition: An executive session with the DOE for personnel. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Jeff Johnson to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting as read. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conflicts of Interest: The Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest from members present. Commissioner Lance Matucha cited a conflict on the variance to be heard by the Board of Adjustment.

Ex-Parte Communications: The Chair inquired if there have been any ex-parte communications by any member present.

Public Input: The Commission Chair opened the floor for public input. No one appeared at the meeting.

Malt Beverage License Renewal: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Byrain Boes to approve the renewal of the Malt Beverage License for the Carlock Dance Hall for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Voided Check Removal: Motion by Doug Janousek, second by Lance Matucha to declare the following check void as it has not been cashed over the past two years:

#115081 Best Western of Huron - \$450.00 (3-1-22)

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Claims: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Doug Janousek to approve the following claims: I hereby submit the following report of my examination of the cash and cash items in the hands of the County Treasurer of this County as of March 31, 2024.

Total Amount of Actual Cash	\$	525.00
Checking Account	\$3,	,221,632.77
Insufficient Fund Checks		
Cash Over	\$	-59.44
TOTAL	\$3	,222,098.33

Julie Bartling, Gregory County Auditor County of Gregory)) SS

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State of South Dakota

Statement of fees collected in the Register of Deeds Office for the month ending March 31, 2024 in the amount of \$8,633.86.

Statement of fees collected in the Sheriff's Office for the month ending March 31, 2024 in the amount of \$1,150.00.

Statement of fees collected in the Clerk of Courts Office for the month ending February 29, 2024 in the amount of \$5,632.13.

March 31, 2024

Wellmark \$16,624.86	SDRS \$14,782.10
AFLAC \$156.02	Group Resources \$230.00
NE Child Support Payment Center \$850.00	MN Child Support \$513.00
SDSRP \$150.00	Office of Child Support \$836.58
1st Fidelity Bank \$27,658.20	Accounts Management, Inc \$733.98
Colonial Life \$4,333.70	Medical Air Services Association \$432.00
Commissioners \$3,715.75	Auditor \$8,641.98
Treasurer \$9,669.97	States Attorney \$8,954.10
Courthouse \$4,737.86	DOE \$9,337.43
ROD \$12,929.24	VA \$1,231.50
Sheriff \$32,855.19	Solid Waste \$3,743.51
Nurse \$4,257.65	4-H/Youth \$3,591.29
Weed \$1,795.00	Jail \$61.25
Road/Bridge \$55,456.39	EM&D \$1,894.16
24/7 Sobriety Testing \$650.29	D.A.R.E \$475.90

Andes Central School District	February 2024 Apportionment	10,133.95
Burke School District #26-2	February 2024 Apportionment	70,355.79
Gregory School District #26-4	February 2024 Apportionment	113,374.41
South Central School #26-5	February 2024 Apportionment	37,091.26
Dixon Township	February 2024 Apportionment	1,222.64
Edens Township	February 2024 Apportionment	1,310.65
Fairfax Civil Township	February 2024 Apportionment	602.52
Jones Township	February 2024 Apportionment	541.61
Landing Creek Township	February 2024 Apportionment	335.77
Pleasant Valley Township	February 2024 Apportionment	1,377.65
Schriever Township	February 2024 Apportionment	419.60
Star Valley Township	February 2024 Apportionment	201.61
Bonesteel Town	February 2024 Apportionment	5,503.54
Burke City	February 2024 Apportionment	17,016.55
Dallas Town	February 2024 Apportionment	1,713.67
Town Of Fairfax	February 2024 Apportionment	1,104.01
Gregory City	February 2024 Apportionment	19,513.34
Town Of Herrick	February 2024 Apportionment	771.43
South Central Water Dev. Dist.	February 2024 Apportionment	1,104.45

4 Season Ag Inc.	8.00	R&B Supplies
Appeara	203.64	R&B Supplies
Atco International	175.25	R&B Supplies
B&J Cycle	309.73	R&B Repairs
Bonesteel Enterprise	120.00	R&B Supplies
Burke Ambulance	125.00	Dare Supplies
Burke Building Center	65.61	R&B Supplies
Burke City	1,191.13	Utilities
Burke Gazette	767.02	Publishing
Burke Postmaster	84.00	R&B Supplies
True Value Hardware-Burke	534.24	Courthouse Supplies
Butler Machinery	530.20	R&B Repairs
Charles Mix Co. Sheriff	180.00	Jail Prisoner Housing
Community Memorial Hospital	153.00	R&B Supplies
Dallas Town	29.20	R&B Utilities
Election Systems & Software	54.22	Election Supplies
Executive Management	151.00	Auditors Utilities
First National Bank Omaha	336.99	Supplies
Floyd's Truck Center	1,808.58	R&B Repairs
, Fox Law Firm,PLLC	60.00	Mentally III
Golden West	1,450.64	, Utilities
Graham Tire Mitchell	1,025.52	Sheriffs Supplies
Grossenburg Implement	137.30	Weed Supplies
High Plains Truck & Trailer	131.00	R&B Repairs
Hughes County Finance Office	750.00	Jail Prisoner Housing
Interstate Battery System	599.30	R&B Repairs
IWI US, Inc	1,405.00	Sheriffs Supplies
Jim's Garbage Service	210.00	Courthouse Utilities
Kennebec Telephone Company	39.38	911 Contract Expenses
Kimball Midwest	122.28	R&B Supplies
Main Street Auto	2,600.48	R&B Repairs & Supplies
Marco	260.54	Technology
Mason Juracek-Attorney at Law	739.50	Courts/Court Appointed
Mcleod's Printing	461.30	DOE Supplies
Mr. Automotive	1,225.84	Sheriffs Repairs
NSG Logistics LLC	4,186.95	R&B Supplies
Office Products Center	517.52	Supplies
Chad Peck	1,200.00	R&B Supplies
Pennington Co. Jail	217.53	Jail Travel
Peterbilt Of Norfolk	126.90	R&B Repairs
Pitney Bowes Global	216.12	Technology
Prorate Services Inc	160.00	R&B Supplies
Purchase Power	2,499.70	Postage

Redwood Toxicology Laboratory	14.49	24/7 Supplies
Rosebud Electric Cooperative	343.56	Utilities
Rosebud Farmers Union	6,095.91	Sheriffs Repairs
Rosebud Information Company	5,750.00	Treasurers Supplies
Runnings	1.28	R&B Repairs
S. Missouri Recycling & Waste	595.20	Solid Waste Rentals
Saber Shred Solutions Inc	9,720.00	R&B Repairs & Supplies
SDACOM & PRF	122.00	February M&P Remittance
SD Dept. Of Revenue	104,984.05	February State Remittance
SDDMV	44.20	R&B Supplies
SD Dept. Of Transportation	1,156.49	R&B Prof Service
SD Public Health Lab	410.00	Jail Medical
SD Department of Public Safety	80.00	Courthouse Supplies
SD State Treasurer	116.02	February Sales Tax
Southern Plains	16,956.58	Opioids Settlement Fund
Sandy J Steffen Law Office	694.50	Court Appointed
Taylor Plumbing	94.39	Courthouse Repairs
The Spectacle Shop	156.00	Jail Medical Expenses
Tripp County Water User Dist.	70.20	R&B Utilities
Twotrees Technologies	1,142.25	Technology
Ulteig	13,158.31	R&B Prof Service
US Bank Voyager Fleet System	1,604.92	Sheriffs & EM&D Fuel
Verizon Wireless, Bellevue	492.39	Utilities
Wheelco	211.95	R&B Repairs
City of Winner	6,524.16	911 Contract Expenses
City of Winner	10,584.18	Jail Prisoner Housing
WW Tire Service	665.66	R&B Repairs

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Board of Adjustment: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Doug Janousek to adjourn as a Board of Commissioners and to convene as a Board of Adjustment. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Variance Request: The Board took up a variance request from Josey and Tamara Larsen to build a dwelling on less than 40 acres in an Ag District in Section 15-97-71, Lot 1, Matucha First Subdivision, Burke Civil Township.

Motion by Byrain Boes to deny the request. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Doug Janousek to approve the request. After discussion regarding the reason for the variance, the Chair called for a vote on the motion: Jeff Johnson-aye; Lance Matuchaabstain; Byrain Boes-naye; Doug Janousek-aye; Jessy Biggins-aye. Motion carried. **Conditional Use Application:** The Board reviewed an application for a Conditional Use Permit from Chris Burkholder to have an additional dwelling to be occupied by another member of the family farm unit in an Ag District in Section 28-97-72, E2NE4 less Lot H-2, Rhoades Township.

The Board discussed how the application qualifies per the Zoning Ordinance.

Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Doug Janousek to approve the application. Upon roll call for vote: Jeff Johnson-aye; Lance Matucha-aye; Byrain Boes-aye; Doug Janousek-aye; Jessy Biggins-aye. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Jeff Johnson to adjourn as a Board of Adjustment and to reconvene as a Board of Commissioners. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Motion by Lance Matucha, second by Doug Janousek to enter into executive session to discuss personnel at 9:42 a.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Doug Janousek to adjourn from executive session at 10:04 a.m. with no action taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Highway Department Report: Tyler Plumbtree, Highway Department Superintendent, met with the Board to discuss current activity of the Highway Department.

Golden West Easement: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Jeff Johnson to approve an application of occupancy of right of way for a project to repair a fiber line along 333rd Avenue in Section 5-97-73. The application is from Golden West Telecommunications. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

C.R. 57-Project #23.24187 Amended Agreement: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Doug Janousek to approve stipulations for an agreement for voluntary right of way donation from Baldwin Land, LLC as follows:

1) Gregory County to temporary fence to contain cattle

2) Gregory County to put in new fence & reseed

3) Any damage to artesian water/well due to heavy equipment & earth movement will be

repaired/replaced by Gregory County Gregory County will require that the landowner release the county from liability once the project is

complete. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Landfill Discussion: The Board discussed the Landfill and whether it can hold construction debris from the old Avera Hospital and Nursing Home. The Superintendent will meet with the Hospital Administrator to discuss the disposal needs.

Free Dump Days: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Lance Matucha to set May 17-18, 2024 as free dump days for Gregory County residents with the towns and cities allowed to bring in refuse on May 14-15, 2024. A public notice will be published to advise residents of the free dump days. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Recess: Motion by Byrain Boes, second by Jeff Johnson to recess until the Public Hearing for Considering Hand Counting at 1:00 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Re-Convene: Motion by Lance Matucha, second by Byrain Boes to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. for a public hearing. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Hearing: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Doug Janousek to open the public hearing to take testimony on whether to hand count the ballots cast in Gregory County. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A group of citizens were present to voice their views, pro and con, as to whether or not to hand count ballots in the county. The listing of proponent and opponent speakers is on file in the Auditor's office.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 2:00 p.m.

The Board discussed Resolution #2024-05, which the Commission rescinded at the March 20, 2024 meeting for concerns of legal issues.

Each Commissioner spoke their opinions regarding the automated tabulating versus hand counting procedures.

Amy Bartling Jacobsen, States Attorney, advised that a County Initiative pressing for an ordinance prohibiting automated tabulating in Gregory County, has been filed with the Auditor's office as of April 3, 2024, following verification of signatures and consultation with legal counsel verifying petition language. The Commission will take action on the petitions at their April 9, 2024 meeting.

The Board discussed doing a full Post-Election Audit of the Primary ballots cast, discussing the actual costs and time for such a full audit. The costs of the audit are reimbursed by the State of South Dakota.

Chair Biggins offered up 3 options for the Board to take up:

- 1) Adopt Ordinance based upon Resolution #2024-05;
- 2) Utilize Automated counters & Post full election Audit; or
- 3) Wait to take action until petition to be voted on at a special election

Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Doug Janousek to authorize use of the automated tabulators and require a full post-election audit of all ballots cast at the June 4, 2024 Primary election. Upon roll call for vote: Jeff Johnson-aye; Byrain Boes-aye; Lance Matucha-aye; Doug Janousek-aye; Jessy Biggins-aye. Motion carried.

Adjourn: Motion by Jeff Johnson, second by Byrain Boes to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Julie Bartling, Gregory Co. Auditor

Jessy Biggins, Chair