

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

February 21, 2017
Courthouse Commissioner Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair, Richard Hamer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Joe Drietz, Richard Hamer, Corey Sik, Jack Vizecky, and Mic VanDeVere. Also present were Lincoln County Auditor, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney, Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to approve consent agenda which included the minutes from February 7, 2017 and the agenda for February 21, 2017. All voted in favor.

At 9:05 a Hearing was held to hear public comment about the proposed tax abatement in the city of Hendricks (Parcel #17-0271-000 owned by Hendricks Housing Authority).

Vince Robinson, Executive Director of Lincoln County Enterprise Development Corp, was present to discuss the need for an abatement for taxes payable 2017 for parcel #17-0271-000 owned by Hendricks Housing Authority. The units have been renovated and the taxes were abated for 2015 and 2016. The thought was that the expenses would be stable but an unexpected sewer line repair has come up. Robinson requested that resolution 15-2017 Authorizing a Tax Abatement on Property within Lincoln County for Hendricks Housing Authority, Inc. for taxes payable 2017 be approved. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Vizecky to approve Resolution 15-2017 Authorizing a Tax Abatement on Property within Lincoln County for Hendricks Housing Authority, Inc. All voted in favor.

**RESOLUTION 15-2017 AUTHORIZING A TAX ABATEMENT
ON PROPERTY WITHIN LINCOLN COUNTY
FOR HENDRICKS HOUSING AUTHORITY, INC.**

WHEREAS, Lincoln County, Minnesota (the "County"), held a public hearing on the proposed abatement, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 through and including 469.1815 (2014), to assist with the rehabilitation and preservation of a blighted multi-family low income housing apartment complex owned by Hendricks Housing Authority and;

WHEREAS, the County Board has proposed to abate a portion of the County's share of property taxes on the following parcel for a period of two (2) years:

Parcel I.D. #: 17-0271-000 (the Property); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners, as follows:

1. Abatement. The County Board hereby authorizes the abatement of a portion of the County's share of property taxes. The amount of the abatement shall be that amount necessary to make the taxes payable equal to \$185.00 per year. The abatement period shall be for one (1) year for taxes payable in 2017.
2. Purpose. The Abatement will be provided to Hendricks Housing Authority as owners of the property to assist with the renewal of the property, to preserve the tax base, and to assist in providing low income housing in the City of Hendricks. The abatement is necessary to prevent the property from defaulting on its financial obligations and the resultant loss of services in the community.
3. Findings: After due consideration, the County Board finds as follows:
 - a. The proposed benefit from the project outweighs the cost of the abatement.
 - b. The Property is in the process of being renewed and without the abatement is at risk of the renewal failing and becoming an abandoned property.
 - c. There is a need in the City of Hendricks and Lincoln County for affordable housing which is provided by the Hendricks Housing Authority.
 - d. Facilitating the Property's continued renewal is necessary to preserve the County's tax base and address the need for low income housing in the County.
 - e. The Property's renewal will facilitate long term employment by helping sustain an employable workforce.
 - f. The County Board finds that the proposed abatement is in the best interest of the County and its businesses and residents.

4. Public Benefit. The proposed abatements will benefit the public by preserving the tax base, help renew a property and provide low income housing services and employment opportunities in Lincoln County.
5. Transferability. This tax abatement agreement is not transferable to any new owner of the property without the express written agreement of Lincoln County.

Whereupon said resolution upon a motion duly made and seconded, was passed and adopted this 21st Day February, 2017 by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.

ATTEST:

Richard Hamer, 2017 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor

Robinson also presented information on the multi county broadband feasibility study. The broadband feasibility study will be conducted by Finley Engineering. The Counties included in the study would be Chippewa, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, and Yellow Medicine. There is a 17.5% discount for the multi county approach. Pipestone and Yellow Medicine County have approved moving forward. The other Counties will be meeting shortly to decide if they would like to be included. The cost to Lincoln County would be \$38,730.00. Blandon Foundation will pay for 50% of this cost through grant funds making the cost to Lincoln County approximately \$19,375.00 depending on if there are additional travel costs. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to contribute up to \$21,000.00 towards the multi county broadband study to be done by Finley Engineering. All voted in favor.

Amber Scholten, Emergency Management Director, presented the 12 month Safe Assure Contract which covers all the safety training and inspections at a cost of \$5,327.89 for approval. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the 12 month Safe Assure Contract at a cost of \$5,327.89. All voted in favor.

Scholten also presented a Portable Space Heater Policy for approval. Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to approve the Portable Space Heater Policy. All voted in favor.

Chad Meester, Lincoln County Sheriff was present to request approval to offer the part time Dispatcher/Jailer position to Daniel Gallegos. Motion by Sik, seconded by VanDeVere to approve offering the part time Dispatcher/Jailer position to Daniel Gallegos. Commissioners Drietz, Hamer, Sik, and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Vizecky voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Meester also brought the final Zuercher (CAD dispatching) Contract with a total cost of \$127,175.00 to the Board for approval. Several staff members were present to express their support of the system. If approved by the City, Tyler will be included on the Nobles server and Police Officer Spindler was also present to show support for the new system. A discussion was held with those present and there were comments as to how the new Zuercher System would benefit the department and the County. Karri Harvey, IT Director, was also present to express concern with the age of the current system. Motion by Sik, seconded by VanDeVere to approve the Zuercher Computer Aided Dispatch Contract at a total cost of \$127,175.00 with 50% to be paid upon contract execution, 30% upon delivery of the initial draft of CMD(Configuration Management Document) and 20% at the time the system goes live. The first year of maintenance is included in this cost and the second year is at a cost of \$20,133.00. The motion also had the stipulation to use the maximum amount possible of the 911 funds. Commissioners Hamer, Sik, and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioners Drietz and Vizecky voted in opposition. Motion Carried by majority vote.

Meester also asked for approval of the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Nobles County Sheriff's Office that establishes the terms of a shared computer server to operate the Zuercher Computer Aided Dispatching System effective upon execution until terminated. Motion by Sik, seconded by VanDeVere to approve the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Nobles County Sheriff's Office that establishes the terms of a shared computer server to operate the Zuercher Computer Aided Dispatching System effective upon execution until terminated. Commissioners Hamer, Sik, and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioners Drietz and Vizecky voted in opposition. Motion Carried by majority vote.

Dave Halbersma, Lincoln County Engineer, presented project updates. They were as follows:

- Overlay plans are back from MnDOT and advertising will follow. Bid opening will be set for March 17th at 10:30 in the Commissioners room to be reviewed and approved at the regular Board meeting on March 21, 2017.
- MnDOT is still reviewing the Highway safety project and should be approved soon for the federal grant dollars. Advertising will begin once information is back from MnDOT.
- The Topeka Shiner season of prohibited work period has changed to May 15th to the end of July.
- The Red Pine Road Agreement draft has been completed.

Halbersma also presented information regarding a used Komatsu forklift for the County. There are 5900 hours on the forklift with a lift capacity of 6,000 pounds at a total cost of \$5,000 plus any corresponding fees. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to purchase a used Komatsu forklift at a total cost of \$5,000 plus corresponding fees for the Highway Department. All voted in favor.

Halbersma also presented the Maintenance updates. They were as follows.

- Will be getting quotes for a new motor grader and will have the trade-in value included.
- Road postings went up on February 17th. This is the earliest in 30 years. They will be on for about 8 weeks.
- Accepting concrete at the County Gravel pits was discussed. The discussion included possibly charging a fee and having the right to reject.
- Have been working on patching bad spots on the County Roads.

Halbersma also asked if there were any other comments on the 271 Speed Study. No comments were brought forward for submission. Information only.

Halbersma also discussed the current Township Road Allocation Distribution. Currently the formula is based on 50% population and 50% miles within the township. According to MN Statute 162.081, the Board can change the formula if they feel there is a need to do so. Information only.

Halbersma also informed the Board that due to training, there would not be anyone to present a road and bridge report at the March 7th meeting. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, Kerry Netzke, Area II Executive Director, and Joe Deschepper, Area II Technician were present for the bid opening for County Ditch #37 pump station, forcemain and tile improvements. The bids received were as follows:

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|------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| • A & C Excavating LLC | \$ 136,405.78 | • Kuechle Underground Inc. | \$ 191,580.00 |
| • Cooreman Contracting, Inc. | \$ 138,435.25 | • Land Pride Construction | \$ 185,890.50 |
| • D & G Excavating, Inc. | \$ 127,769.00 | • R & R Excavating, Inc. | \$ 222,705.69 |
| • Dave Hulstein Exc., Inc. | \$ 132,655.75 | • Schmidt Construction Inc. | \$ 155,706.00 |
| • GM Contracting, Inc. | \$ 238,534.88 | • Thompson Excavating | \$ 124,523.00 |
| • H & W Contracting LLC | \$ 206,654.00 | • Voss Plumbing & Heating/ Voss Concrete& Masonry | \$ 141,242.50 |
| • J & J Earthworks Inc. | \$ 214,615.50 | | |

After bids were totaled and reviewed for accuracy, the recommendation came back to the Board to accept the bid from Thompson Excavating. Thompson Excavating was 18% below the engineer's estimate which was \$151,944.10. Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to accept the low bid from Thompson Excavating for the County Ditch #37 pump station bid in the amount of \$124,523.00. All voted in favor.

Olsen also presented information on the Noxious Weed List and stated that Lincoln County can identify problem plants if there is a weed in our County that causes an issue. The County would then need to approve a resolution to add problem weeds in our area to the list. The Board was in favor of adding musk thistle and bull thistle to the list. A resolution will be brought to the next meeting. Information only.

Commissioner VanDeVere commented on the AIS advertising and was in favor of doing more billboard ads during 2017 and cutting back on the radio ads. Olsen will be looking into the cost of doing some billboard ads and what information to include on them. Information only.

Stacey Longtin, Social Services Adult Services Supervisor, and Nancy Walker, Deputy Director of Business Services were present to give an update on the SWHHS remodel. A tour was given of the SWHHS area to show what changes would be made. The cost of the project has increased due to walls being added that would reduce air flow to certain areas. A new air conditioning unit will need to be added to the area. At the September 20, 2016 meeting, the remodel project was approved not to exceed a total cost of \$40,000. This will need to be amended with the increased total being \$44,393.00. A contract will need to be drawn up by Glen Pederson before the project proceeds. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to amend the motion from the September 20, 2016 to increase the cost of \$40,000 to a total amount not to exceed the new cost of \$44,393.00 for the SWHHS remodel project contingent on the contract being drawn up by Glen Pederson, Lincoln County Attorney, to establish payment options, liability insurance requirements and start and finish dates with the contractor Josh Behnke Construction, LLC. All voted in favor.

Dale Sterzinger, SWCD Conservation Technician, presented Resolution 16-2017 Resolution to Delegate the Lincoln County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Responsibilities to the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District for approval. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Vizecky to approve Resolution 16-2017 Resolution to Delegate the Lincoln County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Responsibilities to the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District. All voted in favor.

Resolution 16-2017
Resolution to Delegate the Lincoln County
Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan
Responsibilities to the
Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District

Whereas, Minnesota Statutes, §103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act (Act), authorizes Minnesota counties to develop and implement a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan, and

Whereas, the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) utilizes the Lincoln County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) as their Minnesota Statutes, §103C.331, Subd. 11 Comprehensive Plan, and

Whereas, the Plan has been previously coordinated by Lincoln County, and

Whereas, Lincoln County Board of Commissioners (Board) has determined that the continued implementation of a Plan will promote the health and welfare of the citizens of Lincoln County, and

Whereas, the development and implementation of the Plan can be delegated to the SWCD and the SWCD is willing to accept this responsibility.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Board delegates development and implementation of the plan to the SWCD effective until cancelled by one or both parties, and

Be it Further Resolved that Lincoln County transfers the Local Water Management Base Grant funds to the SWCD and will provide the required base grant levy match for implementation of the Plan, and

Be it Further Resolved the SWCD shall report Plan implementation progress to the County Board on a periodic basis.

ATTEST:

Richard Hamer, 2017 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor

Sterzinger also presented the Missouri River Watershed Memorandum of Agreement for approval. Sterzinger reviewed the agreement with the Board. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Vizecky to approve the Missouri River Watershed Memorandum of Agreement. All voted in favor.

Sterzinger also stated that a Lincoln County Commissioner should be appointed to the Missouri River Watershed Policy Committee. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Vizecky to appoint Commissioner Drietz to the Missouri River Watershed Policy Committee and to appoint Commissioner Sik as the alternate. All voted in favor.

Sterzinger also covered the following topics:

- Buffer information on parcels that are out of compliance.
- The other waters maps need to be adopted by July 1, 2017.
- Yellow Medicine Watershed District is enforcing the buffers on their ditches.
- Crepe 3 program was signed by the Governor.
- WACCA
- Looking at other options for health insurance for SWCD.
- SWCD would like to be included on the Lincoln County Department Head meetings.

Daryl Schlapkohl, Lincoln County Parks Manager, was present to discuss the Log Cabin Restoration project. Schlapkohl has received some quotes for doing the roof and the masonry part of the project. With the donations figure, we would still need about \$3,500.00 to complete the project. Schlapkohl is going to run an ad as a final push to get donations for the project. Schlapkohl will bring the ad to the Auditor's office for review. Information only.

Schlapkohl also presented a new brochure for the Lincoln County Parks to the Board.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – SWCD

Hamer – Personnel

Sik – None

VanDeVere – CARE, Legislative Roundtable in Slayton, SWHHS

Vizecky – SWHHS,

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #4217 - #4250 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$22,519.91, Road & Bridge - \$24,134.16, and LSLID - \$352.17. All voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: MN Dept. of Transportation – St Paul - \$5,700.74, Safe Assure Consultants Inc. - \$5,327.89, Stonebrooke Engineering Inc. - \$5,042.45, Tolk Graveling LLC - \$5,935.44, WM of Southern Minnesota MA 1 - \$6,573.94, Ziegler Inc. - \$3,403.85, and 49 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$15,021.93.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor, asked the Board for approval of an Auditor Warrant for the VSO department for a Veterans Service Training Event meal that will be reimbursed by the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Dan Kuss, Lincoln County VSO is the district 8 rep for the Minnesota Association of County Veteran Services Officers. Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to approve issuing an Auditor Warrant to Rusty's Corner Café for \$330 plus corresponding sales tax to cover the catering expense for the Veteran's Service Training Event held at the Merit Center in Marshall on February 23, 2017 which will be reimbursed by Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers. All voted in favor.

Discussion was held on starting a Law Enforcement Committee. No action was taken.

Discussion was held on the Impoundment Services Agreements for the Lincoln County Cities. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hamer to approve all three cities Impoundment Services Agreement with one change to section II, item C to include a picture of the item before it is placed in the impound lot. Commissioners Drietz, Hamer, VanDeVere, and Vizecky voted in favor. Commissioner Sik voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to adjourn at 12:45 p.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

Richard Hamer, 2017 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor