

FALL RIVER COUNTY MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2015

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on February 17, 2015 at Canyon Cottage on the grounds of the State Veterans' Home. Present: Anne Cassens, Joe Falkenburg, Michael Ortner, Deb Russell and Sue Ganje, Auditor. Absent: Joe Allen.

An Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were given and the meeting called to order at 9:00 AM. The agenda was reviewed for conflicts; none were noted. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Ortner, to approve the agenda with the addition of the Clerk of Courts to discuss prisoner transports, for information purposes only and no action sought. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Cassens, seconded by Ortner, to approve the minutes of the Feb. 5, 2015 meeting. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

An application for death expense assistance, which was previously presented and then forwarded to Pennington County, was reconsidered. Motion by Ortner, seconded by Falkenburg, to approve \$1,300.00 in death expense assistance for CP #2015-02. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Cassens, seconded by Ortner, to surplus as junk a portable hard drive, asset #01954, from the Auditor; and a Dell monitor, asset #01192, from the Treasurer. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Discussion was held on collaborating with the City of Hot Springs on a surplus property auction. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to surplus to sell a cabinet, asset #00199 from the Sheriff; and a calculator, asset #00419 from Equalization. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Frank Maynard, Emergency Management, updated the board on PDM payments; emergency personnel text paging; reported on county fires and a training exercise.

Sheriff Bob Evans asked for hire approval. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Ortner, to approve hiring Mikayla Stevens for the 24/7 program at \$10.00 per hour, effective Feb. 5, 2015. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Deputy Josh Buckwheat presented quotes for equipment for law enforcement vehicles. Motion by Ortner, seconded by Falkenburg, to approve equipment bids as presented, totaling \$15,787.15 for both new vehicles. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Evans presented information on the Custer and Lawrence Counties work release programs, which allow inmates to attend school or work and reside at home while being monitored by an electronic bracelet. Altering jail doors to improve the jailers' view of inmates was discussed. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to approve a \$740.00 quote from Lone Star Heating to replace a solid portion of the jail doors with mesh to increase visibility. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Evans discussed transport and housing issues for prisoners housed in the Pennington County Jail. Inmates requiring medical appointments must be transported by Fall River staff and medications must be filled in Pennington County.

Treasurer Kelli Rhoe informed the Board of the process whereby delinquent tax histories are researched, and noted Delinquent taxpayers are notified twice by mail and also by publication in the legal papers.

Larry Lloyd, GoRail, presented information on the organization, which works to promote rail freight service.

Randy Seiler, Highway Superintendent, presented a striping agreement for approval. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded Ortner, to approve a striping agreement, Project P000S(00)021, PCN 02ST, with the State of South Dakota at a county cost of \$1,203.69, which represents 40% of the total cost, authorizing the Chair to sign. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Cassens, seconded by Ortner, to approve \$20,188.00 for the purchase of a sander off state bid. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Seiler reported that he is looking for a used truck from the state and discussed STIP funds. The board requested Randy bring information about the state bridge in the Igloo area to the next meeting.

Susie Hayes-Simkins, Director of Equalization, was present for a request from Leslie Holman to abate taxes on a property that was formerly and is now in the name of an owner that qualifies for the elderly tax freeze. Motion by Ortner, seconded by Falkenburg, to approve a partial abatement of \$1,009.32 in taxes on parcel #75510 01400 00600 to reflect an elderly tax freeze for 2014 taxes. Cassens questioned the Board's authority to grant the abatement. With no further discussion, Cassens voting no and all others voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Ortner, to approve the bills as follows. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

General Fund

A&B Business Solutions	Supply	\$401.14
A-Z Shredding Inc	Supply	\$252.30
Behavior Management Sys	Allotment	\$15,000.00
Black Hills Chemical	Supply	\$1,894.40
Bingham, James	MI / CAAF	\$6,941.10
Century Business Leasing	Lease	\$459.42
Cheyenne Sanitation	Utility	\$560.00
Colbath, Angela M	Caaf	\$3,834.00
Chamberlain McColley's	Co Poor	\$2,600.00
Dakota Leasing Company	Lease	\$310.00
Dakota Supply Group	Supply	\$169.20
DeMersseman Jensen	CAAF	\$2,072.00
Dept Of Social Serv	Inmate	\$11,269.18
Edgemont Herald Tribune	Publishing	\$3,774.96
En-Tech LLC	Supply	\$450.00
Grafix Shoppe	Auto	\$483.28
Hach Company	Repairs	\$268.50
Heartland Paper Company	Repairs	\$152.28
High Plains Graphics	Uniform	\$15.00
Hillyard Floor Care Supp	Supply	\$367.40
Hot Springs Ace Hardware	Supply	\$407.30
City Of Hot Springs	Rent	\$1,800.00
Hot Springs Star	Supply	\$79.70
HSR Fueling LLC	Fuel	\$256.04
Inventory Trading Company	Uniform	\$1,026.00
Iron Mountain Electric	Repairs	\$1,687.76
Manlove Psychiatry Group	Inmate	\$166.66
Marty's Auto Body	Repairs	\$21,255.88
Matrix Research	Supply	\$1,284.08
McLeods Office Supply Co.	Supply	\$605.16
Medical Waste Transport	Utility	\$190.40
Microfilm Imaging Systems	Lease	\$370.00
MOCIC	Dues	\$200.00
Mobile311 LLC	Contract	\$400.00
Nelsons Oil & Gas Inc.	Utility	\$1,283.28
Neve's Uniform Inc	Uniform	\$4,040.00

Nortons Sinclair	Auto	\$200.00
O'Day, Valarie	Crt Rpt	\$415.60
SD Department Of Revenue	Inmate	\$420.00
Behrens, Donna	Travel	\$14.80
	General Fund Total	\$87,376.82
Road & Bridge		
Black Hills Electric	Utility	\$62.54
Cheyenne Sanitation	Utility	\$148.00
Edgemont Herald Tribune	Publishing	\$150.40
McClung, Bruce	Uniform	\$200.00
	Road & Bridge Total	\$560.94
911		
Century Link	Telephone	\$10.76
	911 Reimbur. Total	\$10.76
Emergency Mgt		
Light & Siren	Auto	\$312.00
	Emergency Mgmt Total	\$312.00
L.E.P.C. Grant		
Pudwill, Norman	LEPC	\$120.00
Bastian, Tracy	LEPC	\$200.00
	L.E.P.C. Grant	\$320.00
24/7 Sobriety Fund		
Intoximeters	Supply	\$1,920.00
	24/7 Sobriety Fund Total	\$1,920.00
	Grand Total	\$90,500.52

The meeting opened for public comment. John Staben expressed concern over property tax valuations and the large increases assessed on some properties. Hayes-Simkins said the formula considers several factors.

Hot Springs Mayor Cindy Donnell, City Administrator Nolan Schroeder and Police Chief Mike Close asked the Board to fund one-third of the cost of a school resource officer to provide law enforcement services in the Hot Springs schools. The representatives believe the presence would help with truancy issues. The Board noted the need to consider all schools in the county equally. Evans asked about duties of the officer during summer break and was told the resource officer could function as a Hot Springs city officer or help with the summer recreation program. As the item is not budgeted for 2015, the Board will retain the drafted agreement and study the concept for the future.

Hayes-Simkins presented additional abatement requests. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to approve an abatement for Donald and Esther Merrill of \$429.41 in taxes on parcel #75220 00500 01200 as it was erroneously valued as commercial land, rather than residential. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Cassens, seconded by Falkenburg, to approve an abatement of \$120.65 in taxes on parcel #75480 00100 01000 for Betty Hunter as the owner-occupied status was erroneously removed. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to approve an abatement of \$13.07 in taxes on parcel #27000 00904 14100 for Richard Ball / Ball Family Ranch as credit for taxes on a house that burned down. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

A preliminary update on taxes payable in 2016 was discussed along with factors for ag

buildings. Although ag buildings have been factored at a .50 discount, Hayes-Simkins has not been able to find documentation to support that factor. After comments from the audience and discussion, Ortner moved to alter the ag factor to .65; the motion failed to get a second. Falkenburg moved to leave the factor at .50, which also failed to get a second. Motion by Ortner, seconded by Falkenburg, to alter the ag factor to .60. With no further discussion and all voting yes on a roll call vote, the motion carried.

Carol Foster, Fall River Clerk of Courts, met with the Board to discuss the number of court appearances required and the corresponding transports involved with housing inmates in Pennington County. Foster stated that coordinating transport schedules is difficult and doesn't encourage retention of local attorneys. Evans agreed that other than housing, Pennington County provides no other services.

Motion by Ortner, seconded by Cassens, to enter into Executive Session for personnel and legal matters, per SDCL 1-25-2(1) and (3). With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried and the Board went into Executive Session at 10:48 AM.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 12:13 PM. Motion by Ortner, seconded by Falkenburg, to adjourn. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried and the Board adjourned at 12:14 PM.

/s/ Deborah Russell
Deborah Russell, Chair
Board of Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/s/ Sue Ganje
Sue Ganje, Fall River County Auditor