

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

September 1, 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, Mic VanDeVere, Corey Sik and Jack Vizecky. Commissioner Hamer arrived at 9:05 a.m. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney, Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from August 18, 2020 and the agenda for September 1, 2020 with an addition of Bruce Nielsen, who would like to address the Board. All (4) voted in favor.

Vince Robinson, Lincoln County Enterprise Development Corp. (LCEDC), Executive Director, was present to review the 2021 LCEDC Budget. Information provided to the Board included a list of the current Board members, the staff time allocation, and the budget request. The request includes a \$3,000 increase. Robinson also informed the Board that they have incurred about \$25,000.00 in COVID-19 related expenses. Information only.

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

- The Township Box Culverts are complete. The grass will still need to establish, so the project will be finalized in 2021.
- The Courthouse/Highway Parking Lot Project is close to complete. We are still waiting on the striping and seeding.
- The paving project is complete.
- The Seal coating project is complete.

Information only.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Repairs and reinforcements were made to Bridge 93064 on County Highway 12. This bridge will no longer need the load posting signs.
- Have started hauling rock to the wash out areas.
- Started hauling sand for winter.
- Salt has been ordered.
- Have been mowing thistles in the right of way.
- We had a pup trailer rollover accident on Highway 2. We are waiting for a quote from Tow-Master for a new one. We should not need the pup trailer anymore this year. Once we get the insurance information, quotes will be brought to the Board for a new trailer.

Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that he has done some further research on designating a memorial highway. The requester would pay all expenses for the sign. This would not change the address for individuals on that highway. The designation would expire at the end of the life of the sign unless the requester would like to replace the sign. A sign from each direction would be installed. Wilson can get an application ready to be approved at the next meeting. After discussion, the board would like Wilson to approach the individual about doing the existing adopt a highway program. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that two of our Engineering Techs are at the point where they should be promoted to Engineering Tech II and that we should post and advertise for the Engineer's Assistant Position. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to internally post for two Engineering Tech II positions and to post and advertise for the Engineer's Assistant Position. All voted in favor.

Wilson presented an updated Engineer's Assistant job description. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to approve the updated Engineer's Assistant job description. All voted in favor.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, gave an update on the following items:

- LBLID meeting was held and had good attendance.
- Discussion was held on the outlet structure on Lake Benton. It has slowly been deteriorating and we need to begin the process of correcting the issue. Area II will be looking at the structure on September 2nd.
- There has not been any evidence of the curly leaf pond weed in the samples that have been taken.
- LBLID approved the same levy and assessment for 2021. The budget will include a treatment for next year if needed.

Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that a 50 foot public access on Estate Shores needs to be addressed. On Google Earth, the public access shows on private property. Olsen recommends closing this public access and relocating it to a different area. Olsen has contacted the DNR and they do not have an issue with doing this. The current public access could be put up for sale and the landowners could purchase it and

then it would become a private access. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to close the public access temporarily and offer it up for sale with the stipulation that we will pursue another access to be public. All voted in favor.

Robin Sik, Jail Administrator, requested approval to hire a part-time dispatcher. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to approve hiring Marla Moore as a part-time dispatcher. All voted in favor.

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

- The funds need to be accepted by the Board.
- The expenses that have been incurred at Lincoln County.
- The preliminary wish lists for county departments.
- Ads have been placed in the county papers for business and non-profit grants.
- The grant application has been placed on the website.
- The applications will be reviewed by October 31st.
- Eligible applications will be brought to the Board at the first meeting in November.
- Following the approval, funds will be distributed.
- Any funds not spent in the county will have to be sent back to the state – December 1, 2020.

Information only.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to accept the CARES funds in the amount of \$740,212.00. All voted in favor.

Richmond presented the preliminary wish list to the Board for approval. Discussion was held on each of the items. Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to approve the preliminary wish list as presented. Commissioner Drietz, Hamer, Sik, and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Vizecky voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – YM Watershed, CPT, LacQuiParle Watershed, Extension
 Hamer – COVID-19 Task Force, Extension, Personnel
 Sik – HRA, SWHHS
 VanDeVere – SWHHS, Personnel, Solid Waste Recycling Commission, ACE
 Vizecky – None

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Hamer, seconded by Sik to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #13555 - #13612 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$558,699.14, Road & Bridge - \$14,873.49, Debt Service - \$14,000.00, Ditch - \$3,147.26 and LID – 38.70. All voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: A & C Excavating LLC - \$14,000.00, Ag Plus Cooperative - \$10,839.39, Double D Gravel Inc. - \$7,430.91, Election Systems & Software Inc. - \$2,563.33, Hansonville Twp. Treasurer – 101,221.08, Hendricks Twp. Treasurer - \$353,500.00, Marble Twp. Treasurer - \$80,500.00, Southwest Farm Tiling LLC - \$2,315.00, Window Products - \$6,529.59, and 49 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$11,859.29.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, requested clarification on the spray foam bill from Rick's Roofing for the maintenance garage in the amount of \$8,600.00. Should this be paid out of capital improvement? The Board was in consensus with paying this out of the capital improvement fund. Information only.

Bruce Nielsen, Lincoln County Assessor, announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year. Nielsen recommended that we look at advertising to fill the position soon so the new person would have some time with him before he leaves. The Board would like Nielsen to review his job description and present an updated position at the September 15th meeting. Information only.

Motion by Sik, seconded by Hamer to adjourn at 10:41 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

 Joe Drietz, 2020 Board Chair

 Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer