

Official Proceedings
County of Codington, Watertown, South Dakota
Codington County Courthouse
14 1st Ave SE

October 20, 2020

Chair Brenda Hanten and Commissioner Lee Gabel were present at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 20, 2020. Commissioners Charlie Waterman, Myron Johnson, and Troy VanDusen were absent. Due to a lack of a quorum the meeting was not called to order and all scheduled agenda items were carried over to the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2020; with the exception of the presentation of the SD Game, Fish, and Parks lifesaving awards.

SD GAME, FISH AND PARKS LIFESAVING AWARDS

Austin Norton, SD Game, Fish and Parks Wildlife Conservation Officer, based in Webster presented lifesaving awards as follows:

Joel Eisenbraun, Emily Eisenbraun, and Tom Giza were presented awards for their lifesaving efforts following a tragic boating accident on Bitter Lake in October 2019. Conservation Officer Norton read aloud the following:

During the early morning hours of October 19, 2020, at approximately 6:45 a.m., Joel Eisenbraun, Emily Eisenbraun, and Tom Giza, were preparing for an early morning duck hunt on Bitter Lake in Day County, South Dakota. While at the boat ramp these three good Samaritans heard cries for help coming from somewhere on the water. Joel and Tom immediately jumped into action, and headed their boat in the direction of the call for help. Upon arriving on the scene Joel and Tom were able to locate and rescue 2 hunters and a dog from the 44 degree water. A third hunter was nowhere to be seen. Joel and Tom headed back to the boat ramp with the two hunters and dog who were soaking wet and cold where they were met by Emily. Emily is a nurse who immediately began treating the hunters for hypothermia. Joel, Emily and Tom acted quickly upon hearing the cries for help. Without their quick thinking and response the outcome of this tragedy could have been much worse. Conservation Officer Norton then presented each of the three with a commendation for their unselfish action on October 19, 2020.

Officer Norton, then called Search and Rescue Commander, Larry Howard, to the front of the room. Officer Norton expressed his great appreciation for the numerous services provided by the Codington County Search and Rescue Organization in Day County. Officer Norton, on behalf of the SD Game, Fish and Parks and Region 4 Conservation Officer, presented Commander Howard with an award for support service to the Codington County Search and Rescue Organization in sincere appreciation for their efforts in working and in partnership with the SD Game, Fish and Parks and it's conservation officers in the Northeast Region.

RECOGNITION OF PAST FACILITY MANAGER, MILO FORD

Past Facilities Manager, Milo Ford, was present and Chair Hanten, expressed thanks, on behalf of the Board, for Mr. Ford's service to Codington County in his 29 plus years of employment with the County. Mr. Ford began his employment with Codington County in July of 1990 and formally retired January 31, 2020. During his tenure with Codington County Mr. Ford was responsible for mechanical and day to day operations at the Detention Center, Courthouse, Extension Center Complex and Memorial Park along with West Nile prevention operating procedures. Mr. Ford also worked closely with Commissioner Gabel on the project to build a new jury courtroom and installation of a fire suppression system in the Courthouse. Mr. Ford along with former Emergency Management Director, Jim Sutton, also greatly assisted with the delivering of Election equipment for the Auditor's Office each election year.

Codington County, October 20, 2020

END OF UNOFFICIAL MEETING

This informal/unofficial meeting ended at 9:22 a.m.

Cindy Brugman

Codington County Auditor