

May 31st, 2023

### Special Meeting

The Deuel County Commissioners met in special session on Wednesday, May 31st, at 9:00 A.M. in the Commission Room of the Courthouse with Chairperson Homan presiding. Those present were Commissioners Scott Fieber, Judith Homan, Harry Mewherter, Jay Grabow and Steve Rhody. Also present was Auditor Courtney Parker as well as several members from the public. The meeting opened with prayer and the pledge of allegiance. 1) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **9:00 Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck, Banner, Associates & Duininck Inc**

Justin Zylstra from Duininck and Waylon Blasius with Banner, Associates explained what is happening on the new construction on roads 172<sup>nd</sup> and 482<sup>nd</sup>. Zylstra explained that they have been in contact with Banner and Broksieck continuously on what needs to be improved on the spots that have breakup or are soft. He explained the heaving within the road is caused from poor sub-base which Duininck wasn't hired to fix. The project is just to restore the roads. Grabow stated that the breakup on the asphalt is Duininck's responsibility and that the geotechnical reports showed poor subgrade prior to the project beginning. The geotechnical reports were given to Duininck before the project by Banner. Zylstra explained that the project needs more work than what they were hired to do because of the poor sub-base. Duininck agreed that the asphalt mat is thin in some spots and they will go back and fix their mistakes. Duininck believes the project is showing more soft spots than what was originally there when they started the project. There is 2,000 feet on 172<sup>nd</sup> that needs to be peeled up and tested to figure out what they need to do going forward due to all the issues surfacing. It is estimated that 100 feet of dig up is worth \$5,100.00. That being said, there are some funds built into the contract for dig ups but not as much as it would take to completely redo the road. It was brought up that if Duininck is not comfortable to continue restoring many portions of the roads, at what point do they need to dig up that portion and replace sub-base. Duininck stated that when going back and fixing the breakup spots they should do a partial dig out and fix the sub-base before they lay asphalt to fix correctly. There was also discussion on adding more of an asphalt mat to help with the project. There was discussion about no longer backing up to the paver with loaded trucks since they believe it is doing more damage, as well as slowing down their efficiency. Fieber asked if the problems would still have showed up next spring if they would have waited to start in August when conditions are more favorable for construction. Duininck said it is likely, but they cannot say to what extent because that is unknown. Mewherter stated the County needs to have a quote for the partial dig outs on the portions of roads that need it before the Commissioners can agree to Duininck completing the partial dig outs. Banner and Duininck will determine what spots need to be dug out and come back and present a quote.

### **Public Comment**

Jim Dailey asked if there will be loaded trucks on the fresh pavement now since they will not be backing up to the paver. Duininck responded saying they will have some loaded trucks because it is impossible to keep them off but will limit the speed of the loaded trucks driving on the fresh asphalt. Duininck said the majority of the trucks on the fresh pavement will be unloaded trucks.

Gary Megadanz asked why they bid the project if they just need more funds when problems come up. Duininck stated they have excess built into the quote but they can't bid unforeseen issues. These are unforeseen issues that no one can plan for.

Bill Goetz wanted to know if and how testing is completed. It was explained that Banner and Duininck are both comparing their test numbers to ensure a quality road. They are now conducting roll tests because of the issues that have come up.

Goetz asked why start the project now instead of when the roads are better in late summer when conditions may be more favorable. Duininck explained they were within the project contract of when they could operate. They also followed the road limit restrictions and didn't drive trucks before the road limits were lifted.

Jim Dailey asked why it wasn't made aware to the County of the issues of the road. Blasius said the contract is to restore the roads, not to have complete reconstruction of the roads. The road is seeing more heavy traffic than what it will normally see that's why the issues are happening.

Eric Peterson asked if there is fabric that would be a happy medium fix instead of completely digging out portions of unfavorable road and costing more money. Banner explained that by the time you spend the funds find another way that might fix a problem, it would be more beneficial to do the partial dig outs.

Peterson asked where the stability comes from in a road? Banner said that the stability comes from the base up through the asphalt.

Gary Jaeger asked where the funds that are supposed to be used for dig outs went if not to dig outs? It was decided to do a full replaced mat instead of the partial mat and did additional road restoration that wasn't in the initial bid.

Dailey stated for future roads there should be a Centralized Planning Guide in place for future projects since the commissioners change so there's always a reference to follow.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business Grabow moved, seconded by Fieber to adjourn the Commission meeting.

Chairperson Judith Homan  
Deuel County Commission

Attest:

Courtney Parker, Auditor

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