

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

September 6, 2011
Courthouse Commissioner Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair, Don Evers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Don Evers, Adam Gillund, Curtis Blumeyer, Larry Hansen and Joan Jagt. Also present were Auditor, Kathy Schreurs and Glen Petersen, County Attorney.

Motion by Gillund, seconded by Blumeyer, to approve minutes from the August 16, 2011 Commissioner meeting. All voted in favor

Motion by Jagt, seconded by Hansen, to approve agenda items. All voted in favor.

George Skorczewski, landowner in Judicial Ditch #28, appeared before the Board to question why a camera was not used on approximately 150 feet of tile at the time the rest of the tile was viewed. Robert Olsen, Environmental Office, explained that the camera could not go through the tile, but the tile had since had some obstructions removed and had also been jetted. The cost to camera that portion at this time would be approximately \$1,000.00. Skorczewski also voiced concern regarding the township road that may be in jeopardy and that this is the only access out for two of the land owners. Other members of the ditch system commented that there is currently a petition to improve and repair the system and that issues with drainage of the ditch could be dealt with at that time. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Hansen, to contact and contract with a contractor to begin repairs to JD #28. All voted in favor.

Olsen reported that a crossing on County Ditch #37 has deteriorated. The estimated cost of repair is \$8,000.00. Motion by Jagt, seconded by Bumeyer, to authorize crossing repairs on County Ditch #37. All voted in favor.

Olsen reported that repairs to County Ditch #35 have been put on hold due to a wetland determination process. The determination could take three to six months.

Olsen reported that the Minnesota Governance Council will be meeting on September 7, 2011 to consider the purchase option by US Fish and Wildlife for 160 acres owned by the Kontz Family Trust in Marble Township. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Jagt, to have John Kolb of Rinke Noonan represent Lincoln County to protest the sale due to the fact that there are 29.7% of ditch benefits to Judicial Ditch #11 that will have to be redistributed to the remaining property owners. All voted in favor.

Lee Amundson, Engineer, gave the construction/maintenance update.

Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Hansen, to approve Resolution No. 33-2011 (Support of Federal Highway Funding). Commissioners Blumeyer, Hansen, Jagt and Hansen voted in favor. Commissioner Gillund voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

**LINCOLN COUNTY
RESOLUTION 33-2011
Resolution in Support of Maintaining Current Levels of Federal Funding for
Highways and Transit**

WHEREAS, Transportation infrastructure investment is a core government responsibility and as the economy struggles to recover, now is the time to renew these foundational commitments, not scale them back;

WHEREAS, Addressing our transportation challenges is critical to economic growth and output; our country can't get back on its feet economically if it can't move people and goods efficiently;

WHEREAS, Minnesota relies on federal funds for about 45% of our transportation spending and in the wake of the state government shutdown that idled close to 100 construction projects, we can't afford to lose any federal transportation funds or have a delay in the receipt of dollars needed for Minnesota projects;

WHEREAS, The 35% cut from current funding, as laid out in the House budget, will be devastating to Minnesota, resulting in a cut of \$220 million every year for highways and \$54 million each year for transit;

WHEREAS, The current extension of the surface transportation authorization act known as SAFETEA-LU, as well as authorization to collect the user fees that are deposited into the Highway Trust Fund, will expire on September 30, 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Lincoln County urge the members of the Minnesota Congressional Delegation to support the passage of legislation by September 30, 2011 that will maintain current levels of federal funding for surface transportation including the federal highway and transit programs.

ADOPTED this 6th day of September 2011.

ATTEST:

Don Evers, 2011 Board Chair

Kathy Schreurs, County Auditor

Amundson reported that Lincoln County has applied for rural intersection lighting. Amundson stated that he had targeted 11 sites for the lighting due to the deadline prior to this meeting. The total cost is \$165,000.00 of which, Lincoln County would be responsible for 10%. Board consensus was that not all of the sites identified needed the lighting and that there were only three or four sites that should be considered. Amundson will pull the application .

Amundson reported that the Highway Department has been asked to volunteer three to five hours to conduct a "Toward 0 Deaths" study in Lincoln County. The study includes the observation of the percentage of drivers wearing seat belts in various locations.

Don Scholten, Maintenance Foreman, reviewed the costs of rebuilding the Tyler motor/grader or purchasing new through the state bid process or purchasing a leased vehicle. The Highway Department was instructed to look at purchasing a leased motor/grader.

Amundson reported that there has been a resignation of an employee in the highway department. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Jagt, to post and advertise for a truck driver and/or a motor grader operator. All voted in favor.

Sheriff, Jack Vizecky and County Attorney, Glen Petersen, reported that a Joint Powers Agreement needs to be approved by the Board in order for them to access data through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Jagt, to approve Joint Powers Agreements No. 31274 and No. 31275 and Resolution No. 34-2011(JPA – BCA Data Access). All voted in favor.

Garrett Backes, SW Initiative Fund, reported on the various programs maintained by the Agency. Backes also reported on the impact programs have specific to Lincoln County.

Jeanna Sommers, Emergency Management Director, reported on the application for a possible Mn/DOT ARMER grant. Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Gillund, to approve application to the Regional Radio Board for an ARMER infrastructure grant. All voted in favor.

Sommers reported that a contract with MSpace for maintenance and service for the conferencing system will soon expire. Motion by Jagt, seconded by Hansen, to approve one year contract with MSpace, Inc for a maintenance and service contract for the Tanberg conferencing system. All voted in favor.

Sommers reported that she has been asked to conduct safety exercises/drills with Vestas wind turbine employees.

Sommers reported that the siren grant will not cover existing sirens and that the grant will be resubmitted to only include the three county parks, the Stoney Point Park (Tyler), and Andersen Park (Arco).

Sommers requested monthly cell phone reimbursement. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Hansen, to reimburse Sommers \$35.00 per month for county use of her personal cell phone. All voted in favor.

Amy Card, Regional Homeland Security Coordinator, presented Norm VanOverbeke with a Certificate of Appreciation for 20 years as the Lincoln County Emergency Management Director. VanOverbeke will retire from the position on September 30, 2011.

Barb Dybdahl, Safety Committee Chair, reported that the County had been approved for four bicycles, two bike racks and hand weights through the SHIP Grant for employees to use as a form of exercise and/or for use between county buildings and other offices within the City of Ivanhoe, such as the Post Office, SWCD, and FSA. Dybdahl also reviewed a proposed policy for use of the equipment by County employees. Motion by Gillund, seconded by Jagt, to accept SHIP grant equipment and to add policy to Personnel Policy. All voted in favor.

Bruce Nielsen, Assessor, reported that the new Homestead Market Value Exclusion replaces the previous Homestead Market Value Credit starting with property taxes payable in 2012. The Truth-in-Taxation notices in November will reflect the proposed property taxes. Nielsen also reported that an agreement has been signed by Alta-Vista Township for County assessing services.

Correspondence was reviewed and the following Committee Reports were given:

Evers – HRA, RCRCA, SWHHS, Plum Creek, LBLID
Gillund – Personnel/Negotiation Committee, Western Mental Health
Jagt – SWHHS, JD 31 Joint Ditch Mtg., Personnel/Negotiations Committee
Blumeyer – SWHHS, JD 31 Joint Ditch Mtg., Regional Radio Board, AREA II
Hansen – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Gillund, seconded by Jagt, to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #14404 – 14,481 for the following amounts: Revenue – \$23,270.05, Road & Bridge - \$52,131.98. All voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12:

Bisbee Plumbing & Heating - \$2,303.60, Computer Professionals - \$4,485.89, Evans Electrical - \$3,900.00, Ivanhoe Electric - \$3,880.00, McLaughlin & Schulz - \$26,839.60, Newman Signs - \$4,766.36, Tyler Oil - \$3,586.52, Victor Construction - \$5,450.00.

Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Gillund, to approve 2011 Hanratty & Associates Flexible Benefits Administrative Plan and Adoption Agreements. All voted in favor.

The Board reviewed 2012 proposed budgets. Motion by Hansen to appropriate \$40,000.00 to LCEDC in the 2012 budget. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Motion by Blumeyer, seconded by Hansen, to set 2012 preliminary levy at \$4,640,419.00. Commissioners Blumeyer, Hansen and Evers voted in favor. Commissioners Jagt and Gillund voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Commissioners Gillund and Jagt reported on the status of union negotiations.

Motion by Gillund, seconded by Blumeyer, to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

Don Evers, 2011 Board Chair

Kathy Schreurs, County Auditor