

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

November 3, 2020
Courthouse Assembly Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

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

Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from October 20, 2020 and the agenda for November 3, 2020. All (4) voted in favor.

Lisa Graphenteen, Director of Housing and Economic Development, was present to discuss Hole in the Mountain Park and give some updates on community engagement and the updated Master Plan prior to going out for cost estimates. Joining on the phone is Jason Amberg, the architect with WSB. The community engagement has included online surveys and some online meetings with organizations that would be affected. Amberg reviewed different maps that showed the various improvements that would be completed. Some of the improvements would be completed sooner and some of the improvements will not be completed until 15 – 20 years in the future. WSB will proceed with the cost estimates with more information coming to the Board in December. Graphenteen informed the Board that there are still some steps that need to be done before the DNR will release grant funds. Graphenteen will reach out to Attorney Glen Petersen to see when this will be complete. Information only.

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

- Plan to advertise Paving and Box Culvert bids next week with bid opening on November 30th and awarding the bids at the December 1st meeting. This would include Paving on County Roads 1 and 8 and Box Culverts on County Roads 1, and 5 that have been load rated.

Information only.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Working on gravel roads before the cold weather.
- Working on soft spots near County Road 119 and 108 near Lake Benton.
- Continue to haul fill material from the wind tower project to the land next to the Highway shop.
- Will need to place gravel stabilizer over culvert replacements.
- Planning to replace a culvert on a driveway on County Highway 17.
- Will start equipment and sign maintenance next week.

Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that notices have been published letting the public know that bales left in the ditches need to be removed, fences should not be installed in the right of way and piles of snow should not be left in the right of way. Information only.

Wilson handed out a 2021 budget narrative and informed the Board that Road and Bridge will see about a 2% increase. Discussion was held on the new cold storage building. Some of the Board members thought it would be good to move that project further into the future. Information only.

Wilson requested approval to purchase replacements for unit #28 and #45. Commissioner VanDeVere made the motion to approve purchasing replacements for unit #28 and #45. The motion failed due to no one seconding the motion.

Wilson requested approval to purchase a replacement for Unit #603 which is the Pup Trailer that was totaled. We received \$21,231.88 in insurance dollars and \$17,000.00 has been budgeted in 2021. The new pup trailer will not be received or paid for until later in 2021. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to approve ordering the Pup Trailer from TowMaster to replace Unit #603 in the amount of \$37,821.00 to be received and paid for in 2021. All (4) voted in favor.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, requested approval of the 2021 SSTS Grant and authorization for Olsen to sign the grant documents. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Hamer to approve the 2021 SSTS Grant Agreement and authorizing Robert Olsen to sign for the grant. All (4) voted in favor.

Olsen requested approval of Resolution 27-2020 JD Redetermination Loan Extension. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve Resolution 27-2020 JD Redetermination Loan Extension. All (4) voted in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 27-2020
RESOLUTION OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ACTING AS THE DITCH
AUTHORITY FOR JUDICIAL DITCH #19**

WHERE AS: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners adopted Lincoln County Resolution No. 31-2019 transferring \$128,776.29 from the general fund to the Judicial Ditch 19 redetermination fund to cover expenses related to the re-determination of benefits for Judicial Ditch 19 and;

WHERE AS: The re-determination has been completed and;

WHERE AS: All pre-pays have been collected and remaining assessments have been placed and;

WHERE AS: The Judicial Ditch 19 redetermination fund does not have sufficient funds to reimburse the general fund the full amount of the one year loan and;

WHERE AS: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners acting as the Ditch Authority for Judicial Ditch 19 agree to extend the term of this loan for 3 years starting in 2020, now therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners, acting Ditch Authority, County of Lincoln, State of Minnesota do instruct the Lincoln County Auditor to set a repayment schedule of equal installments at an interest rate of 4% per annum on the unpaid balance until paid in full and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Judicial Ditch 19 redetermination fund shall make payments to the Lincoln County General Fund each year beginning December 1, 2020.

WHEREUPON the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners this 3rd day of November, 2020.

ATTEST:

Joe Drietz, 2020 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Adam Stemwedel, Protec Roofing and Sheet Metal Salesman, was present to give an assessment of the needed repair to the law enforcement roof. There is a 20 year warranty on the membrane of the roof but none of the flashings are warrantied. The membrane is in good shape but the flashings and scuppers are in need of repair. Stemwedel recommended fixing the flashings and scuppers as a more temporary fix and prepare to replace the roof in the near future. This repair would last about 3 years but there would not be a guarantee on this. The Commissioner's would like to see a quote from Protec for the temporary repair and a quote for replacing the roof. This will be re-addressed at a future meeting. Information only.

Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Hamer to hold off on any repairs to the law enforcement roof until further notice. All (4) voted in favor.

Kristina Richmond, Deputy Auditor-Treasurer, informed the Board that she has checked with all of the cities and they have spent all of their CARES funding so we will not receive any additional dollars from them. After the second round of grants, there will be approximately \$114,000.00 left in CARES funding. This amount is before any Lincoln County wish list items have been paid for. Richmond will have an updated total at the next Board Meeting on November 17, 2020. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – absent

Hamer – None

Sik – SWMHHS, Plum Creek, Highway Labor Management, HRA, Plum Creek #2

VanDeVere – SWMHHS, United Community Action, Western Mental Health, PACE, Supporting Hands

Vizecky – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Hamer to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #14049 - #14102 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$35,478.93, Road & Bridge - \$35,205.20, Debt Service - \$1,626,059.55, Ditch - \$1,650.00 and LID - \$175.00. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: Ag Plus Cooperative - \$10,850.77, H&I Mesabi - \$6,500.00, Hancock Concrete Prod. Co. LLC - \$12,904.00, Interstate Telecommunications Coop, Inc. - \$1,626,059.55, Liberty Tire Services LLC - 12,428.75, Office Peeps Inc. - \$6,920.93 and 48 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$22,904.68.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, requested approval of the 2020 Audit Engagement Letter. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve the 2020 Audit Engagement Letter. All (4) voted in favor.

Vierhuf requested approval of the updated Deputy Auditor-Treasurer job description. Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to approve the updated Deputy Auditor-Treasurer job description. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to adjourn at 10:51 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

Joe Drietz, 2020 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer