

## **FALL RIVER COUNTY MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2014**

The Fall River Board of County Commissioners met in special session on April 10, 2014. Present: Michael Ortner, Anne Cassens, Joe Falkenburg, Deb Russell and Sue Ganje, Auditor. Absent: Joe Allen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given; the meeting called to order at 1:30 PM.

The agenda was reviewed for conflicts; none were noted. Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Russell, to approve the agenda as written. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Kelli Rhoe, Acting Treasurer, and Pat Ginsbach, Deputy State's Attorney, updated the Board regarding progress made on research of delinquent taxes agreements and payments. A letter has been drafted to send to people who are delinquent on their agreements.

Joe Allen joined the meeting at 1:34 PM.

In their review, some payments were identified that were applied to certificate years but the main concern is two taxpayers who had funds applied to delinquent taxes without a record of them making payments. Negotiating new payment agreements was discussed. Al Schaefer, Dept. of Legislative Audit, suggested the county will have to decide how much time and money to invest in researching payment histories.

One property erroneously sold at a tax sale was identified and a settlement has been negotiated between the parties involved. The county insurer is asking that a determination be made on how the mistake occurred. The Board noted that to date there is no evidence of illegal activity, but if that became a concern, a Grand Jury could examine evidence and make a determination if any charges are warranted.

Ginsbach suggested contacting the SDACO to see if former SD county Treasurers or employees familiar with SD Cars and office operations might be available to come assist the county in the office; Russell offered free housing to any respondents.

Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to authorize the State's Attorney and Treasurer to send letters to individuals with delinquent agreements, meet with them to review their records and then return to the Board with findings. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried.

Rhoe reported discovering the state law that governs how much a government office can charge as a returned-check fee, which differs from the amount a business can collect. Rhoe stated the office would be reverting to the correct amount of \$30.00.

The Board was notified that safety concerns have closed one side of the Igloo Bridge. Photos documenting the structural issues were provided to the Board.

Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Russell, to enter into Executive Session for personnel matters, per SDCL 1-25-2(1). With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried and the Board went into Executive Session at 2:28 PM.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 2:39 PM. Susie Hayes, Director of Equalization, distributed stipulations for the meeting of the Consolidated Board of Equalization scheduled for April 17, 2014 and provided a review of each appeal.

Motion by Falkenburg, seconded by Cassens, to adjourn. With no further discussion and all voting yes, the motion carried and the Board adjourned at 3:02 PM.

/s/ Michael P. Ortner

Michael P. Ortner, Chairman

Board of Fall River County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/s/ Sue Ganje

Sue Ganje, Fall River County Auditor