

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

February 2, 2021  
Courthouse Commissioners 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, Steve Hauswedell, Dean Nielsen, Corey Sik, and Mic VanDeVere. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney, Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from January 19, 2021, and the agenda for February 2, 2021. All voted in favor.

Lisa Graphenteen, Director of Housing and Economic Development, informed the Board that the Hole in the Mountain Master Plan has been circulated for comments. A couple comments were received. One comment was to have a magic carpet lift versus a tow rope lift and the other comment was regarding extra parking space to allow room for horse trailers. Graphenteen stated that both of these items could be addressed during the design phase. Since these were the only comments received, Graphenteen felt the plan could be approved early. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the Hole in the Mountain Master Plan to be submitted to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. All voted in favor.

Graphenteen informed the Board that the land swap with the Trautman's has been approved by the DNR. Once the documents are recorded, the land issue with the DNR should be resolved. This will allow the County to receive the grant dollars they have been waiting for. Information only.

Jean Nelson, Lincoln County Assessor, requested approval of the Board of Equalization Meeting. Motion by Sik, seconded by Nielsen, to approve the Board of Equalization date to be June 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. All voted in favor.

Members of the AFSCME Union were present to discuss COVID leave. The Union would like the Board to reconsider extending the COVID leave. Many of the younger employees do not have a large amount of sick leave available. If extending the COVID leave is something the Board does not want to consider, the Union would like the Board to consider a one-year addendum that would end December 31, 2021, to allow employees to donate sick leave to other employees in the event of a COVID situation. The Board would rather approve the donation proposal than extend the COVID leave and would like the Union to have an Addendum drawn up to outline the specifics of the proposal. More information will be brought forward at a future meeting. Information only.

Joe Wilson, Lincoln County Engineer, was present to give project updates. They were as follows:

- Continue to work on getting the right of way and permits on County Highway 7 for the shoulder widening project from trunk Highway 19 and County Highway 17.
- Planning to open bids for the State Aid Park Road on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.
- Continue to work on plans for 2021 projects.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Snow removal
- Working on tree removal for upcoming projects.
- Building and equipment maintenance

Wilson informed the Board that the Monarch Butterfly will possibly be added to the endangered species list starting in 2024. Information only.

Discussion was held on the work orders for giving and receiving mutual aid with MnDOT in the event of a shortage of workers in a snow emergency. Wilson informed the Board that as long as the mutual aid agreement had the correct wording, we are covered for liability. Wilson will be sending our mutual aid agreement to MCIT for review. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that a Lincoln County representative needs to be authorized for the MnDOT. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to designate Joe Wilson as the authorized Lincoln County representative for the MnDOT. All voted in favor.

Wilson informed the Board that the winter load increases to 10% over the legal load limit on February 1, 2021. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the State Funding report for 2021 shows that the County Highway Construction and Maintenance and Township Road Funding will receive a 10% decrease. Wilson feels we will be able to work with this decrease. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the Road and Bridge Hearing is scheduled for March 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Information only.

Wilson presented a lease agreement with Ottertail to allow them to use a portion of the Highway Landfill site for a laydown yard for an upcoming project. Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Drietz to approve the lease agreement with Ottertail to allow them to use a portion of the Highway Landfill site for a laydown yard for an upcoming project. All voted in favor.

Wilson presented two quotes to replace the 2012 mower. The quotes were as follows:

- Maurice Christianson Farm-Machinery \$10,500.00
- Kibble Equipment \$13,000.00

Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to purchase a New Holland Disc Mower from Maurice Christianson Farm-Machinery in the amount of \$10,500.00 to replace the 2012 mower. All voted in favor.

Wilson presented two quotes to replace the 2011 snow blower. The quotes were as follows:

- Ziegler Cat \$34,540.00
- Trueman Welters \$24,330.39

Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Sik to purchase a Pronovost snow blower from Trueman Welters at a maximum amount of \$24,330.39, which has an amount of \$1,920.00 for freight which could end up discounted, to replace the 2011 snow blower. All voted in favor.

Wilson presented two quotes to replace the construction forks. The quotes were as follows:

- Titan Machinery \$9,596.00
- Ziegler Cat \$14,568.00

Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Sik to purchase construction forks in the amount of \$9,596.00. All voted in favor.

Robert Olsen, Lincoln County Environmental, informed the Board that the resolution for the 1 year ditch assessments has been published. A couple comments were received but nothing major. Information only.

Olsen presented the Drainage Systems Report – Ditch Inspector's Report for review. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that the county is going to try using the 8 yard ready dump containers for recycling. The County will also try to push education on how to recycle to try to decrease recycling contamination. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – CPT  
 Hauswedell – SWHHS  
 Nielsen – AMC Meetings, ACE, Board of Equalization training  
 Sik – HRA, R & B Labor Management  
 VanDeVere – Solid Waste Recycling Commission, Rural MN Energy Board, Western Mental Health, Transit, United Community Action, Supporting Hands

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Drietz seconded by Hauswedell to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #14810 - #14856 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$17,207.76, Road & Bridge - \$11,320.61, Debt Service - \$10,661.10, Ditch - \$42,362.24 and Solid Waste - \$855.00.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: C & K Construction - \$24,998.50, CliftonLarsenAllen LLP - \$3,360.00, The Computer Man Inc. - \$2,139.99, Lyon County Auditor-Treasurer - \$17,363.74, Motorola Solutions, Inc. - \$2,502.72, Pro-Vision Inc. - \$2,951.95, Quarnstrom & Doering PA - \$3,210.30, Swanston Equip. Corp - \$4,000.68, TE Underground LLC - \$10,661.10 and 38 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$11,217.73.

Discussion was held on continuing with the door attendant. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Nielsen to approve having the door attendant through the end of February. As of March 1, the doors will be unlocked with no door attendant. Commissioner Hauswedell, Nielsen, Sik and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Drietz voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Glen Petersen, Lincoln County Attorney, presented Amendment #1 for the Grant Contract Agreement regarding the land swap with the DNR having to do with the radio tower. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the Amendment #1 for the Grant Contract Agreement #LW27-00200 regarding the land swap with the DNR. All voted in favor.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve appointing Corey Sik as an alternate for the LacQuiParle Committees. All voted in favor.

Discussion was held on having a letter drafted regarding removing tillable Ag land from the tax rolls due to sales to Duck's Unlimited, Pheasants Forever and the DNR. Most of the Board was in consensus with having a letter drafted for review at a future meeting. Information only.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to adjourn at 11:07 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

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Mic VanDeVere, 2021 Board Chair

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Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer