

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

July 6, 2021  
Courthouse Commissioners Room-Zoom  
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 Sik to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from June 15, 2021, the agenda for July 6, 2021 and the approval of the Tobacco License for 19 & 75 Filling Station. All voted in favor.

Chad Meester, Lincoln County Sheriff requested approval to hire a full-time deputy. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Hauswedell to approve hiring Zachary Reese as a full-time deputy. All voted in favor.

Meester informed the Board that the Grey Durango located in the parking lot is a test vehicle that has been provided to the Sheriff's office to use to see the different options offered. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, requested approval of a contract amendment with Southwest Regional Development Commission. Due to COVID and no in-person meeting, the ordinances have not been updated yet. Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to approve the Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRCD) Contract Amendment with Lincoln County which extends the current contract to June 30, 2022. All voted in favor.

Olsen requested approval to advertise to rent part of Lincoln County parcel #13-0182-000 for hay land. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hauswedell to approve advertising to rent part of Lincoln County parcel #13-0182-005 – approximately 15 acres in section 34 of Royal Township for Hay land. All voted in favor.

Olsen informed the Board that the Lyon County Board would like to meet via conference call with the Lincoln County Board at the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to set the representatives for JCD #12 and JCD #31 with an in-person meeting to be held in the afternoon. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that a 7x10 foot crossing is need on CD #35 so the land owner has access to his property. The crossing includes an arch pipe. The total cost will cost \$15,000 - \$20,000. The land owner will pay for the installation. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hauswedell to approve installing a 7X10 foot crossing on CD #35 at a cost of \$15,000 - \$20,000 with the landowner paying for the installation. All voted in favor.

Dustin Hauschild, Environmental Assistant, gave an update on Lake Shaokatan. Hauschild informed the Board that there are 25 – 30% weeds at the surface of Lake Shaokatan and the clarity of the water is diminished due to algae blooms. The weeds are not considered at a nuisance stage yet, but Hauschild has been in contact with the DNR to notify them about the progress of the weeds. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that construction on the Outlet in Lake Benton is progressing. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that one application was received for the full-time Environmental Tech. Olsen would like to interview the individual after the Board Meeting on July 20, 2021. Information only.

Commissioner Hauswedell inquired about the control of Canadian Thistle. Right now the responsibility of weed control is with the Township. Olsen will step in if he sees issues that are not being dealt with. If Olsen is contacted about an issue, he contacts the appropriate landowner or DNR contact. Information only.

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

- Just finished paving County Highway 8. Shouldering and striping still needs to be completed.
- Finished paving in Lake Benton on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The addition work is almost complete.
- County Highway 1 has been paved. MPCA will be reviewing for compliance.
- County Highway 8 has some boring being done.

Information only.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Will be done with patching this week.
- Mowing shoulders is complete.
- Will be doing some blading once we receive rain.

Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that they are still working on closing out 3 Township Box Culvert Projects, County Sealcoat Project and Community Wind North Re-power road use agreement. Information only.

Jason Overby, Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water General Manager, presented the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System 2020 Audit Report. Also present were LPRW board members Frank Engels, Janice Moen, and Joe Weber. The Audit came back with a clean opinion. Overby also reviewed the following updates:

- In 2020, 53 new customers were connected through the area. Lincoln County had 9 new customers connected.
- All customers are on electronically read meters.
- Put in 12.5 miles of new pipe between Tyler and Russell to help overstressed areas.
- Nearing the end of the SCADA system project.
- Appreciate support on the new water source by Burr, MN. Two wells have been installed between Dawson and Boyd.
- Mentioned that ARP funds can be used for water infrastructure.

Discussion was held on the Verdi Well Head. Discussion was also held on why Lincoln County does not have a commissioner on the Rural Water Board. Although we do not have a commissioner on that board, we can have a commissioner attend to represent Lincoln County. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – CPT, SWCD, SW MN Workforce Development, RCRCA  
 Hauswedell – SWHHS, CD #14, Western Mental Health  
 Nielsen – LCEDC  
 Sik – None  
 VanDeVere – Rural MN Energy Board, UCAP

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Nielsen to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #15904 - #15985 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$104,300.37, Road & Bridge - \$29,056.13, Debt Service - \$75,776.25, and Ditch - \$375.00. Commissioner Hauswedell, Nielsen, Sik and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Drietz abstained due to an invoice for Ivanhoe Service Center. Motion carried by majority vote.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: A.C.E of Southwest Minnesota - \$3,781.25, Bond Trust Services Corporation - \$75,776.25, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP - \$3,360.00, Duinck Incorporated - \$17,712.45, Election Systems & Software Inc. - \$2,047.50, Heggseth, Dennis Leroy - \$2,200.00, Morris Electronics Inc. - \$2,091.45, Newman Traffic Signs Inc. - \$2,331.97, Pictometry International Corporation - \$23,522.34, Quarnstrom & Doering PA - \$5,203.40, Regents of The University of Minnesota - \$16,319.58, Rick's Roofing & Insulation, Inc. - \$8,321.00, Trittech Software Systems - \$23,306.68 and 69 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$23,533.88.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Nielsen to approve Resolution No. 23-2021 Grant Agreement to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. All voted in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-2021  
 RESOLUTION OF LINCOLN COUNTY

BE IT RESOLVED by Lincoln County that the County enter into the attached Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the following Program: County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to provide outreach to the county's veterans; to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the county veterans service office, as specified in Minnesota Statutes 197.608 and Minnesota Laws 2019, Chapter 10 Article 1, Section 37, Subdivision 2. This Grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by Lincoln County that John Hovland, the County Veterans Service Officer, be authorized to execute the attached Grant Contract for the above-mentioned Program on behalf of the County.

WHEREUPON the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the County Board Chair this Sixth day of July, 2021.

ATTEST:

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 Mic VanDeVere, 2021 Board Chair

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 Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Commissioner Nielsen left at 10:58 a.m.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to adjourn at 11:43 a.m. All (4) voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

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 Mic VanDeVere, 2021 Board Chair

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 Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer