

# BROOKINGS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2022

The Brookings County Board of County Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 with the following members present: Angie Boersma, Ryan Krogman, Lee Ann Pierce, Michael Bartley and Larry Jensen.

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Boersma called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Pierce, seconded by Jensen to approve the agenda for the August 30, 2022 Commission Meeting. All members voted "aye." Motion carried.

### REGULAR BUSINESS

The board held discussion on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding requests. Commission Department Director Stacy Steffensen said these are all the requests that have come in or that the commission has discussed throughout the year. She said if there is something missing from the list, they can add it.

Pierce asked how much they spend on payroll and benefits for all the county employees. Steffensen said about \$6.5 million dollars is spent on payroll and benefits each year. Pierce asked if they could apply \$6.5 million dollars of ARPA dollars to the General Fund. Steffensen said yes, the county can pay for salaries and benefits using ARPA funds.

Bartley said he'd like to see a line created within the General Fund named "commission projects" or something like that. Bartley said the money can remain in the commission project line until it has been spent. Boersma suggested they look at the criteria set for the ARPA dollars. Boersma said the funds should be used as a one-time funds for one-time projects; have a 20+ year impact; try to collaborate to get maximum benefit of the dollars; promote economic development; and it must qualify for the federal regulations.

The board discussed a funding request, in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars from Brookings Behavioral Health & Wellness. Boersma said this amount would be one-third of the project they want to fund. She said they requested funds from the City of Brookings, Brookings County and from private donors. Pierce said she approves the \$1.2 million dollar request and suggested allocating it in 2022 because they have an ongoing relationship with them, and they know they would spend the money for their specific request.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$100,000 for ventilation at the Brookings County Outdoor Adventure Center. Krogman said this project is not ready to go yet and suggested they budget for this expense rather than using ARPA dollars.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$80,000 for 214<sup>th</sup> Street. Bartley said there hasn't been an impact study done from the interchange project so his vote would be to maybe fund the project. Krogman said 214<sup>th</sup> Street is a future project they should invest in, and there's enough interest from the public. Jensen said these funds would help get it rolling. Pierce said this would be huge and it follows the county's criteria.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$80,000 for Medary Township drainage. Commissioner Bartley said his vote would be to maybe fund the project. Jensen said his vote would also be maybe because the results are unknown.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$125,000 for Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership's (ICAP) new building in Madison, SD. Commissioner Boersma said because of high costs, ICAP decided to purchase the currently leased building and renovate it. Boersma said she wonders if the other counties are contributing. Pierce said she doesn't know if \$125,000 is the right amount but realizes ICAP does a lot of work. Bartley said ICAP produces a lot of housing, and it is a good program. Boersma suggested adding the purchase price of the leased building and renovation costs together, then divide it by fourteen counties. The requested amount would be around \$100,000.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$300,000 for United Way's building project. Pierce said she supports United Way, but the entities that United Way supports, the County also supports. Commissioner Krogman said the funds would be an investment and the request meets all the county's criteria. Bartley said he has no problem supporting the request and allocating the funds in 2022.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$200,000 for Habitat for Humanity. Bartley asked how they are sitting financially. Boersma said additional information from them would be helpful on deciding how much to give financially. Steffensen said she will invite them to a future commission so they can present to the board.

The board discussed a funding request, in the amount of \$2,269,936, for Emergency Services/Fire Departments. Krogman encouraged the fire departments to stretch the funds given so that they can put the remaining money in their capital improvement plan to help pay for other things. Boersma agreed with Krogman.

The board discussed a funding request, in the amount of \$311,516, for the Elkton Ambulance. The request said they are looking at expanding to an Advance Life Support (ALS) service on a part-time basis when the director/paramedic is in town. Boersma suggested they reach out to Director Scott Stuefen and ask that he come to a future meeting and discuss the request.

The board discussed a funding request, in the amount of \$28,750, for a generator at the East Fire Station/Emergency Operations Center. The cost would be shared 50/50 with the City of Brookings.

The board discussed a funding request, in the amount of \$30,000, for a generator at the Brookings County Outdoor Adventure Center. Commissioner Jensen said it's currently wired for a portable generator, but it could be re-wired. County Development Director Robert Hill said if something ever happened to the Swiftel Center, the BCOAC is the second-best place for an emergency shelter.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$100,000 for the City's Law Enforcement Center - Dispatch portion. By consensus, the board agreed to the request but needs to know the cost of the project.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$60,000 for the Brookings County Highway Shop. Boersma said there are a lot of unanswered questions. Krogman said this project is one that they should budget for and not use ARPA dollars.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$150,000 for Government Center Office updates. Boersma said the design details are under consideration, but no decisions have been made. Krogman said this project is one they should budget for and not use ARPA dollars. He suggested using 301 funds.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$400,000 for Sheriff's staffing. Krogman said he doesn't have a problem with putting some money in there, but it should be a budgeted item. Pierce said she didn't think they were going to use ARPA funds for staffing. Pierce said she would rather see the board use contingency. Steffensen said she would review contingency at year-end.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$150,000 for the courthouse roof project. Steffensen said they still have not heard back on the roof estimate.

The board discussed a funding request in the amount of \$85,600 for KnowINK pollpads. Pierce suggested they use the funds to pay for a new tabulator since the pollpads were paid for already.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bartley, seconded by Jensen to adjourn. All members voted "aye." Motion carried. The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

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