

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 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 Joe Drietz, Rick Hamer, Corey Sik, Mic VanDeVere and Jack Vizecky. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer Deb Vierhuf. Glen Petersen, Lincoln County Attorney, arrived at 10:03 a.m. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Hamer, seconded by Drietz to approve the consent agenda which included September 3, 2019 minutes, and September 17, 2019 agenda. All voted in favor.

Amber Knutson, DNR Assistant Wildlife Manager, presented information on the new proposed purchase in Lincoln County. The purchase consists of 317.2 acres located in section 12 of Hope Township. Knutson informed the Board that the DNR currently owns less than 3% of the land in Lincoln County which consists of public hunting grounds, wildlife land and walking trails. The current amount of acres owned in Lincoln County is approximately 9400 acres. There is a high demand for public hunting grounds. The landowners usually come to the DNR about them purchasing their property. William Newell, one of the landowners, was present to show support of the purchase and a letter of support was received from Jeffrey Newell. Discussion was held on neighboring residences to public hunting grounds and what can be done to put a buffer between the public hunting ground and the residence. Commissioner VanDeVere would like to see the DNR do additional accommodations if the neighboring residence has concerns with living next to public hunting grounds. Grazing management and haying agreements were also discussed that would provide short grass next to the buffer so it would not be optimal for hunting in that area. Commissioner Drietz expressed that he was not in favor of reducing farmable acres through DNR purchases. Knutson presented Resolution No. 45-2019 Review of Proposed State Wildlife Acquisition. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Sik to approve Resolution No. 45-2019 Review of Proposed State Wildlife Acquisition. Commissioner Hamer, Sik and Vizecky voted in favor. Commissioner Drietz and VanDeVere voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

**Resolution No. 45-2019
Lincoln County
Board of County Commissioners
Review of Proposed State Wildlife Acquisition**

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 97A.145 Subd. 2, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on September 17th, 2019 provided the county board and the appropriate town officers with a description of lands to be acquired by the State of Minnesota for water and wildlife conservation purposes.

Lands to be acquired are described as follows:

~320 acres in the S½ of Section 12, Hope Township (T109N, R44W).

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County, on September 17th, 2019, that the State's proposed acquisition of the above described property be approved.

If applicable, reasons for disapproval:

This resolution was presented by Commissioner Vizecky seconded by Commissioner Sik and upon vote was duly adopted.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

Mic VanDeVere, 2019 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer

Rick Drietz, Lincoln County Maintenance Supervisor, presented the Board with a skid loader proposal. Drietz received 4 quotes. The quotes after trade in value of the John Deere mower are as follows:

- Titan Machine of Marshall – Case SR 160 - \$24,400.00
- Lund Implement of Madison – Bobcat S450 - \$13,500.00

- Lund Implement of Madison – Bobcat S550 - \$19,500.00
- Brookings Implement – New Holland 218 - \$34,000.00

Drietz's recommendation is to go with the Bobcat S550 to be purchased from Lund Implement of Madison. Drietz has \$5,000.00 in his current budget and would like to have the remaining amount of \$14,500.00 come from the capital improvement fund and will pay back with the 2020 budget. Motion by Sik, seconded by VanDeVere to purchase a Bobcat S550 with a snow bucket, broom and blower in the amount of \$19,500.00 after trade-in and have \$5,000.00 paid out of the 2019 maintenance budget and the \$14,500.00 out of the capital improvement fund to be paid back in 2020 with the 2020 maintenance budget. All voted in favor.

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

- County Road maintenance striping is complete.
- R & G plans to start gravel surfacing on County Highway 10 in the next week or two. This project is due to be complete by October 18th.
- Continuing to work on 2020-2021 survey and plan work.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Truck break down is estimated to cost \$12,000.00 - \$13,000.00 for parts and labor to rebuild the transmission.
- Will be finishing asphalt patching once the weather cooperates
- Hauling gravel
- Blading gravel roads
- Spraying trees in the Right of Way
- Some minor road work was completed due to flooding last week.

Wilson informed the Board that the Commissioner Warrant, issued to The Computer Man Inc. for \$4,837.69, is to upgrade a computer to Windows 10 due to Windows 7 not being supported in 2020. This computer is a little higher in cost due to needing additional memory for the AutoCAD program. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that a new furnace has been ordered for the old shop. The existing furnace is not efficient and has needed repairs more often as it gets older. The new furnace is estimated to cost \$8,189.00 after trade-in. The furnace is included in the 2019 budget in the amount of \$8,600.00. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that there are issues with the fire alarm panel in the Highway Office Building and will need to be replaced. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that he is in the process of reviewing the Blazing Star 2 Development Agreement. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the Highway Department would like to explore options for cold storage for equipment that sits outside at our Landfill site on Hwy 75. Information only.

Wilson requested approval to extend the highway summer hours through the week of October 11th to finish up projects. Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to approve extending the Highway summer hours through the week of October 11th. All voted in favor.

Robert Olsen, Environment, presented the following updates.

- The skid loader that was advertised to be sold by sealed bids did not receive any bids. Hendricks City had expressed interest at one time. Olsen will check in with them and see if they have an offer in mind and we may consider transferring it to the city of Hendricks.
- The future of recycling was discussed.
- Olsen met with the DNR to discuss the possibility of looking at a storm water storage for JD #31. This would help the lower half of this branch work more efficiently. Area II is very interested in this idea.
- The Annual Landfill Meeting will be held on September 21, 2019. The future of recycling will be discussed at this meeting also.

Information only.

Robin Sterzinger, Lincoln County Financial Accountant, reviewed the matching funds that SWCD currently gets. This amount has been reviewed and we can increase that amount. Dale Sterzinger, SWCD notified us of two different scenarios. We can increase the amount to go to SWCD to \$146,000.00 which would include \$16,000.00 matching funds or we can increase the amount to \$150,000.00 which would include \$20,000.00 matching funds. These matching funds come back to the County to help pay for Pictometry. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to increase the 2020 budget amount that goes to SWCD to \$150,000.00 which includes \$20,000.00 matching funds. All voted in favor.

Sterzinger informed the Board that since the Lake Improvement Districts are no longer audited by our external auditors, she has put reports together summarizing the Revenues and Expenditures for the districts for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018. The last official audit was for the year ending 2015. Sterzinger

also informed the Board that she balances the districts with the Environmental office on a monthly basis. Information only.

Sterzinger is working on the final budget which will be approved in December. A report with the current numbers was presented. The Board will continue to discuss any changes to be made. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – LacQuiParle Watershed, LCEDC Enterprise, RCRC and Area II, Insurance Committee, Career Force
 Hamer – None
 Sik – SWHHS, SW Tourism
 VanDeVere – Prime West
 Vizecky – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Hamer, seconded by Vizecky to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #11086- #11175 for the following amounts: Revenue – \$133,931.74, Road & Bridge - \$32,627.20, Debt Service - \$26,700.00, Ditch - \$3,929.75, and LID – 296.84. Commissioner Hamer, Sik, VanDeVere and Vizecky voted in favor. Commissioner Drietz abstained due 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, Ag Plus Cooperative - \$2,712.78, Civic Plus - \$4,404.49, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP - \$22,000.00, The Computer Man Inc. - \$4,837.69, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,255.00, Divine Prov. Health Center Inc. - \$2,723.27, Duininck Incorporated - \$13,676.20, Frontier Communications - \$2,243.28, GCR Tires & Service - \$3,093.41, Liberty Septic, Inc. - \$12,750.00, Lyon County Landfill - \$2,288.42, MN Dept. of Agriculture - \$50,313.54, Preferred Response LLC - \$6,250.00, Renville County Treasurer - \$18,142.10, Victor Construction Inc. - \$13,950.00, and 74 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$29,010.10.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer requested approval for Resolution 46-2019 Resolution Recommending the Appointment of Bill Ufkin and Mitch Kling to the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners. Biographies were also presented for each of the candidates. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Drietz to approve Resolution No. 46-2019 Resolution Recommending the Appointment of Bill Ufkin and Mitch Kling to the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners. All voted in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 46-2019
 RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF
 BILL UFKIN AND MITCH KLING
 TO THE
 LINCOLN PIPESTONE RURAL WATER SYSTEM
 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WHEREAS, Bill Ufkin's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System ("LPRW") Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mitch Kling's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the LPRW Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2019 the LPRW Board unanimously adopted a Motion which recommends that Bill Ufkin and Mitch Kling each be re-appointed to another 4-year term on the LPRW Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believes that Bill Ufkin and Mitch Kling are qualified to act as Commissioners on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners and are both worthy of appointment.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

 Mic VanDeVere, 2019 Board Chair

 Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer

Vierhuf reviewed the insurance renewal with the Board. Lincoln County will currently be getting a 9.5% increase to our health insurance premiums. One option to try to keep premiums down is to go from a \$5,000 to a \$6,000 deductible. This would change our increase to 5.1% but would increase the risk to the county on the self-insured portion. Although there is more risk, it would save the County \$25,662.00 in premium cost. Vierhuf also informed the Board that we will be getting a 4% dental increase. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hamer to approve the health insurance and the dental insurance renewal and

approve moving to the \$6,000 health insurance deductible with Blue Cross to decrease the county premium cost from a 9.5% increase to a 5.1% increase. All voted in favor.

Vierhuf presented the Board of Water and Soil Resources Block Grant Agreement for approval. Lincoln County is the fiscal agent for the grant. Some of the grant funds stay at Lincoln County and some of the grant funds are sent to Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Hamer to approve the Board of Water and Soil Resources Block Grant Agreement. All voted in favor.

Vierhuf presented the TIF annual disclosures for the cities of Hendricks, Lake Benton and Tyler. The cities are required to disclose this information every year. Information only.

Commissioner Drietz left at 10:17 a.m.

Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to adjourn at 10:37 a.m. All (4) voted in favor.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Mic VanDeVere, 2019 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer