

February 20, 2024  
Regular Meeting

The Deuel County Commissioners met in regular session on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. At 9:00 AM in the Commission Room of the Courthouse with Chairman Jay Grabow presiding. Those present were Commissioners Jay Grabow, Steve Rhody, Scott Fieber, and Harry Mewherter. Also present was Deputy Auditor Brooke Pederson. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 1) Fieber moved, seconded by Rhody to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **Appointments**

#### **9:00 AM - Highway Superintendent Jamie Broksieck**

Broksieck met with the commissioners to discuss a few highway department related matters. Broksieck stated the '07 International semi is needing repairs but wanted to check to see if we should just replace it before continuing with repairing the old. A new truck is roughly \$214,000.00 after being equipped with a box, plow etc. The semi is de-rating so the electrical fixes have already cost \$55,000.00 since 2019. The semi needs to have an EGR valve replaced and that will cost about \$5,000.00. Grabow questioned if the semi box is able to be removed and placed on another newer semi. Broksieck stated it can be. Rhody asked how much the current semi could be sold for. Broksieck stated the last unit sold amounted to about \$30,000.00. It was discussed to remove the semi box on the current unit, and replace it with an older and in worse shape box. Broksieck stated that this unit has to have the \$16,000.00 emission repairs before it could even be sold. His intention is to fix up the old semi and then replace it when able. Broksieck will do some digging into getting a new truck with quotes and equipment. Broksieck also talked about enforcing load limit restrictions coming up because of the warmer weather. 2) Mewherter moved seconded by Rhody to approve the Bridge Reinspection Program Resolution for use with SDDOT Retainer Contracts #24-07. All voted yes and the motion carried.

#### **Bridge Reinspection Program Resolution For Use With SDDOT Retainer Contracts #24-07**

**WHEREAS**, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

**THEREFORE**, Deuel County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire Banner for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024 at Clear Lake, South Dakota.

Board of County Commissioners  
Of Deuel County

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board

#### **9:30 AM – Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) Personnel Matter**

3) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) to discuss a personnel matter. All voted yes and the motion carried. Chairman Grabow declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 9:50 AM. No action was taken.

#### **10:00 AM – Joint Meeting with Zoning Board**

Vice Chairman Kevin DeBoer called the meeting to order. Motion by Grabow, seconded by Rhody to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously. Motion by Fieber, second by Grabow, to recess the Board of Adjustment and reconvene as Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously. DeBoer stated for the record that the Deuel County Planning Commission and Deuel County Board of

Commissioners are meeting jointly. County Commission Chair Grabow called the Deuel County Board of County Commissioners to order.

First agenda item was a joint public hearing on Ordinance #B2022-01-06, An Ordinance to amend

- Article XII, "General Requirements," Section 1214 On-Premise and Off-Premise Signs, adding language in bold and underline and removing strikeout language:

4. On-premise Signs: Each sign erected as an on-premise sign in those districts where permitted shall unless specified elsewhere in this ordinance, conform to the following requirements:

a. Unless otherwise specified herein, each sign erected as an on-premise sign in those districts where permitted shall have a maximum surface area of eighty (80) square feet and shall observe all yard and height requirements of the district in which it is located. Each sign shall meet clear view triangle standards identified in Section 1202. The maximum cumulative ~~amount~~ **area** of all **allowed** on-premise signage, **excluding wall signage**, ~~allowed~~ shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet. **The maximum area of all allowed on-premise wall signs shall not exceed 20% of each individual wall's surface area.**

- Article II, "Definitions" adding language in bold and underline  
**Freestanding Sign: A sign anchored directly to the ground or supported by one or more posts, columns or other vertical structures or supports, and not attached to or dependent for support from any building.**

**Wall Sign: Means a sign painted on or affixed to a building face, parallel to and not extending more than 16 inches from the surface. Wall signs shall be attached only to flat, opaque wall surfaces.**

DeBoer and Grabow each opened the public hearing for their respective boards. DeBoer chaired the public hearing and began by asking Theisen to provide an overview of the proposed ordinance. Theisen stated that the Planning Commission had been working on the comprehensive review of the zoning ordinance for a couple of years, with public hearings on amendments in the last year. DeBoer and Grabow each closed the public hearing for their respective boards. DeBoer asked for a motion and a 2nd to recommend approval of Ordinance #B2022-01-06 to the Board of County Commissioners. Motion by Dahl, seconded by Fieber and the motion passed unanimously. Motion to adjourn made by Lammers, second by Fieber. Motion passed unanimously. The County Commission held the first reading of ordinance #B2022-01-06, as amended by the Planning Commission, by title. Grabow asked Theisen to conduct first reading. Grabow asked for a motion to set the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to be March 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Motion by Rhody, seconded by Fieber. Motion approved unanimously. Grabow called to adjourn the Board of County Commissioners.

**10:30 AM – Zoning Officer Jodi Theisen**

4) Mewherter moved, seconded by Rhody to approve Resolution #24-06 and Plat of Fischer First Addition Located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 34, Township 116 North, Range 50 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., in the County of Deuel, South Dakota. All voted yes and the motion carried.

**COUNTY COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

**#24-06**

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Deuel County, South Dakota, that the plat entitled: "Fischer First Addition located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 34, Township 116 North, Range 50 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. Deuel County, South Dakota" which has been submitted for examination pursuant to law, and it appearing that all taxes and special assessments have been paid and that such plat and the survey thereof have been made and executed according to law, the plat is hereby approved,

and the County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to endorse on such plat a copy of this Resolution and certify the same.  
Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners  
Deuel County, South Dakota

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_(SEAL)

County Auditor  
Deuel County, South Dakota

**10:45 AM – Risty Benefits**

Roger Risty, Dan Johnson and Sonja Nordbye all came to give a presentation on benefits for the Deuel County employees. Nordbye explained the health insurance option that would help create a richer benefit for employees at a lesser price. Nordbye explained a MERP (Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan). A MERP helps control costs and save both the employees and employer money. With a MERP, the employer purchases a higher deductible, fully insured, medical plan and supplements the difference between the employee’s plan and the insured plan. The objective is to reduce the premium costs paid to the insurance carried and help offset the economic effects of rising medical insurance costs. In return for a lower premium, the employer and the employee will fund small claims out of the premium savings. Deuel County has the opportunity to buy a \$5,000.00 deductible plan from Wellmark, but will continue to offer a \$1,500.00 deductible plan to their employees. The ID card will show that employees have a \$5,000.00 single deductible with a \$10,000.00 out of pocket maximum and a family plan of \$9,000.00 and a out of pocket maximum for \$18,000.00. They will actually have a \$1,500.00 deductible, buy down to \$750.00 for employees, with BlueCross BlueShield carrier. This will allow employees to utilize both Sanford and Avera health facilities. With Risty Benefits, they would offer Dental, Vision and Life Insurances as well. Deuel County currently doesn’t offer a dental plan to their employees. The Principal would cover all three of those insurances with richer benefits to Deuel County employees with the same cost or lesser cost to Deuel County. 5) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the new BlueCross BlueShield Health Insurance plan and The Principal Vision, Dental and Life insurance plans brokered by Risty Benefits, Inc. All voted yes and the motion carried.

**11:15 AM – Sheriff Cory Borg**

Borg discussed the upgrades to the current camera system that is needed. The main part of the camera system box is making loud & abnormal noises. Borg received a quote from ITC for a new system this includes adding more cameras inside the courthouse on first floor, second floor, and some in the hallways. The total quote for cameras and installation from ITC is \$13,154.48. The last cameras installed were in 2015/2016. The current cameras are freezing footage. 6) Rhody moved, seconded by Fieber to approve the quote for new cameras and installation from ITC. All voted yes and the motion carried.

**11:45 AM – Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (3) Contractual Matters**

7) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter to move into Executive Session Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (3) to discuss a contractual matter. All voted yes and the motion carried. Chairman Grabow declared the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 12:10 PM. No action was taken.

**Old Business**

Discussion was held on pest control. The auditor’s office quoted Pest B Dead LLC at \$800.00 per year for the courthouse. The topic was tabled to gather more quotes.

**New Business**

The topic of 4-H fairground rental was tabled until next meeting.  
The topic of ITC phone installation was tabled until next meeting.

8) Fieber moved, seconded by Mewherter to approve advertising for the part time help in the Auditor's Office. All voted yes and the motion carried.

### **Approval of Warrants**

9) Rhody moved, seconded by Mewherter to pay warrants as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

**Paid Early:** Interstate Title Solutions \$95.83- Overpayment of taxes, City of Watertown \$3965.33- 911 Surcharge

**Taxes-** Schools: 274,924.62, Townships: 20,814.20, Towns: 34,313.10, EDWD: 971.35, Upper Deer: 3.81, Rural Fire: 5118.72

**Current Warrants:** A-Ox Welding Supply Company In 716.87 Rental/Supplies, Brookings Deuel Rural Water 81.25 Utilities, Deuel County Farmers Union Oil 1655.82 Supplies/Utilities, H-D Electric Coop, Inc 484.34 Utilities, ITC 167.04 Utilities, Northwestern Energy 290.35 Utilities, Transource Truck & Equip Inc 96.78 Repairs, AmericInn By Wyndham Ft Pierre 109.99 Travel & Conference, Appeara 48.73 Rug Rental, Auto Value Parts Store 146.99 Repairs, Todd Ball 65.30 Juror Fees & Mileage, Banner Associates Inc 1764.00 Prof. Services, Brookings Deuel Rural Water 50.50 Utilities, Brookings Co Sheriff's Office 190.00 Jail Housing, Taylor Bublitz 56.12 Juror Fees & Mileage, Credit Collections Bureau 1.70 Prof. Service, Century Link 358.79 Utilities, Clear Lake Building Center 9.99 Supplies, Clear Lake Area Development 4500.00 1st Qtr Funds, Cole's Petroleum Products, Inc 1630.60 Supplies, Connecting Point 1939.25 Connect Care It Prof. Serv., Deuel County Farmers Union Oil 30.00 D.C. Bucks Reimbursement, Elizabeth DeBoer 50.00 Juror Fees, Drive Time Car Sales LLC 43.39 Overpayment Registration, Ecolab Pest Elimination Div 58.32 Prof. Service, Fritz Chevrolet Inc 489.57 Repair & Maintenance, Debra Gruener 58.16 Juror Fees & Mileage, Kathryn Haas 58.16 Juror Fees & Mileage, Inter-Lakes Comm Action Inc 1594.00 February Support, L G Everist Inc 36231.12 Supplies, Office Peeps Inc 886.42 Supplies, Ottertail Power Co 43.73 Utilities, Elizabeth Peterson 64.28 Juror Fees & Mileage, Running's Supply Inc 99.99 Repair Supplies, Sanford Clinic 3198.67 Health Nurse, SD Dept. of Labor & Regulation 25.00 Prof. Service, Sd Dept of Transportation 1477.45 Supplies, State Of SD 80.00 Prof. Fees, Robert Shearer 67.34 Juror Fees & Mileage, Sioux Valley Co-Op 300.00 Supplies, Swenson Sales And Service, Inc 114.07 Repair & Maintenance, William Taylor 50.00 Juror Fees, Lonnie Vick 70.40 Juror Fees & Mileage

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business 10) Mewherter moved, seconded by Fieber to adjourn. All voted yes and the motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Brooke Pederson, Deputy Auditor

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Jay Grabow, Chairman