

GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS November 7, 2024

The Golden Valley County Commissioners met November 7, 2024 at 9 a.m. at the courthouse. Chairman Adam Smith called the meeting to order. Commissioners Robert Schmeling and Rory Farstveit were present for the meeting along with State's Attorney Christina Wenko and Gary Howard with the *Golden Valley News*.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to accept the agenda as presented and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to approve the October regular and special meeting minutes and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to approve the current vouchers for payment and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

The following vouchers were audited and approved for the month of November 2024: GV County Employees November Payroll

November Payroll	\$67,980.05
NDPERS	\$16,552.91
NDPERS	\$875.00
Ascensus	\$287.84
MT Dept of Treas	\$249.00
NDPHIT	\$28,011.78
IR	\$23,753.71
JP Morgan	\$2,258.59
Pitney Bowes	
Postage	\$500.00
Collections	
Submitted	\$44,361.63
Golden Valley State's Attorney Legal Fees	\$1,358.33
Information Technology Dept Data Processing	\$1,002.70
NDAAO	
Membership	\$50.00
I-29 Trailer Sales	
Parts	\$271.98
Powerplan	
Repair/Parts	\$3,709.75
GS Publishing, LLC	
Publishing	\$575.14
SW Multi-County Correction Center	
Prisoner Care	\$3,075.00
Bobcat of Dickinson	
Parts	\$353.60
ES&S	
Elections	\$2,066.13
Golva Repair	
Repair/Parts	\$275.00

Applied Concepts	
Equipment	\$7,739.10
Armor Interactive	
Contract/Equip	\$2,769.17
Farmers Union	
Parts/Repair	\$9,822.73
ND Association of Counties	
D&A Test	\$138.60
Beach Food Center	
Supplies	\$15.08
Prairie Lumber	
Supplies	\$158.43
NDSU Extension	
Salary	\$6,548.31
ND State Radio	
Lines/renewal	\$8,298.76
Pitney Bowes	
Contract	\$441.99
Adam Smith	
Travel	\$364.36
Charbonneau Car Center	
Repair	\$1,479.91
Carla Beeler	
Travel	\$214.40
Dakota Dust-Tex	
Contract	\$235.35
Motorola Solutions	
Equipment	\$21,590.60
Steve Raisler	
Veteran Service	\$140.00
Burt Cook	
Veteran Service/Travel	\$431.39
Candie Loftsgard	
Travel	\$282.00
Ward County Auditor	
Prisoner Care	\$2,326.50
Big State Industrial Supply	
Parts	\$649.76
Rachel Keohane	
Travel	\$214.40
Cassandra Szudera	
Travel	\$111.40
Boss Inc	
Supplies	\$465.81
John Deere Financial	
Parts	\$1,609.12
Rohan Hardware	
Parts	\$51.25
Cerberus Security LLC	
Contract	\$200.00
Wallwork Truck Center	
Parts	\$35.63
ND Association of Counties	
Conference	\$1,550.00
American Ford	
Repair	\$338.00
Steele Auto Body LLC	
Repair	\$2,520.35
KLJ Engineering LLC	
Rd & Bridge	\$21,636.45
Code 4 Service Inc	
Equip Install	\$16,066.88
Uniform Center	
Uniforms	\$168.00
Radisson Hotel Bismarck	
Lodging	\$717.50
ND One Call	
Locates	\$3.00
Total Safety	
Inspections	\$648.52

Integrity Auto Glass	
Repair	\$145.00
Mayo Construction Company	
Rd & Bridge	\$145.00
Renae Smith	
Election	\$305.50
Raynette Szudera	
Election	\$305.50
Tracey Streitz	
Election	\$314.50
Marcia Sperry	
Election	\$314.50
Red Rock Ford	
Repair	\$761.77
Eric Farstveit	
Rent	\$500.00
Clay Farstveit	
Rent	\$500.00
Badlands Truck Sales	
Parts	\$4,000.00
City of Beach	
Utilities	\$510.59
Pump Systems	
Parts	\$224.16
NDCISA	
Ag Improvement	\$900.00
MDU	
Electricity & Gas	\$1,786.70
West Plains Inc	
Parts	\$12.55
Reservation Telephone Co-op	
Trunking	\$40.00
Nutrien Ag Solutions	
Chemical	\$2,004.00
Farmers Union	
Gas/Parts	\$636.94
RTC Networks	
Internet/Phones	\$1,439.02
November Payroll	\$13,985.64
Payroll Liabilities	\$3,090.96
Library Disburse	\$198.19
Cenex Fleet Fueling	
Fuel	\$1,785.55
Café	\$200.00
Dell Beach	
Tax Refund	\$744.46
Stark-Billings Co. Ext. Office	
NDSU Disburse	\$48.57
GV County Treasurer	
Transfer	\$15,000.00
Verizon Wireless	
Cell Phone	\$367.83
Beach Civil Township	
LoadPass Disbursement	\$6,452.61
Sentinel Township	
LoadPass Disbursement	\$10,562.42

Current business brought forward to the Board:

- Commissioner Smith moved to appoint Zane Manhart as the State Fair delegate for the County and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.
- Snow removal and equipment were discussed for the Courthouse and other County buildings located in the city. No action was taken at this time as

the Board will do more research on equipment options to do the snow removal.

Revenue that is collected from the LoadPass permitting was discussed. No action was taken at this time and will be discussed later on in the meeting.

Missy Nelson's 6-month probation period is expiring this month. After discussion regarding additional training, Commissioner Schmeling moved to extend her probation period another 3 months, extending it to February 2025 and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Resolution amending the employee handbook regarding the drug and alcohol use for employees. County Auditor will distribute the proposed Resolution to all employees for their review and the Resolution will be addressed at the December 3rd regular meeting to give Employees an opportunity to visit with the Board with any questions or concerns they may have on the Resolution. The goal is to have this approved and adopted at the December meeting and effective January 1, 2025.

County Canvassing for the November 5th General Election will be held November 18th at 1 PM.

State's Attorney Wenko gave the Board an update from her office.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to transfer \$15,000 from the General Fund to the County Agent Fund per 2024 budgets and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Smith signed the Building Lease with the County and Eric and Clay Farstveit to store Weed Control Equipment for the winter.

Lori Elliott met with the Board to discuss closing a road that was designated as a CMC road running through the Myers Ranch. Lori discussed how Knutson Creek Road was privately constructed and fully paid for by the oil company in 1985. She informed the Commission that the road was constructed through a private agreement with Roger Myers and Diamond Shamrock/Tenneco. Oil companies have continued to maintain Knutson Creek Road, since it was constructed. No easement has ever been granted to Golden Valley County. Pete Wirtzfeld, Golden Valley Road Foreman, confirmed that Golden Valley County did not construct and has never maintained Knutson Creek Road.

State's Attorney Wenko discussed NDCC 24-07 regarding the closure of roads and suggested the process be followed to ensure due process to adjacent property owners should Myers Ranch desire a formal decision on the status of the road by the County. Elliott was advised to submit a formal petition and provide notice to adjacent landowners. The county will set a hearing on the matter once the petition is received to make a formal determination and findings should Myers Ranch desire to move forward with a requesting a formal determination.

Sheriff Dey Muckle met with the Board to discuss 2 patrol units that are no longer used in the department. Commissioner Farstveit moved to keep the 2015 Dodge for the Custodian to have a pickup as needed and to offer the 2012 Ford to Golva Fire as is condition and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to change the regular December meeting to Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 9 a.m. and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to adjourn and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

ATTEST
Adam Smith, Chairman,
County Commissioners
Tamra Sperry,
County Auditor
(Published Dec. 26, 2024)

and Sentinel Butte areas and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried. Emergency funds can be used in this emergency situation to cover the cost of the dumpsters.

Tax/Zoning Director Carla Beeler met with the Board. Commissioner Smith moved to approve an abatement for parcel #04820000 for tax years 2022 and 2023 as the property was accessed as a house rather than a mobile home and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to approve the following Resolution per the County Zoning Boards recommendation to approve:

RESOLUTION 2024-13 GRANTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2024, North Plains Connector LLC submitted an application ("Application") for a conditional use permit ("CUP") for the portion of the North Plains Connector Transmission Line Project ("Project") located in Golden Valley, North Dakota ("County") pursuant to Section 3.4.3(11) of the County's Zoning Ordinance.

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2024, the County's Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on and considered the Application and, thereafter, recommended issuance of a CUP to North Plains Connector LLC with: (1) the five year CUP term requested in the Application; and (2) authorization to adjust the Project under the CUP as requested in the Application ("Recommendation").

WHEREAS, the County's Board of County Commissioners considered the Application and the Planning and Zoning Commission's Recommendation at its meeting on November 7, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Golden Valley Board of County Commissioners:

1. A CUP is issued to North Plains Connector LLC for the Project.

2. Project construction must begin within five years of issuance of the CUP or the CUP is void without further action of the Planning and Zoning Commission or the Board of County Commissioners. "Construction" means clearing of land (including vegetation and/or tree clearing), excavation or other action affecting the land, but does not include activities related to preliminary engineering or environmental studies.

3. The CUP authorizes adjustments to the Project route, permanent and temporary rights-of-way, and structure and permanent access road locations so long as the Project does not involve a new landowner(s) and North Plains Connector LLC has secured landowner approval.

APPROVED BY GOLDEN VALLEY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

By: Adam Smith
Chairman, Board of
County Commissioners
Date: November 7, 2024

ATTEST
By: Tamra Sperry, Auditor
Date: November 7, 2024

The motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Commissioner Farstveit and seconded by Commissioner Schmeling and upon a vote being taken thereon:

The following voted YEA: Smith, Schmeling and Farstveit

The following voted NAY: Whereupon the Chairman declared the resolution adopted.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to re-appoint Troy Tescher retroactive to 2022 and Darin Maus retroactive to 2021 for another 4-year term and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

Road Foreman Pete Wirtzfeld met with the pet. Various road topics were discussed. Chairman Smith signed the annual maintenance certification for the county federal aid projects.

Commissioner Smith moved if the LoadPass fees collected per individual Townships exceed \$1,000, 75% of the fees collected will be dispersed to that individual Township, the County will retain 25% of the fees for administration of the program for the September and October payments and Commissioner Farstveit seconded. Motion carried.

The Board will work on a Township Permit Agreement to present to the Townships at the Annual County/Township meeting held in March every year for future distributions of the LoadPass fees collected.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to adjourn and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

ATTEST
Adam Smith, Chairman
County Commissioners
Tamra Sperry,
County Auditor
(Published Dec. 26, 2024)

GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS November 21, 2024

The Golden Valley County Commissioners held a special meeting on November 21, 2024 at 9 a.m. at the courthouse. Chairman Adam Smith called the meeting to order. Commissioners Robert Schmeling and Rory Farstveit were present for the meeting, along with Gary Howard with the *Golden Valley News* and Sheriff Dey Muckle.

The purpose of this special meeting is to accept the resignation from Custodian Thomas Littlecreek and to discuss a plan moving forward to fill the vacancy and discuss the current burn ban and discuss the December regular meeting date.

A letter of resignation was reviewed from Thomas Littlecreek. Commissioner Farstveit moved to accept the resignation of Custodian Thomas Littlecreek with December 14, 2024 being his last day and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to advertise for the position immediately with a starting salary of \$19-21/hr DOE and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schmeling moved to approve the following updated burn ban and Commissioner Farstveit seconded:

2024 FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS DECLARATION Golden Valley County,

North Dakota

WHEREAS, Golden Valley County, North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, Golden Valley County has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and the local Emergency Management Office has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in Golden Valley County; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and fire damages may be beyond available County resources; and

WHEREAS, Golden Valley County wishes to regulate activities within the County which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Golden Valley County Commissioners declare a Fire Emergency and Burn Ban to include a ban on ignition of fireworks, garbage burning, campfires, burning of farm and crop land and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (excluding agricultural purposes, but must have a 2A or greater fire extinguisher on hand at all times) when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Index is in the High,

Very High or Extreme category and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued for Golden Valley County, North Dakota. Effective immediately until rescinded. Any prior Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions issued by Golden Valley County are rescinded and replaced by this ban.

The Daily Fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>.

THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37.17.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE).

DATED at Beach, North Dakota this 21st day of November, 2024.

Adam Smith, Board Chairman
Golden Valley
County Commission

Tamra Sperry
Golden Valley County Auditor
Commissioner Farstveit moved to change the regular December meeting to Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 9 a.m. and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Farstveit moved to adjourn and Commissioner Schmeling seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

ATTEST
Adam Smith, Chairman,
County Commissioners
Tamra Sperry,
County Auditor
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