

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

April 16, 2019  
Courthouse Commissioner Room  
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair Mic VanDeVere, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Rick Hamer, Joe Drietz, Corey Sik, Mic VanDeVere and Jack Vizecky. Attorney Glen Petersen arrived at 10:42 a.m. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the consent agenda which included April 2, 2019 minutes, 3.2 Malt Liquor and Gambling License for the St John Cantius Catholic Church 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, 3.2 Malt Liquor license for Minnesota Music Hall of Fame (Larry Olsen) to be held May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and April 16, 2019 agenda. All voted in favor.

Nancy Vierstraete, United Community Action Case Worker, asked for approval for Resolution 20-2019 Family Homeless Prevention. A resolution is needed in order to provide this type of assistance to Lincoln County. UCAP helps families in crisis and in order to be helped they have to be under 200% of poverty level. UCAP works along with Southwest Health and Human Services to help needed individuals. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Sik to approve Resolution 20-2019 Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program. All voted in favor.

**Resolution # 20-2019  
Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program Resolution**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has made available Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program grant monies to encourage and support innovation at the local level to help prevent homelessness, reduce the length of homeless episodes, and reduce repeated episodes of homelessness, and

WHEREAS, Area service providers who administer programs that address families crisis needs have identified gaps within the service delivery system, and

WHEREAS, Area service providers who administer programs that address families crisis needs have identified strategies to address the identified service gaps,

WHEREAS, Area service providers wish to continue to work together to coordinate their services and improve the service delivery system,

WHEREAS, United Community Action Partnership desires to make an application on behalf of the area service providers for funds to address these identified problems,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Lincoln agrees to support United Community Action Partnership in its application and implementation of the proposed Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

Adopted by the County Board of Commissioners the 16<sup>th</sup> Day of April, 2019.

ATTEST:

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 Mic VanDeVere, 2019 Board Chair

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 Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Vince Robinson, DSI President, gave an update on the Amended MOU between ITC and Lincoln County for the Broadband project. Jenny Boulton, Kennedy and Graven, Chartered Attorney, has reviewed the changes. Robinson went through the changes. The grant will be applied for through ITC and the funding they are applying for is 5 million. Matching funds would come from ITC and Lincoln County. If the funding is received, the share from Lincoln County would be 2 million and the share from ITC would be 3.5 million. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Drietz to approve amended MOU between ITC and Lincoln County contingent on ITC approving the changes as well. All voted in favor.

Robinson informed the Board that Broadband is budgeted at \$70,000,000.00 in the Governor's and House budget. It is budgeted at \$30,000,000.00 in the Senate budget. The hope is that the Senate budget will increase, but it looks like at least \$30,000,000.00 will be in the budget and ITC is gearing up and ready to apply for grant funds from that budget. Information only.

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

- Working on plans for widening project on County Road 7 and bridges for 2019. Looking at changing the size of the pipe on the widening project. Considering going with an arch pipe as long as there are no issues with permitting. It will be about \$10,000 additional cost but will increase the water flow and is a better fit for the water channel.
- Working on documents for seal coat oil and gravel crushing to get ready to advertise for bids. Planning to open bids on May 21<sup>st</sup> during the Board meeting. Getting to the end of the gravel in the Manly pit. It will be determined during crushing, whether there is enough gravel left for another contract. Will consider going over the contract amount to clean out what is there. The Guida pit can be used for back-up.
- Working on proposals for the Courthouse and Highway Grounds Project. Information has been sent to a couple consultants.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Had started crack filling prior to the spring storm.
- Storm was pretty tough on the gravel roads and shoulders. Trying to get them maintained.
- Will resume crack filling.
- Have started the annual DOT for the equipment.
- Removing some of the snow equipment
- Equipment repairs as needed
- Since one of the graders is currently broken down, a rental grader was used at a cost of \$3,150.00. Still waiting on the cost to repair the broken down grader.

Wilson requested approval to purchase a Roller for Grader WR75 Series 3 & HD Lift Assembly at a cost of \$30,040.00. This piece of equipment helps pack behind the blades and prolongs the need for regrading. Wilson would also like approval to purchase a TT250 Tack Tank for Patching Trailer at a cost of \$13,500.00. These items have been budgeted. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the purchase of a Roller for Grader WR75 Series 3 & HD Lift Assembly at a cost of \$30,040.00 and a TT250 Tack Tank for Patching Trailer at a cost of \$13,500.00 plus corresponding fees. All voted in favor.

Wilson will be checking with Blazing Star to see where we are at on the road use agreement. Information only.

Wilson gave an update to the Board on the bridge load ratings. Currently there are some bridges that are way below the legal road limits. The consultant recommended doing some bracing on the bridge on County Road 12 and doing some bracing and a concrete slab on the bridge on County Road 1. Wilson will look into pricing and feels the Highway Maintenance crew can handle doing the work. Wilson was not able to get a recommendation on the bridges on County Road 5 and 8. When looking at material prices, Wilson will also compare the cost to fix or replace. Information only.

Wilson asked if there were any other comments or suggested changes to the Multi-Year Plan. There were no additional comments. Information only.

Some discussion was held on the two man shops in the County and having everyone report to the Ivanhoe shop during certain times of the year. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, gave an update on Lake Benton Lake. The Lake Vegetation Plan has been signed and approved. The permit to treat the lake will be signed today. The contractor is ready and the target date is April 25<sup>th</sup> to treat the lake. Since it is later in the season, we may not need to do a second treatment with Sonar which would be a big savings. We will be treating with Diquat in mid-May when the plants are growing and if we need a second bump in Sonar that will also be done at that time. Letters were sent out to the lake property owners to allow them to opt out of the chemical treatment on their shoreline. No requests were made to opt out. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that he has done some additional research on the MPCA program and has discussed with Dale Sterzinger from SWCD. Olsen feels it would be good to have two funding options. At this time, there are \$60,000.00 AgBMP dollars set aside for septics but Olsen feels the MPCA program would be a good additional source of funding. An application has been prepared for MPCA. Olsen will need a resolution approved and is recommending to move forward with \$500,000.00 of funding from MPCA for septics. MPCA requires no higher than 1.5% be charged on the septic loans. Olsen recommends charging 1.5% on all septic loans moving forward. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Vizecky to approve moving forward with the \$500,000.00 request from the MPCA loan program. All voted in favor

Olsen informed the Board that there is a new type of advertising called geo-fencing technology. This type of advertising will appear on smart phones within certain areas. Olsen has had discussions with Lyon County on doing a cost share on the cost of this technology which would create the advertisement on how to prevent spreading weeds from lake to lake when people were close to the lakes in Lincoln and Lyon County. The cost would be \$15,000 and would be split between Lincoln and Lyon and would cover 3 lakes in Lincoln County and 3 lakes in Lyon County. The AIS funds would be utilized for the advertising. Information only.

Bob Worth, Lake Benton City Mayor, Eileen Christiansen, City Administrator, and David Enke, Lake Benton City Council were present to discuss some concerns in the City of Lake Benton. Their first concern was, due to flooding, they had been trying to contact Amber Scholten, Lincoln County Emergency Management, to see if they could declare a state of emergency in the city and had received no response. Scholten was present at the meeting and set up a meeting with them to discuss the threshold that needs to be met prior to qualifying for any disaster money. Information only.

Worth was also concerned with the waste management program. The dumpsters have been full for two weeks and waste has been placed beside the dumpsters which allows the trash to blow all over. Worth knows that weather has been an issue and turnover has also been an issue but this has been ongoing for a long time and it has become very frustrating. There have also been some residents that are not being picked up. Robert Olsen, Lincoln County Environmental, discussed the issue and stated that Waste Management is supposed to be in contact with the city administrators to get residential addresses in their GPS which will help one issue. Olsen stated that he has also had discussions with Waste Management about the service and if it doesn't improve, we can withhold 25% of the contract amount. Olsen is hopeful that it will improve before getting to that point. Information only.

Rick Drietz, Lincoln County Maintenance Supervisor, and Amber Scholten, Lincoln County Emergency Management, were present to discuss the issues with the Sheriff's office generator. The issue with the generator has caused issues with the radios and in talking to Alpha Wireless, it has been determined it could be a voltage issue. If the radio equipment is damaged due to a voltage issue, it will not be guaranteed. Alpha Wireless will be back to see if there is a fix to the issue, but if the fix is high, it may make sense to replace the generator. They are also looking at the generator at the radio tower as a backup. If the generator is placed on a trailer, it could become a portable backup. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – LacQuiParle Watershed Advisory, Yellow Medicine Watershed Advisory  
 Hamer – None  
 Sik – None  
 VanDeVere – None  
 Vizecky – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Sik to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #9997 - #10061 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$95,081.51, and Road & Bridge - \$39,069.48. Commissioner Hamer, Sik, Vizecky and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Drietz abstained due to an Ivanhoe Service Center bill. Motion carried by majority vote.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota - \$3,835.25, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,355.00, GCR Tires and Service - \$7,653.75, Kirkvold Oil Co. - \$5,062.85, Lyon Co Auditor-Treasurer - \$3,999.35, Mactek Systems Inc. - \$5,460.00, Mid-American Research Chem. Cor. - \$3,120.00, Pictometry International Corporation - \$23,397.92, Prairie Pride Cooperative - \$14,653.97, Regents of the University of Minnesota - \$15,056.01, Scott's Electronics - \$5,394.00, Waste Management of WI-MN - \$18,665.05, Ziegler Power Systems (CAT) - \$3,591.33 and 43 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$18,906.51.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, informed the Board that interviews are set for the new Deputy Auditor-Treasurer and would like the Board to authorize the Personnel Committee along with the Auditor-Treasurer to hire the position prior to the next board meeting. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hamer to authorize the Personnel Committee along with the Auditor-Treasurer to hire the new Deputy Auditor-Treasurer. All voted in favor.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to adjourn at 11:04 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

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Mic VanDeVere, 2019 Board Chair

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Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer