

Affidavit of Publication

Colleen Park, being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. I am the designated agent, under the provisions and for the purposes of, Section 31-04-06, NDCC, for the newspapers listed on the attached exhibits.
2. The newspapers listed on the exhibits published the advertisement of: **Public Service Commission – Andeavor Field Services; Case No. PU-20-161; 1 time(s)** as required by law or ordinance.
3. All of the listed newspapers are legal newspapers in the State of North Dakota and, under the provisions of Section 46-05-01, NDCC, are qualified to publish any public notice or any matter required by law or ordinance to be printed or published in a newspaper in North Dakota.

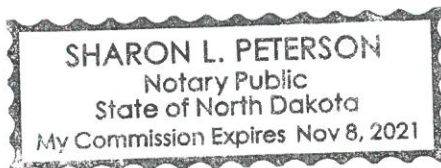
Signed: Colleen Park

State of North Dakota

County of Burleigh

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4 day of May, 2020.

Sharon L. Peterson



PUBLIC NOTICES/LEGALS

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Montana Dakota Utilities Co.
Advance Prudence - Heskett 4
Application**

**Case No. PU-19-306
Montana Dakota Utilities Co.
88 MW Turbine - Heskett 4
Public Convenience & Necessity
Case No. PU-19-307
Montana Dakota Utilities Co.
Deferred Accounting-Lewis&Clark 1
Heskett 1 & 2 Application**

**Case No. PU-19-317
AMENDED NOTICE OF
CONSIDERED HEARING
April 17, 2020**

A consolidated Public Hearing on the applications in Case No. PU-19-306, PU-19-307 and PU-19-317 was noticed to be located at the State Capitol, 12th Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave, Bismarck, ND 58505. Due to the state emergency, the Public Hearing will be held remotely to begin on April 30, 2020 at 2:00 pm central time.

The public is encouraged to view the hearing electronically via <https://psc.nd.gov/public/meetings/live.php> or listen telephonically via 1-888-585-9008 with room code 259-316-322.

Public input received by the Commission will be placed into the record for consideration. The Commission will receive testimony through the following methods:

Written - Written public input may be submitted beginning on April 30, 2020 through May 11, 2020 through email via ndpsc@nd.gov or by mail addressed to: Public Service Commission, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408 Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Telephonic - The public may provide input over the phone by calling 701-328-4081 to be placed on a list. Following the testimony by Montana Dakota Utilities Co., on April 30, 2020, the Commission will call you back to receive your input in an order determined by the Administrative Law Judge.

On August 28, 2019, Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed an application for an Advance Determination of Prudence (Case No. PU-19-306) and for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Case No. PU-19-307) to construct, own and operate an 88 MW simple cycle combustion turbine referred to as Heskett Unit 4. The turbine is to be located adjacent to Heskett Unit 1, near Mandan, North Dakota. MDU states the primary need for Heskett Unit 4 is to offset the retirement of three coal-fired power plants: 1) Lewis and Clark Unit 1 located near Sydney, Montana, 2) Heskett Unit 1 located near Mandan and 3) Heskett Unit 2 located near Mandan. MDU states that these coal-fired power plants are no longer economical.

On September 16, 2019, MDU filed an application for deferred accounting treatment of costs related to its proposed retirement of the Lewis and Clark Unit 1, Heskett Unit 1 and Heskett Unit 2 until disposition of its next general electric rate case. MDU proposes to accelerate depreciation of the coal-fired power plants to an expected early retirement date.

On March 4, 2020 The Commission consolidated the cases for public hearing.

The issues to be determined in Case No. PU-19-306 are:

1. Whether MDU's proposed resource addition is prudent.

2. Whether the Commission should grant MDU an advance determination of prudence.

The issues to be determined in Case No. PU-19-307 are:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of the facilities.

2. Whether the applicant is fit, willing, and able to provide service.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-19-317 are:

1. Whether MDU's proposed early plant retirements are reasonable and appropriate?

2. Whether MDU's proposal for accelerated depreciation should be approved?

The Commission will consider written testimony received up to five days after the hearing to accommodate members of the public that are unable to attend due to coronavirus concerns. For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota, 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify the Commission at least 24 hours in advance.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Julie Fedorchak, Commissioner
Brian Kroshus, Chairman
Randy Christmann, Commissioner
(April 22, 2020) 2835143**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF DUNN
IN DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
James Voigt,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Lyle E. Morast, Bruce R. Morast, Jeane Morast, Leland A. Morast, Christopher J. Flaget, Tracy R. Flaget, and LCM Enterprises, and all unknown persons having or claiming an estate or interest in, or lien or encumbrance, upon the property described in the Complaint, whether as heirs, devisees, legatees, or personal representatives of deceased persons,
Defendants.**

SUMMONS
Civil No. 13-2020-CV-00028

THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:
You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the Complaint in this action, which is herewith served upon you, by serving upon the undersigned an answer or other proper response within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE OF NO PERSONAL CLAIM
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT this action has been brought for the purpose quieting title and to the following described real estate:

**Dunn County, North Dakota
Township 145 North, Range 91
West 5th PM.
Section 11: NE1/4**

and no personal claim is made against the Defendants above named, or any of them.

Dated this 26th day of February, 2020.

**KUBIK, BOGNER, RIDL & SELINGER,
L.L.P.**

Attorneys for Plaintiffs
117 1st St E
P.O. Box 1173
Dickinson, ND 58602-1173
(701) 225-9155
jordanselingerr@ndsupernet.com
/s/ Jordan L. Selinger
Jordan L. Selinger, Attorney
(I. D. # 08454)
(April 8, 15 & 22, 2020) 2832635

**Official Proceedings
March 3, 2020
8:00 am**

Chairman Kuntz called the meeting of the Stark County Board of Commissioners to order. All members present.

Agenda
Chairman Kuntz asked for any changes to the agenda. Commissioner Franchuk added Weed Board Member. Commissioner Zander added Amazon.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Arthaud
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To approve the agenda with the change.
DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Minutes
The February 4, 2020 Board of County Commissioners' meeting minutes were presented.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To approve the February 4, 2020 Board

of County Commissioner's meeting minutes as presented.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried

Accounts Payable

General: \$525,533.15;

10 Mill: \$116,937.56;

County Road: \$96,778.35;

Highway Tax Distribution: \$157,725.50;

Special Road & Bridge: \$319.03;

Social Welfare: \$5,146.95;

Capital Improvement: \$831,716.72;

County Jail: \$176,873.51;

VSO Fund: \$13,148.02;

County Agent: \$7,329.51;

Weed Control: \$18,384.60;

9-1-1: \$23,944.19;

SW Victim Witness Program: \$7,856.18;

State Reimbursements: \$50.00;

Siren Contingency: \$391.26;

24/7 Fund: \$5,463.30;

Other Reimbursements: \$5,516.38;

Judgement Execution: \$34,150.00;

911 Equipment: \$12,347.55;

Special Operations: \$166.08;

Sheriff Lee
Sheriff Lee provided his monthly report and reported that Truck Regulatory Deputy Tessier will be back on the road next week.

Sheriff Lee reported that he checked into the policy/practice for a retiring law enforcement officer to receive their service weapon and reported that the practice has been 20 years of service. Corporal Moser does not meet the years of service requirement to receive his service weapon, but has been offered the opportunity to purchase the service weapon.

Road Superintendent - Al Heiser
Mr. Heiser reported that the Road Crew is doing repairs in the shop and cutting down trees along roads in the Lefor area. They are hoping to start crack sealing this week. Mr. Heiser was also directed to checking into the demolishing and removal of the property acquired by Stark County through delinquent tax proceedings.

Jeremy Wood - Northern Plains
Mr. Wood reported that three bridge replacements projects and paving project will be bid this morning at 10:00 AM with construction in 2020. Mr. Wood also reported on a grading project design on 35th Street and 107th Avenue.

Weed Control - City of Dickinson
Travis Jepsen, Weed Control Officer, reported that he attended a meeting with Mayor Scott Decker, Commissioner Fridrich, Joseph Gaa, Chairman Kuntz, Ron Obritsch, Al Heiser, and a ND Agriculture Department representative to discuss the City of Dickinson creating a weed board to handle the enforcement of noxious weeds within the City of Dickinson limits. The City of Dickinson has decided to have their current Board of Adjustments serve as their Weed Control Board and Leonard Schwindt will serve as the Weed Control Officer.

Mike Njos - Highland Engineering
Mr. Njos reported on one bridge replacement project, a chip seal coat project, and a culvert replacement project.

Equalization Meeting Time
Natalie Wandler, Tax Director, reported that she needs to send out the increase notices and needs to include the time on the notice when the tax equalization meeting will be held. City of Dickinson, City Assessor Joe Hirschfeld is suggesting another time than the regularly scheduled Commissioners meeting to accommodate the increase in attendees expected.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

To schedule the tax equalization meeting for June 4, 2020 at 10:00 AM

DISPOSITION: All voted aye. Motion carried.

Scull
Zach Mathern, JLG Architects, gave a progress update on the Stark County Office Building construction, and presented pay applications for the project.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

To approve the payment through the Capital Improvement Fund.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Mathern reported that the Building Committee reviewed and scored the bids from the furniture vendors as follows: Boss Office Products - 80 points, Fire-side Office Solutions - 92 points and TMI - 99 points. The Building Committee recommends accepting the proposals and contract with TMI Specialty Contracting to design and procure furniture and furniture systems for the Stark County Office Building project.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

To accept the TMI bid.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried

Courthouse Stoop Bid
Mike Dschaak, Buildings/Ground Supervisor, presented a bid from Winn Construction to repair the front stoop of the Courthouse for \$165,000.00 to remove the three front steps and remove the rubber membrane under the steps. Discussion was held in regard to getting additional bids, and if we needed to hire an architect or engineer.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Arthaud

To proceed with a formal bid process.

DISPOSITION: All voted aye. Motion carried.

Weed Board Member
One application was received to fulfill a vacated position with a term expiring on July 1, 2022.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To appoint Greg Messer to the Weed Control Board.

DISPOSITION: All voted aye. Motion carried.

Amazon
Commissioner Zander expressed concern about conversations circulating in the community regarding the need for supporting and promoting local businesses. In the past the Commission has encouraged County departments when making purchases to buy locally.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

Beginning now all Stark County purchases will be made locally unless extenuating circumstances result in product not available locally.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. Commissioner Zander Aye. Commissioner Elkin Aye. Commissioner Arthaud Aye. Commissioner Franchuk Aye. Chairman Kuntz Nay. Motion carried.

Motor Grader - Wheel Loader Quotes
Quotes for a 2020 Wheel Loader were received as follows:

VENDOR	TOTAL PRICE
TRADE IN	
RDO Equipment	\$236,571.00
	\$185,571.00
Butler	\$268,000.00
\$57,500.00	\$210,500.00

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin

SECOND BY: Commissioner Zander

To purchase the John Deere Wheel Loader from RDO Equipment.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Quotes for a 2020 Motor Grader were received as follows:

VENDOR	TOTAL PRICE
TRADE IN	
RDO Equipment	\$365,366.00
	\$304,866.00
Butler	\$363,800.00
\$51,500.00	\$312,300.00

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Zander

To purchase the CAT Motor Grader from Butler.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Call for Bids - Rental Equipment, Hot Bituminous, and Gravel Crushing
Bids were received for Rental Equipment and/or Hot Bituminous from the following: Ty Newton Fencing, Nelson Fencing, East End Auto & Trucks, Rummel Auto Wrecking, Jurgens Operating, Hlebechuk Construction, Boltz Construction, Tooz Construction, Steier Trucking, Northern Improvement, Edward Schwartz Construction, Martin Construction, Kathrein Trucking and Aaron Raley.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Arthaud

To accept all bids and file for future reference.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bid for Gravel Crushing was received from Fisher Industries for \$3.65 per cubic yard.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

Elkin

To accept the bid from Fisher Industries.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Red Trail Energy - No show County Property
Discussion was held on listing County owned property for sale. The properties would be the Social Services building, NDSU Extension/Sunrise Youth Bureau building and an approximate 6 acre lot located off Highway 10. The lot would need a fair amount of fill dirt, which Mr. Heiser offered the dirt stockpiled at the County Shop. Chairman Kuntz and Commissioner Zander will move forward with developing a marketing plan and will keep the Board informed of the progress.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Arthaud

Arthaud

To authorize the Road Superintendent to seek out an engineer to ascertain the amount of fill dirt needed and available for the 6 acre lot.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Abatement Denial - Lawsuits
State's Attorney Tom Herning gave notification of lawsuits based on the last denial of abatements for Dickinson Properties LLC, Dickinson Homestay LLC, LodgePros Dickinson LLC, RFM-TREI Lincoln Apartments LLC and RFM-TREI Jefferson Apartments LLC. Mitch Armstrong and an associate have been appointed by NDIRF to represent us.

Bid Opening - CP-45(20)01
The following bids were received for the bridge replacement project southeast of Richardson on 86th Avenue Southwest.

- Martin Construction - \$253,863.07

- Central Specialties Incorporated - \$379,565.94

- Edward H. Schwartz Construction, Inc. - \$227,715.60

- Hlebechuk Construction, Inc. - \$212,710.52

MOTION BY: Commissioner Zander
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

To accept the apparent low bid of Hlebechuk Construction in the amount of \$212,710.52 pending the engineer's review and authorize the Chairman's signature.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bid Opening - CP-45(20)02
The following bids were received for the bridge replacement project south of Dickinson on 46th Street Southwest.

- Martin Construction - \$175,746.55

- Central Specialties Incorporated - \$287,310.85

- Edward H. Schwartz Construction, Inc. - \$169,179.80

- Hlebechuk Construction, Inc. - \$170,849.40

MOTION BY: Commissioner Arthaud
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To accept the apparent low bid of Edward Schwartz Construction in the amount of \$169,179.80 pending the engineer's review and authorize the Chairman's signature.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bid Opening - CP-45(20)03
The following bids were received for the bridge replacement project southwest of Scheffeld on 116th Avenue Southwest.

- Martin Construction - \$262,310.25

- Central Specialties Incorporated - \$391,059.92

- Edward H. Schwartz Construction, Inc. - \$236,521.90

- Hlebechuk Construction, Inc. - \$302,097.42

MOTION BY: Commissioner Elkin
SECOND BY: Commissioner Zander

Zander

To accept the apparent low bid of Edward Schwartz Construction in the amount of \$236,521.90 pending the engineer's review and authorize the Chairman's signature.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bid Opening - CP-45(20)05
The following bids were received for the Green River Estates project.

- Northern Improvement Company - \$298,945.00

Jeremy Wood, Northern Plains Engineering will review and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Arthaud
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To table the decision until the next meeting.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried

Board recessed for the County Park Meeting at 10:18 AM.

Board reconvened at 10:25 AM.

FEMA - Open House
Commissioner Franchuk informed the Board of a FEMA Open House tomorrow night at the Dickinson Public Library from 5:00 to 7:00 PM to review Flood Plan Maps.

Sheriff Lee - Citizen Concern
Sheriff Lee reported a concern from a citizen about the intersection located at 39th and 116th with low visibility due to a hill. Sheriff Lee would suggest a three or four way stop. Mr. Heiser agreed it is an ugly intersection. At one time it was a three way stop, and when the refinery was built, it was taken out. For safety reasons, suggestion was made to add in a northbound stop sign.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Arthaud
SECOND BY: Commissioner Elkin

To put up flashing stop signs for a three way stop.

DISPOSITION: All voted aye. Motion carried.

Vendors - Local Support
Commissioner Arthaud suggested that we not only buy local, but we also need to look at using local vendors for services.

The following Miscellaneous Receipts were filed: General: \$183,408.11; 10 Mill: \$8,974.87; County Road: \$81,404.00; Highway Tax Distribution: \$248,850.96; Special Road & Bridge: \$2,722.71; Capital Improvement: \$255,015.49; County Jail: \$6,655.52; Emergency Fund: \$907.57; Veterans' Service Officer:

\$1,109.25; County Agent: \$1,815.14; Weed Control: \$2,232.75; E-911 Fund: \$43,039.92; Adult Education: \$100.00; Estimate Tax: \$511.14; Security Reimbursement: \$281.20; Victim Witness: \$1,639.30; Preservation Fee: \$1,530.00; 24/7 Fund: \$4,838.00; Other Reimbursements: \$8,984.17; Judgment Execution: \$34,150.00; 911 Equipment: \$8,551.45; MOTION BY: Commissioner Arthaud
SECOND BY: Commissioner Franchuk

To adjourn the meeting.
DISPOSITION: Motion carried
(April 22, 2020) 2834874

CALL FOR SEALED BIDS FOR STUDENT BUS TRANSPORTATION

South Heart Public School District #9 will accept sealed bids for furnishing student bus transportation at the District office, 310 4th Street NW (PO Box 159) South Heart, North Dakota 58655 until 3:00 p.m. on May 13, 2020. A School Board transportation committee meeting shall be held May 13, 2020 at 6:30 PM to open the bids.

Each of said bids are to be for a period of 1 school year beginning August 2020. Individual sealed bids will be accepted for Route #8.

BIDDERS MUST:

(1) Submit a bid in a sealed envelope for each route bid using a bid form provided by the District;

(2) Submit, in a separate sealed envelope, a letter of intent from a bonding agency for the purchase of a bond in the amount of \$2,500.00 for each route bid which bond is conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties prescribed by the District's Busing Contract, with the understanding that the successful bidder submit such a bond within 30 days of the acceptance of the bid or the bid will be rejected;

(3) Submit each bid made in the name of the person or persons who will operate the bus for each route being bid;

(4) Describe, in each bid made, the bus to be used on each route being bid; and

(5) Label each bid envelope and each bond envelope with the route number being bid.

Required bid forms and information on the routes (such as current mileage and number of children) may be obtained from the District Business Manager and/or District Superintendent at the District office, 310 4th Street NW, South Heart, North Dakota, as well as the school district website <http://www.southheart.k12.nd.us>.

THE BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

SOUTH HEART PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #9

/s/ Kristine Mehrer
Business Manager
(April 22 & 29; May 6, 2020) 2834725

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF STARK
IN DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

Aliesha Simons & American Family Insurance

PUBLIC NOTICES ~ NEWS

Notice

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Andeavor Field Services LLC
Skunk Hill Station to Belfield Oil
Terminal
Siting Application
Case No. PU-20-161
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR
HEARING
April 15, 2020

On October 19, 2011, in Case No. PU-11-102, the Commission adopted its Order on the Hearing Officer's October 18, 2011 Recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Order, issuing Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 124 (Certificate 124) and Route Permit No. 133 (Permit 133) to Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation designating a corridor and a route for the construction, operation and maintenance of an approximately 6.8-mile, 8-inch for the transportation of crude oil pipeline from the Belfield Oil Terminal in Stark County, North Dakota, to an interconnection with the Skunk Hill Pipeline Station, operated by Bridger Pipeline LLC in Billings County, North Dakota.

On June 30, 2017, in Case No. PU-17-117, the Commission adopted its Order on Reissuing Certificate and Permit granting the request to transfer Certificate 124 and Permit 133 and issuing First Reissued Certificate 124 and First Reissued Permit 133 to QEP Field Services, LLC.

On April 11, 2018, in Case No. PU-18-104, the Commission moved to issue Second Reissued Certificate 124 and Second Reissued Permit 133 to Andeavor Field Services LLC, successor by name change to QEP Field Services, LLC.

On March 30, 2020, Andeavor filed with the Commission a consolidated application to amend the Commission's October 19, 2011 Order in Case No. PU-11-102, and amend the Second Reissued Certificate 124 and Second Reissued Permit 133, to reverse the flow of crude oil in the pipeline, receiving oil at the interconnection with Bridger Pipeline LLC's Skunk Hill Station and transporting it south to the Belfield Oil Terminal, Case No. PU-20-161.

Also on March 30, 2020, in Case No. PU-20-161, Andeavor filed with the Commission an application to waive the hearing requirement in its entirety and proceed by virtue of its notice and opportunity for hearing procedure in consideration of this application.

The issues in the application for waiver of procedures and time schedules are:

1. Are the proposed facilities of such length, design, location, or purpose that they will produce minimal adverse effects and that adherence to applicable procedures and time schedules may be waived?

2. Is it appropriate for the Commission to waive any procedures and time schedules as requested in the application?

The issues in the consolidated application for an amended certificate of corridor compatibility and an amended route permit are:

1. Will the location and operation of the proposed facility produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?

2. Is the proposed facility compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?

3. Will the proposed facility location minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

Comments and requests for hearing on the matters must be received by May 15, 2020. Persons or parties desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota, 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify the Commission at least 24 hours in advance.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Julie Fedorchak, Commissioner
Brian Kroshus, Chairman
Randy Christmann, Commissioner
(April 23)

Program can help resolve concerns with long-term care facility visits

BISMARCK - Family members and friends are adjusting to visitor restrictions and other changes put in place to protect the health and well-being of the 9,600 individuals who reside in long-term care facilities in North Dakota. Residents of nursing homes, basic care, assisted living and hospital swing bed facilities are at higher risk of COVID-19 complications.

In March, the North Dakota Department of Health's Health Facilities Division team visited long-term care facilities to review infection control practices and provide technical assistance. The agency has continued to support facilities by providing information about Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on screening individuals for symptoms, social distancing in group care settings, cleaning and sanitizing and other measures.

Long-term care facility residents and their loved ones who have concerns about health, safety, well-being and residents' rights are encouraged to continue to reach out the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Long-Term Care Ombudsman program. Program staff advocate on behalf of long-term care residents and work with residents, families, facilities and state health department partners to open the lines of communication and resolve issues.

"Long-term care facilities are working hard to protect individuals from COVID-19 and to maintain quality care, and we appreciate that," said State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Karla Backman of the Department of Human Services' Aging Services Division. "The majority of individuals understand the reason for recent changes in care and visitation. The pandemic is creating unique issues."

She said families want to know how their loved ones are doing and what facilities are doing in response to COVID-19. Families want to know the options available to talk to loved ones and caregivers regularly.

"Long-term care facilities are working hard to protect individuals from COVID-19 and to maintain quality care, and we appreciate that. The majority of individuals understand the reason for recent changes in care and visitation. The pandemic is creating unique issues."

**State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
Karla Backman of the Department of
Human Services' Aging Services Division**

"During this challenging time, it is important facilities continue to focus on person-centered care and protection in a way that reflects individual needs and preferences," Backman said. "We know many long-term care service providers are being creative to prevent loneliness and isolation, while supporting social distancing and other infection control measures. One part of that is facilitating virtual visits between residents and their families."

Backman and six local long-term care ombudsmen who are based in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, and Minot serve the entire state. Because of COVID-19-related visitor restrictions, the ombudsmen are not currently visiting facilities in person, but are available by phone and other technology to advocate for residents and families.

These advocates can be reached at dhsagingombud@nd.gov or by calling the state's Aging and Disability Resource Link toll-free at 855-462-5465, selecting option 3, and asking for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

"Facilities are busy. They are working hard to care for people, and the ombudsman program can help families process the fears and emotions related to COVID-19 and related restrictions and facilitate communication with facilities," she said.

North Dakota earns much better grades for air quality

BISMARCK - After three consecutive years of poor grades for air pollution, North Dakota now has much better grades in the American Lung Association's latest State of the Air Report.

The 20th annual State of the Air Report covers a three year period from 2016 to 2018, analyzing data collected at air quality monitors operated by the state Department of Health and certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In past reports, wildfire smoke

drifting into the state from western U.S. and Canada resulted in poor marks for particle pollution. The state also saw improvement in ozone pollution, earning "A" grades in every county that provided data.

Of the 10 counties in North Dakota with air quality monitors, all earned passing grades with the exception of Burleigh County's "D" grade. Mercer and Oliver counties received a "C" grade for particle pollution.

Construction under way on I-94 Business Loop in Dickinson

A construction project began on April 20, on the I-94 Business Loop from I-94 (Exit 59) to 8th Street.

Construction will include:

- Construction of a shared use path along the east side of the roadway from 8th Street to the Interchange

- Construction of a pedestrian bridge alongside the overpass to the east, connecting the path to the north side of the interchange

- Pedestrian ramps, drainage improvement and paving at the intersection Fairway St. and I-94 Business loop

During Construction:

- Traffic speeds will be reduced to 65 mph on I-94
- Flaggers will be onsite to direct traffic as needed

- Single lane and shoulder closures near the Business Loop Interchange

The project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2020.

DEADLINES

The deadline for submitted copy and stories and all ad orders is noon on Fridays. Call 872-3755 or e-mail goldenandbillings@gmail.com.

Golden Valley County Boards of Equalization 2020

City/Twp. makeup boards of equalization meetings, due lack of a quorum, are scheduled at the following times and places:

TOWNSHIP/CITY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Garner	April 28	2:00 pm	Golden Valley County Courthouse
City of Sentinel Butte	April 28	5:00 pm	City Hall
City of Beach	April 28	7:00 pm	City Hall
City of Golva	April 29	7:00 pm	City Hall
Unorganized Twp	June 2	1:00 pm	Golden Valley County Courthouse
County Equalization	June 2	1:00 pm	Golden Valley County Courthouse
State Board	August 11	TBD	State Capitol

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NEWSPAPERS HAVE YOUR BACK.

We are grateful for those who have our back in this important time. The list is long, but we want to thank our first responders and front-line workers.

Especially in critical times, **newspapers have your back.** COVID-19 is a national story that is impacting you at home and at work. Your local newspaper is keeping you informed with current events in your neighborhood and is bringing communities together in these challenging times.

From the actions your local governments are taking, to tips on what to do while you're at home, and the continued events of daily life, your local newspaper is committed to bringing you the news you need.

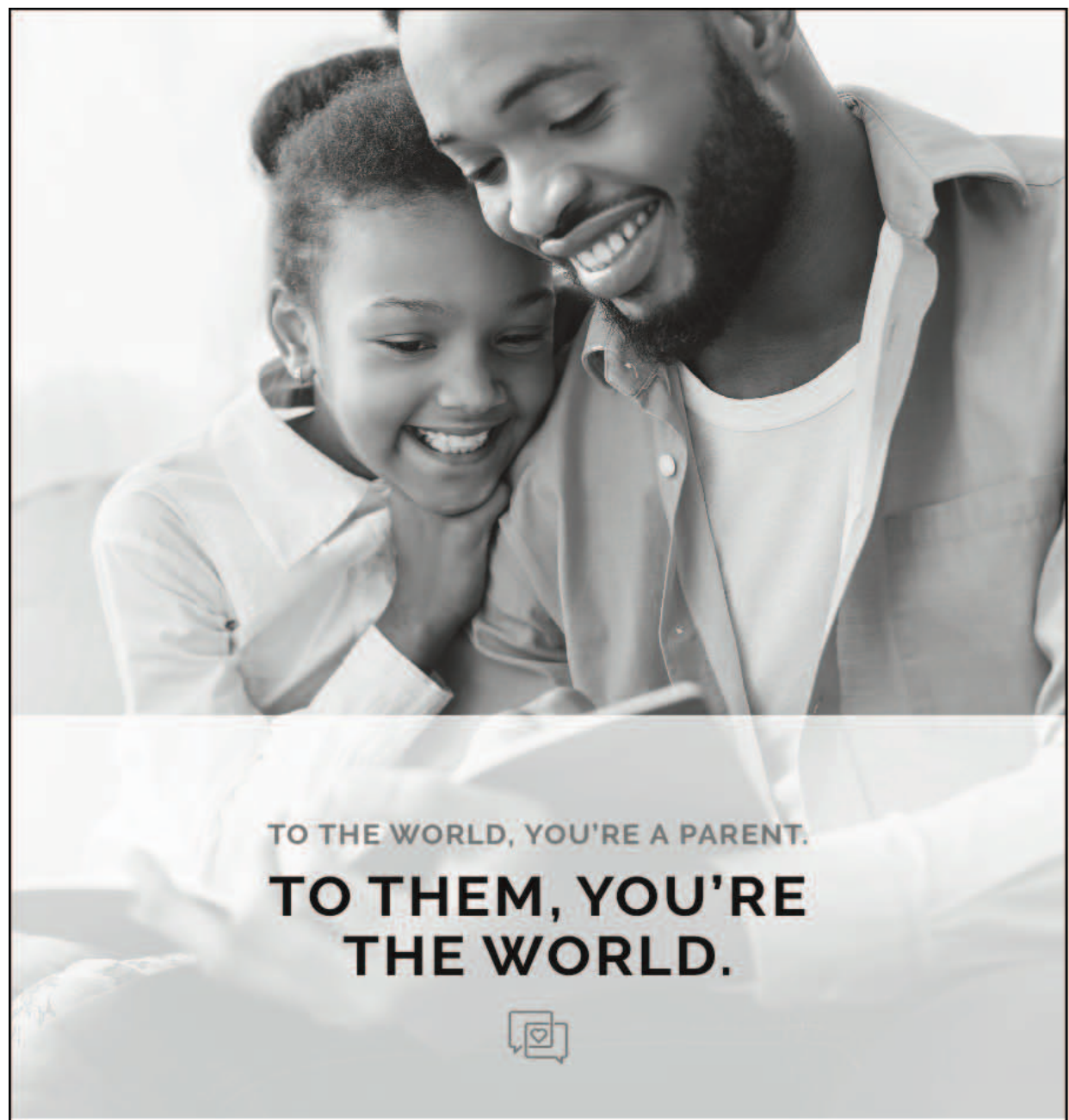
WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

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America's
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Golden Valley News &
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PUBLIC NOTICES

A public notice is information informing citizens of government activities that may affect the citizens' everyday lives. Public notices have been printed in local newspapers, the trusted sources for community information, for more than 200 years.