

**FORD COUNTY BOARD SPECIFICALLY  
FARM COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, February 3, 2025**

The committee members met in the Small Courtroom in the Courthouse on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 4:30PM. The roll call was called at 4:42pm and showed the following people in attendance:

Mr. Niewold, Mrs. C. Ihrke, Mr. Kerber, Mr. McQuinn, and Mrs. Mussman.

Mrs. Mussman made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Kerber seconded it.

Voice Vote – Carried

Dallas Glazik spoke during public comment on his wish for the committee and board to see the CRP agreement passed and Farm #3 enrolled into a federal CRP Program.

New Business:

Mrs. Ihrke made the motion, and Mrs. Mussman seconded for Ford County to reimburse The Loda Sportsman Club the FSA Farm #3 reporting penalty they paid, not to exceed \$50 from the Farm Account.

Roll Call – 5 in favor, 0 opposed

After brief discussion, Mr. Niewold made the motion, Mr. Kerber seconded to approve the draft cash rent lease language once amended to include:

Section 5 (V), Paragraph B: “Ditches are to be cut twice a year at a minimum, but specifically at least once before harvest, and not between dates that coincide with the USDA nesting season.”

Section 8 (VIII), [insert between current Paragraph F and G]. “Lessor would prefer all inputs and crops for said farm be purchased from and sold to a Ford County agricultural business as applicable.”

Voice Vote - Carried

Mrs. Ihrke made the motion, and Mr. McQuinn seconded to obtain deeds for all Ford County Farms. Brief discussion took place.

Voice Vote - Carried

Mr. Niewold made the motion, and Mrs. Mussman seconded to seek sealed cash rent bids for Farm #3 for the 2025 crop year. Much discussion took place. Although consensus was that the farm should be cropped seeing no government program could take place until at least October, some members wished to tie the motion to completion of CRP Lease/Operator agreement. Furthermore, some members stated they believe a previous board “gave their word” and “there was mistrust” regarding an agreement to those previously involved with the now terminated operator agreement. Mr. Niewold noted that paperwork is in process with the State’s Attorney, as well as the board must obtain land deeds before anything can move forward with a federal program, neither of which is the county currently in possession of, nor do any official county minutes reflect any motion passed by the county to enter into an agreement. No one stated they were opposed to

looking into CRP, simply without needed paperwork, deed, and no known value per acre known by FSA it did not seem prudent to tie any promise or guarantee to the motion. More discussion pursued.

Roll Call was taken:

Niewold, Kerber, Mussman - In Favor

McQuinn and Ihrke – Opposed

Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Mr. McQuinn stated the building commission is interested in selling the small parcel of land that is attached to Farm #1 to the county. He is going to ask the commission to vote on this at an upcoming meeting at which point the Farm Committee and full board can then take it up.

At 5:34 PM Mr. McQuinn made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Kerber seconded it.

Voice Vote – Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Mussman

Ford County Board Member