

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

October 17, 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, Jack Vizecky, and Mic VanDeVere. Commissioner Sik was absent. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Vizecky to approve consent agenda which included approval of the Board meeting minutes from October 3, 2017 and the agenda for October 17, 2017. All (4) voted in favor.

Dale Sterzinger, SWCD District Manager, presented the Memorandum of Agreement with Yellow Medicine Watershed, Area II, Lincoln County, Lac Qui Parle County, Lyon County, Yellow Medicine County and the corresponding Soil and Water conservation offices for approval. The purpose of the agreement is to be able to establish the Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan Partnership to implement protection and restoration efforts for the Yellow Medicine River Watershed and to share services to more effectively perform and manage those resources. The MOA will be enforced until December 31, 2026 unless earlier terminated by law. Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement with Yellow Medicine Watershed, Area II, Lincoln County, Lac Qui Parle County, Lyon County, Yellow Medicine County and the corresponding Soil and Water conservation offices. All (4) voted in favor.

Sterzinger presented the Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement. This grant agreement includes the Shoreland, Septic Treatment Systems, Local Water Management, and Wetland Conservation grant dollars. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to accept and sign the Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement with a total of \$101,599.00 to be awarded. All (4) voted in favor.

Sterzinger gave the following updates:

- The 2016 Annual Report was presented. The report summarizes the goals, objectives and actions of the Lincoln County SWCD.
- Buffer compliance resulted in 200 letters to be sent out. 60-70 landowners have come in to sign waivers. After all individuals have been addressed, the landowners that do not want to work towards compliance will be turned over to the Environmental office for enforcement.
- Emily Javens will be leaving Yellow Medicine Watershed District. This could result in extra work for SWCD.
- A State and SWCD spending report was presented to show the positive impact of conservation programs on the economy in Minnesota.
- Missouri River One Watershed One Plan has hired Houston Engineering as their consultant. A Policy & Planning Committee meeting was held.
- Redwood WRAPS – Wenek Consultants has been hired to write the WRAPS report. Grant dollars are used to hire the consultant firm. November 7, 2017 is the first meeting with Wenek Consultants.
- Lac Qui Parle WRAPS is also starting. Houston Engineering is working on the mapping for the watershed projects.
- WAACA report –a task force meeting will be held in the near future to decide how the funds will be spent.
- Working with Blazing Star on how the wetlands will be affected by the wind project.
- Verizon Wireless is going to have a new tower put up between Ivanhoe and Lake Benton. A wetland will be affected by this.
- State cost share program is being redone.
- The \$40,000 cost share dollars have not been used. If someone uses the cost share dollars, the hay land cannot be cut until after August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- MDH and SWCD will be working together to test the well water in Verdi Township to determine the nitrates in the water.
- A tillage transect survey has been completed with the U of M. This is done to calibrate the U of M computer system for the different residues on the soil.
- A grant has become available for a shared Crep 3 position between Yellow Medicine Watershed and Lincoln County SWCD. The State will pay 90% of the position.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor opened the land lease/rent bids. The bids were as follows:

62.7 acres Tillable Ag Land

	Per Year Bid
• Henningsen Farm	\$10,784.40
• Nicholas J Thooft	\$11,600.00
• Dryland Farms Inc./Lester and Loren Otkin	\$12,700.00
• Mike the Strawguy LLC	\$11,348.71
• Glenn Johnson	\$11,662.20

Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to accept the bid from Dryland Farms Inc./Loren and Lester Otkin in the amount of \$12,700.00 per year for the 62.7 acres tillable ag land located north of County Highway 9 in the E ½ SE ¼ of Section 25 in Verdi Township. All (4) voted in favor.

46.0 acres Pasture Land

- Jeremy Smidt \$2,572.32
- Mike the Strawguy LLC \$2,346.00
- Nicholas J Thooft \$3,000.00

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to accept the bid from Nicholas Thooft in the amount of \$3,000.00 per year for the 46 acres of pasture land located north of County Highway 9, part of which is located in the E ½ of the SE ¼ of section 25, Verdi Township and part is located in W ½ of the SW ¼ of section 30, Lake Benton Township. All (4) voted in favor.

Joe Wilson, Lincoln County Engineer, presented the project updates. They were as follows:

- County Road 134 has been ground up. The road is still a little rough. The highway guys did pick out some of the bigger chunks with their blades. As time goes on, the road should improve.
- Some minor concrete work needs to be done on the Hendricks project.
- Box culvert work has resumed on County Highway 7. They had to put a diversion channel in to divert some of the water. This will result in a higher cost.
- The Box Culvert on County Highway 1 is being worked on.

Wilson presented Resolution No. 42-2017 Final Payment for Contract 02-2016 (Grading: Verdi to Highway 75). Wilson would also like the payment as an auditor warrant. Due to some extra sub grade work, there were some extra dollars spent. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Vizecky to approve Resolution No 42-2017 Final Payment for Contract 02-2016 (Grading: Verdi to Highway 75) and to make the final payment as an auditor warrant. All (4) voted in favor.

#### RESOLUTION 42 - 2017

**WHEREAS**, the construction of Contract 02-2016 (Project SAP 041-609-016) has in all things been completed by R&G Construction, the final contract costs as follows:

Original Contract Amount	\$ 776,916.20
Final Contract Amount	\$ 796,355.80
Final Payment Amount	\$ 42,434.09

**NOW THEN, BE IT RESOLVED** that we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Lincoln and authorize final payment as specified above.

**ADOPTED** by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017.

ATTEST:

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Richard Hamer, 2017 Board Chair

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Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Wilson and Donny Scholten met with the Sussner Construction representative to discuss some items that need to be corrected at the Tyler shop. The items are being corrected.
- Ditch tops are being mowed.
- The new blade will be here next week.
- Patching spots in the city of Tyler.
- Fall spraying has been completed. Some spraying was done in a no spray zone. The contractor will need to resolve.
- Snow equipment is almost ready.

Wilson informed the Board that we have not had any internal applicants for the Tech 1, 2, or 3 position. The posting will now be advertised in the paper. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, presented the Buffer Ordinance for approval. It has been reviewed by the Board of Soil and Water Resource specialists and the public hearing has been held. Two members of the public were present and felt it was better to have the County enforce the buffer rather than have an outside agency enforce. Olsen reviewed the penalty and administrative order sections. After the ordinance is approved, it will be sent back to the Board of Soil and Water Resources for their final review. After 60 days the ordinance will be published and recorded. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Vizecky to approve Ordinance No. 50 – Buffer Ordinance. All (4) voted in favor.

Olsen presented the final Solid Waste Agreement with Waste Management for approval. The monthly cost has increased due to adding additional garbage pickups at Hendricks, Ivanhoe, Lake Benton and Marble Store. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by VanDeVere to approve the Solid Waste Agreement with Waste Management at a total cost of \$17,195.21 per month which amends the motion for the total cost of \$16,377.00 per month from September 5, 2017 due to program pickup changes. All (4) voted in favor.

Olsen presented the final plat for the Paluch subdivision on Lake Shaokatan for approval. The plat has been reviewed by the Lincoln County Recorder and Assessor. Before it can be recorded, it will need to be signed off by Shaokatan Township, the Lincoln County Auditor, Recorder, Treasurer and Attorney. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to approve the final plat for the Paluch subdivision on Lake Shaokatan. All (4) voted in favor.

Olsen reported that the forfeited property previously owned by Aaron Delp has been demoed. There is some additional clean up that will need to be done. Information only.

Olsen reported that photos have been taken in Verdi of the properties that need to be cleaned up. The photos have resulted in 5 to 6 administrative orders to be sent out. Information only.

Olsen reported that the pumps have been engaged on County Ditch 37. There will be a security fence constructed around the pump station and a metal box will need to be put around the control panel for additional protection. The pump station will need to be added to the Lincoln County insurance. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – Broadband conference call, CD 37 Pump Station,  
 Hamer – Labor Negotiations, Personnel  
 Sik – absent  
 VanDeVere – RCRCA, SWHHS  
 Vizecky – Labor Negotiations, Personnel

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Drietz seconded by VanDeVere to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #5949- #6011 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$113,108.74, Road & Bridge - \$16,516.61 and Ditch - \$46,394.90. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota - \$2,493.00, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP - \$7,000.00, Lozinski Construction Services - \$9,325.00, Lyon Co Auditor – Treasurer - \$3,670.15, Petersen Law Office PLLC - \$7,361.83, Prairie Pride Cooperative - \$11,774.46, Southwest Health and Human Services - \$19,178.00, SW Sanitation Inc. - \$6,183.39, Tessier's Inc. Mechanical Contractors - \$14,072.77, Thompson Excavating - \$45,614.91, Victor Construction Inc. - \$13,350.00, Waste Management of WI-MN - \$10,968.31, WM of Southern Minnesota MA 1 - \$6,705.30, and 50 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$18,323.13.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor, presented the Plum Creek Library Agreement for comment. Plum Creek plans to bring a final agreement to the Board for approval in January of 2018. Information only.

Motion by Hamer, seconded by Vizecky to appoint Commissioner VanDeVere as the MCIT voting delegate and Commissioner Drietz as the MCIT voting alternate. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hamer to authorize Commissioner Drietz as the Area II Delegate to sign the 2017 Area II Joint Powers Agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by VanDeVere to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

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Richard Hamer, 2017 Board Chair

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Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor