

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

October 6, 2020
Courthouse Assembly Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair Joe Drietz, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Joe Drietz, Rick Hamer, Corey Sik and Jack Vizecky. Commissioner VanDeVere 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 September 15, 2020 and the agenda for October 6, 2020. All (4) voted in favor.

Michelle VanDyke, Lincoln County Extension 4-H Educator, informed the Board that it is National 4-H week. VanDyke introduced Ava Shoenfeld, a freshman at RTR High school to give an update on what she has been doing in 4-H. Shoenfeld was able to show pigs, goats and horses this year at the fair in a different way and won some State trips. Shoenfeld also did a youth leadership event and was given an award. Shoenfeld is currently getting livestock ready for next year. Although many of the events are virtual, Shoenfeld was able to attend and learn many things. Many events were done through Flip Grid and were judged that way. VanDyke invited the Board to wear a 4-H shirt this week to celebrate 4-H spirit day. Information only.

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

- Working on Plans for Box Culvert Projects on County Highway 1, 5 and 8.
- Working on Plans for paving projects on County Highway 1 and 8.

Information only.

Wilson requested approval to advertise for the Box Culvert and Paving Projects. Motion by Sik, Seconded by Drietz to approve advertising for Lincoln County Box Culvert and Paving Projects. All (4) voted in favor.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Fall Mowing
- Ditch Cleaning
- Placing rock in washout areas.
- Hauling and stock piling crushed granite received from Community Wind
- Started stripping topsoil around the Highway Building to start hauling in fill material from Blazing Star to get ready for a building project next year.

Wilson informed the Board that advertising is complete on the Engineer's Assistant Position and a time will be set up for interviews. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that paving for the Courthouse Parking Lot Project was done by Fuller Paving in the amount of \$5,575.50. The paving was originally part of the Contract with A&C Construction in the amount of \$5,850.00. It ended up working out for Fuller Paving to complete this due to paving they were already doing for the City of Ivanhoe and A&C was in agreement with allowing that. A&C's payment will be reduced by the \$5,850.00. The Board was in consensus with this change. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the City of Tyler is doing Pedestrian Ramps to cross County Highway 8 by the new school. The County has contributed around \$2,000.00 in the past and Wilson would like to contribute that amount to the installation of the Pedestrian Ramp on the east and west side of County Highway 8. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to contribute \$2,000 to the Pedestrian Ramp on the east and west side of County Highway 8 in Tyler by the new school. All (4) voted in favor.

Joe Wilson, Lincoln County Engineer, requested approval of Resolution 24-2020 Final Payment for Contract 05-2019 completed by R&G Construction Co. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve Resolution No. 24-2020 Final Payment for Contract 05-2019 completed by R&G Construction Co. All (4) voted in favor.

RESOLUTION

24 – 2020

Final Payment of Contract 05-2019

WHEREAS, the construction of Contract 05-2019 (Projects SAP 041-610-012) has in all things been completed by R&G Construction Co., the final contract costs as follows:

Original Contract Amount	\$	375,908.76
Contract Changes	\$	0
Final Contract Amount	\$	374,307.31
Final Payment Amount	\$	3,743.07

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 6th day of October, 2020.

Joe Drietz, Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor

Wilson presented a preliminary drawing for a cold storage shed for review and discussion. Construction would tentatively begin at the start of 2021. The building would be shared with Emergency Management and Environmental. The building would be located about 50 feet from the existing Highway building. Wilson will be checking with the County Ordinance to see if an Engineer is necessary for the project. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, presented a revised purchase agreement between Lincoln County and Patrick A. and Virginia K. Sterzinger. The revised agreement allows the County to begin dirt work on the property and the closing date for the sale has been moved to January 2021. Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to approve the revised purchase agreement between Lincoln County and Patrick A. and Virginia K. Sterzinger and approve the payment of \$115,935.00 be made as an Auditor Warrant. Commissioner Hamer, Drietz, and Sik voted in favor. Commissioner Vizecky voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Olsen informed the Board that we would need to pay some crop damages to the Sterzingers. The price would be \$500 per acre. The benefit of bringing the dirt in for fill out-ways the cost of the damaged crops. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that a cleaning of trees will need to be done on Judicial Ditch 19. The estimated cost of the cleaning is around \$6,000.00. There is sufficient money in the JD #19 repair account. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve the ditch cleaning to remove trees along JD #19 at an estimated cost of around \$6,000.00. All (4) voted in favor.

Olsen gave an update on the intersection signs in the County. The current signs are 17-18 years old. Discussion is still being held on whether to incorporate the grid numbers for County and Street or Avenue. There is approximately 630 – 650 intersection signs. The cost for the whole county to be re-signed would be between \$120,000.00 – \$150,000.00. The signs will be longer so we have to look at what affect that will have on the post. Information only.

Dale Sterzinger, District Manager of Lincoln County Soil and Water, was present for an update. Sterzinger's update included staffing changes, budget request, restrictions at the office due to COVID-19, the tree and seed program, The Wetland Conservation Act, Twp. road projects, the One Watershed One Plan, and the BWSR grant. Sterzinger stated that he will be back to have a Memorandum of Understanding approved with a new plan at a future meeting. Information only.

Kristina Richmond, Lincoln County Deputy Auditor-Treasurer, was present to give an update on the CARES funding. This included the following items:

- We currently have \$745,812.00 to work with which includes \$740,212.00 for the county and \$5,500.00 that was sent to us from Marshfield Twp.
- After the County expenses, we have \$498,244.03 to give to the businesses.
- We currently have 43 grant applications and about 10 that have talked to us but have not turned an application in yet. We will reach out to those 10 to see why they did not apply.
- We will possibly have a small second round of grants.
- We are still working on getting a policy in place for VPN access.

Information only.

Richmond would like to have approval to issue Auditor Warrants for all County expenses, including wish list items so we do not have to wait for the next Board meeting to issue the checks. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to authorize all CARES expenses including the wish list items be issued as Auditor Warrants. All (4) voted in favor.

Bruce Nielsen, Lincoln County Assessor, presented an updated job description. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the updated job description for the Lincoln County Assessor. All (4) voted in favor.

Nielsen presented his letter of resignation. Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve acceptance of Bruce Nielsen's letter of resignation. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to approve advertising for the Assessor position. All (4) voted in favor.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, informed the Board that interviews were held for the Financial Accountant Position and the job has been offered to a very qualified individual at the wage schedule that was provided. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve hiring Tami Nelson as Financial Accountant and approve the wage schedule presented. All (4) voted in favor.

Committee Reports were given:

- Drietz – RCRC and Area II, CPT, SW MN Work Force Development Council
- Hamer – None
- Sik – SWHHS, Plum Creek, HRA,
- VanDeVere - Absent
- Vizecky – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Hamer to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #13781 - #13859 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$161,670.05, Road & Bridge - \$54,301.64, Debt Service - \$61,269.67, Ditch - \$17,950.36 and Solid Waste – 720.00. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: Ag Plus Cooperative - \$10,579.74, Tom Barber - \$6,616.00, Black Strap Inc. - \$2,170.53, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,266.00, Deangelo Brothers Inc. - \$17,776.00, Don Ja Lei Home Owner’s Assoc. \$7,610.00, Fidlar Companies - \$2,173.05, Frontier Precision Inc. - \$8,322.00, Fuller Paving - \$5,575.50, Gopher State One-C all - \$3,086.10, Ground Works, LLC - \$9,725.00, Linc. Soil-Water Conserve. Dist. - \$24,266.00, MN Dept. of Agriculture - \$50,306.00, MN Dept. of Transportation – St. Paul - \$4,880.50, North Central International Inc. - \$2,371.59, Northern Con Agg LLP - \$2,679.95, Office Peeps Inc. - \$6,868.90, Regents of the University of Minnesota - \$15,051.21, Thomas Plumbing Inc. - \$65,408.95, Tom Hodges Construction & Electrical - \$14,000.00, WSB & Associates, Inc. - \$5,638.00 and 56 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$25,540.70.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, requested approval of Resolution No. 25-2020 Recommending appointments for the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners. Motion by Vizecky, seconded by Sik to approve Resolution 25-2020 Resolution Recommending the Appointment of Francis Engels, Janice Moen and J. Brent Feikema to the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners. All (4) voted in favor.

**Resolution No. 25-2020
RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF
FRANCIS ENGELS, JANICE MOEN, AND J. BRENT FEIKEMA
TO THE
LINCOLN PIPESTONE RURAL WATER SYSTEM
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WHEREAS, Francis Engels’ 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, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Janice Moen’s 4-year term as a Commissioner on the LPRW Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, J. Brent Feikema’s 4-year term as a Commissioner on the LPRW Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2020 the LPRW Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a Motion which recommends that Francis Engels, Janice Moen, and J. Brent Feikema each be re-appointed to another 4-year term on the LPRW Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believes that Francis Engels, Janice Moen, and J. Brent Feikema are qualified to act as Commissioners on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners and are all worthy of appointment.

Joe Drietz, Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor

Motion by Sik, seconded by Vizecky to adjourn at 10:41 a.m. All (4) voted in favor.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

Joe Drietz, 2020 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer