

## EDITORIAL



### GRANT COUNTY COMMISSION SEEMS TO BE LOSING THE RESPECT OF THE CITIZENS

By Gregory Bruce - GCND NEWS DOT COM - December 18, 2014

The Grant County Commission (except for the new Commissioner Alton Zenker) appears to have lost all respect of its citizens in a meeting on December 15th. Several people came forward with questions about the former Grant County JDA board, county employee Reva Weekes and how her employment was terminated and the issue of County Auditor Kelly Bachmeier continuing to draw her full salary minus healthcare benefits as Grant County Auditor while living in Morton County, working full time at Falkirk Mining in McLean County and having her Deputy Auditor Jennifer Wells perform most, if not all of her duties - all of this at possibly double the taxpayer cost.

It is my opinion that myself and my cameras, this website, its Facebook and Twitter pages are not a welcome addition to film and report the Grant County Commission meetings holding the commission accountable for the business it conducts.

Not only did the chairman of the commission Keith Payne stutter and stammer with his trying to answer the questions of Pete Reis, he constantly interrupted me as I was trying to read my statements and ask questions. After a round of audience participation during my agenda time I was summarily dismissed when I refused to relinquish my speaking while Mr. Payne interrupted me once again.

Needless to say that seemed to piss off Mr. 'Butch' Woodbury of Carson so much that he left the meeting in a huff but not before he told Keith Payne he should get up and leave the table.

Many citizens have said that when you walk into the courthouse in Carson there is an air of hostility and arrogance from some of those in several departments so much that people stay away and do business by telephone.

There seems to be way too much nepotism and 'good old boy' rule in Grant County government and many citizens have indicated they are in favor of a 'Vote Of No Confidence' in Commissioners Keith Payne and Don Roth as well as County Auditor Kelly Bachmeier.

The recall election paperwork is in the beginning stages of development and will be filed after the first of the year unless the two commissioners Payne and Roth resign along with the auditor Bachmeier.

People in the county including myself are also demanding the immediate resignation of the Assistant States Attorney Todd Schwarz as he has been a 'stain' on Grant County from day one of his employment. First of all he lied to all of the Leith victims (which included myself). Then he lied to the NAZIS Cobb and Dutton.

Finally he let the two NAZIS off with a slap on the wrist. Now he is bullying his way and laughing at the citizens of Grant County by saying that a 'firing' of a county employee that may be illegal is a 'learning experience'.

How much more arrogant can he get?

There needs to be at least a modicum of transparency and accountability with our elected officials and our appointed ones or we need to recall them and install new people with integrity.

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Grant County, North Dakota Resident "Butch" Woodbury gets 'pissed off'

*Photo by Gregory Bruce*  
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Grant County, North Dakota Auditor Kelly Bachmeier

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Grant County Commissioners Keith Payne (L) and Don Roth (R) and Deputy Auditor Jennifer Wells (C)

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