

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

February 19, 2008  
Courthouse Commissioner Room  
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Board Chair, Joan Jagt, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Larry Hansen, D. D. Sagmoe, Joan Jagt, Curtis Blumeyer and James Johansen. Also present were County Auditor Kathy Schreurs, Financial Accountant Chuck DeBates and County Attorney Glen Petersen.

Motion by Sagmoe, seconded by Hansen, to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2008 Commissioner meeting. All voted in favor.

Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Johansen, to approve agenda items. All voted in favor.

Jay Trusty, Southwest Regional Development Corporation (SRDC), reviewed a contract to update pay equity points and position descriptions. The SRDC will provide up to 150 hours of technical assistance. Total cost of the project will not exceed \$15,000.00 including expenses. The contract shall be completed by September 1, 2008. The Board requested a progress report in 60 days. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve Technical Assistance Contract Between The Southwest Regional Development Commission and Lincoln County, Minnesota. All voted in favor.

Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Hansen, to approve Resolution No. 09-2008 (Road and Transit Funding). All voted in favor.

**RESOLUTION No. 09-2008  
REQUESTING COMPREHENSIVE ROAD AND TRANSIT FUNDING**

**WHEREAS**, all Minnesota communities benefit from a sound, efficient and adequately funded transportation system that offers diverse modes of travel; and

**WHEREAS**, the integrity of Minnesota's transportation infrastructure is dependent upon long-term planning and ongoing maintenance, both of which require dedicated and sustainable revenue sources; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota leaders have not increased dedicated funding levels for roads, bridges and transit systems to keep pace with growing costs and changing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, transportation analysts in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) estimate Minnesota will have to invest an additional \$1.5 billion per year in transportation infrastructure for the next ten years in order to meet identified needs on Minnesota's state highways and bridges, county roads, city streets, metro and rural transit systems and local bridges; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota's transportation system is failing to meet the capacity needs necessary to sustain population growth and promote economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, congestion, inefficient transportation systems and lack of transportation choices lead to greater dependence on foreign oil, increased environmental degradation, and economic disadvantages for Minnesota's businesses and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, many rural roads are not built to modern safety standards and are not meeting the needs of industries that depend on the ability to transport heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS**, local cost participation requirements for trunk highways are contributing to strains on county budgets; and

**WHEREAS**, transportation infrastructure maintenance and improvement costs significantly contribute to rising property taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, insufficient state funding has delayed regionally significant road construction and reconstruction projects across Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, current funding for roads, bridges and transit systems across all government levels in Minnesota is inadequate, and this under-investment diminishes quality of life for Minnesota residents and hinders Minnesota's progress as a national business, economic and civic leader.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY** requests that the Minnesota Legislature pass a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY** requests that Governor Tim Pawlenty allow a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation that is passed by the Legislature to become law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY** that a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package be based upon multiple revenue sources, which may include but not limited to the following:

- An increase in the gas tax;
- Indexing of the gas tax to the Consumer Price Index
- Increases in vehicle registration taxes (a.k.a. license tab fees);
- Trunk highway bonding
- General obligation bonding for local roads and bridges
- ½ percent increase in the state sales tax for the metropolitan area
- ½ percent local option sales tax for transportation in Greater Minnesota
- A county option wheelage tax
- A change in the county state aid highway formula for new revenue to the Highway User Tax Distribution Fund based 60% on need and 40 % on motor vehicle registration

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY** that this BOARD defines a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package as an initiative that permanently increases dedicated funding for state and local road and transit systems.

**ADOPTED** by the LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD on February 19, 2008.

ATTEST:

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Joan Jagt, 2008 Board Chair

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Kathy Schreurs, County Auditor

Fran VanKeulen, LLMHS Technology Services, and Mark Leibfried, Treasurer, reviewed costs to install a server at the Lincoln County courthouse to upgrade the electronic mail exchange system. Estimated cost for the system through the state bid plus software and installation is \$12,948.40. Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Johansen, to approve purchase of server, software and installation. Expenditures to be paid from Technology Fund. All voted in favor.

Lee Amundson, County Engineer, reported that a Truck Station Management Committee meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2008 with Mn/DOT. Motion by Johansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to authorize Commissioner Blumeyer to represent the Board of Commissioners at Truck Station Management Committee meetings. All voted in favor.

Amundson reported that Lincoln County's share to seal coat the parking lot at 221 N. Wallace St. , Ivanhoe is approximately \$6,000.00. Amundson reported that seal coating is typically done every 5 to 7 years. Amundson asked the Board if the General Revenue Fund would contribute to the seal coating costs. Board members stated that the cost should come from the Road and Bridge Fund. No formal action was taken.

Amundson reported that he had received tractor bids through the state bidding process. In reviewing the specifications of the bids, Amundson recommended the purchase of a JD 7330 at a cost of \$84,042.04 including sales tax. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Blumeyer, to approve purchase of JD 7330 from SW Implement for \$84,042.04 including tax. Commissioners Hansen, Blumeyer, Jagt, and Hansen voted in favor. Commissioner Johansen voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Amundson reported that bids will be received on March 4, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. for a dam construction project in Hansonville Township.

Amundson reported that a federal directive has been issued for agencies such as Lincoln County that states they will have until January 2012 to establish and implement a sign assessment or management method to maintain minimum levels of retroreflectivity. The compliance date for regulatory warning and ground mounted guide signs is January 2015. For overhead guide signs and street signs, the compliance date is January 2018.

Amundson reported that he has posted positions for hire for an Engineer's Assistant, Sr. Engineering Technician, Maintenance Foreman, and Tyler Truck Driver.

Motion by Johansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve posting and/or advertising and hiring a Lake Benton motor grader operator if needed due to a possible lateral transfer. All voted in favor.

Amundson reviewed proposed salary and benefits for the Engineer's Assistant. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve 9 step salary range of \$20.75 to \$27.50 for the Engineer's Assistant position, with start at \$20.75, with next increase at 6 month's and annually

thereafter based on date of hire, pay to be on hourly basis with overtime as needed, and benefits to be granted according to County's Personnel Policy. All voted in favor.

Amundson reported that an advertisement for bids has been issued for work and materials for the bituminous overlay and aggregate shouldering on CSAH 19.

Glen Petersen, County Attorney, reviewed a proposed Memorandum of Understanding regarding the purchase of property by Lincoln County for property owned by Joseph Weber in Diamond Lake Township. The property would allow for expansion at Norwegian Creek Park. Daryl Schlapkohl and Dale Sterzinger reported on the benefits of the park expansion. More information will be reviewed at the March 19, 2008 Park Board meeting.

Petersen reported that an agreement has been reached with Clyde and Barbara Krog for the removal of rocks and other debris that may be cast upon the Krog property in the course of snow removal for as long as the Krogs are the owners of Lot 1 of Block 1 of Benton Shores Estates, First Addition, Lincoln County, Minnesota. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Johansen, to approve Agreement Regarding The Removal of Snow and Debris on property owned by Clyde and Barbara Krog. All voted in favor.

Robert Olsen, Environmental Administrator, reported that Emma Volz has been hired as the GIS Technician. Her duties will start February 25, 2008.

Olsen requested a job title change for the GIS Technician to GIS Specialist. No action taken.

Olsen presented the Annual Drainage Systems Report. Motion by Sagmoe, seconded by Johansen, to accept the Annual Drainage Systems Report. All voted in favor.

Olsen reviewed the 2007 SCORE Report. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Johansen to approve 2007 SCORE Report. All voted in favor.

Olsen reported that a Public Hearing will be held to review and discuss changes to the Lincoln County Comprehensive Development Ordinance on February 20, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.

Olsen reported that the Lincoln County Planning and Zoning will hold a Public Hearing on February 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. to review a request from David Scotting for a permit for a demolition landfill on his property

The Board recessed at 12:15 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Craig Larson, Maintenance, reviewed plans for a new conference table in the Commissioner Room. Plans were drawn by Elliot Sovell. Larson was asked to request an estimate of cost for the construction of a new conference table.

Larson reported that electrical upgrades have been made to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor courtroom and that new heaters have been installed in the ground floor bathrooms.

Commissioners Hansen and Sagmoe reported that an agreement had been reached with the Courthouse, Highway and Sheriffs unions. The Board reviewed the contracts. Motion by Sagmoe, seconded by Hansen, to approve Courthouse, Highway and Sheriff's union contracts. All voted in favor.

Motion by Johansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve State of Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources 2008 Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement of \$87,044 for period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009. All voted in favor.

The Board reviewed proposed changes to the Lincoln County Fee Schedule. Motion by Johansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve Lincoln County Fee Schedule effective March 1, 2008. Fee Schedule on file at Lincoln County Auditor's Office. All voted in favor.

The Board reviewed a proposal from CLOUD Cartographics for printing Plat Books for Lincoln County. No action taken.

Auditor Schreurs reported that the Audit Committee had met on February 14, 2008 and sent written response for 2006 state audit findings. Chuck DeBates, Financial Accountant, presented a copy of the Management Discussion & Analysis to be included with the 2006 audit report.

Auditor Schreurs reported that a Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. Commissioner Blumeyer will attend.

Auditor Schreurs requested a meeting of the Capital Improvements Planning Committee. Time will be set aside on the April 1, 2008 Board agenda for discussion.

Motion by Johansen, seconded by Sagmoe, to approve Consumption and Display license for Navitas Energy from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. All voted in favor.

Lundberg requested consideration by the Board to change office hours for the Records Office to 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Johansen, to approve Lincoln County Recorder's office hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on a trial basis from March 1, 2008 to September 1, 2008. All voted in favor.

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Sagmoe, seconded by Blumeyer, to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #3690 - 3719: Revenue - \$50,843.86 and Road & Bridge - \$46,347.44. All voted in favor.

Motion by Hansen, seconded by Blumeyer, to adjourn at 3:00 p.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

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Joan Jagt, 2008 Board Chair

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Kathy Schreurs, County Auditor