

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

July 20, 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 Steve Hauswedell, Dean Nielsen, Corey Sik, and Mic VanDeVere. Commissioner Drietz arrived at 9:19 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 Sik, seconded by Nielsen to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from July 6, 2021, the agenda for July 20, 2021 and the appointment of Faith Olsen as a Yellow Medicine River Watershed District Manager for a three year term from August 26, 2021 – August 26, 2024. All (4) voted in favor.

The Lyon County Commissioners called in to discuss which Lincoln and Lyon County Commissioners will represent JCD #12 and JCD #31.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Crowley to approve designating Lincoln County Commissioners VanDeVere, Sik, and Hauswedell, and Lyon County Commissioners Anderson and Crowley to represent JCD #12. A roll call vote was held with 9 Yays, 1 absent, and 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by VanDeVere to approve designating Lincoln County Commissioners VanDeVere and Sik and Lyon County Commissioners Anderson, Crowley and Sanow to represent JCD #31. A roll call vote was held with 9 Yays, 1 absent, and 0 Nays. Motion carried.

The Joint Board Meeting will be held at a later date. Information only.

Robert Olsen, Environmental, presented information on the denial of the permit to East River Electric to relocate 69kV Power Line. The permit was denied by the Planning and Zoning Committee. East River Electric is requesting an appeal hearing to be held on August 17, 2021. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hauswedell to approve setting an appeal hearing regarding the East River Electric Permit to relocate a 69kV Power Line on August 17, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. during the regularly scheduled board meeting. All voted in favor.

Olsen presented information on CD #14. A permit will need to be applied for to bore under the railroad. Olsen requested approval to apply for the permit and would like to use Bolten and Menk since they are familiar with the permitting process with the railroad. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to submit the permit application to the railroad, to bore under the railroad for CD #14, using the services of Bolten and Menk. All voted in favor.

Olsen requested approval to set a public hearing for JD #29 Redetermination. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Hauswedell to approve setting a public hearing for the JD #29 Redetermination on September 21, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. in the Assembly room of the courthouse. All voted in favor.

Olsen reported that the Diamond Lake road crossing, that was previously approved, is complete. The County paid for the materials and the township paid for the installation. Information only.

Olsen reported that the final costs came in for the Lake Benton Outlet Structure. The final bill was \$2,998.40 more than the original quote. Motion by Sik, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the change order in the amount of \$2,998.40 for the Lake Benton Outlet Structure. All voted in favor.

Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Sik to pay for the Lake Benton Outlet Structure in the amount of \$72,398.40 to A & C Excavating out of the capital improvement account with the Environmental office reimbursing the capital improvement account at a later date. All voted in favor.

Olsen informed the Board that Lake Shaokatan Lake Improvement District held their annual meeting. They had asked the Environmental office to send a survey out to the landowners regarding the weeds on the lake. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that the Lake Benton Improvement District held their annual meeting. Olsen reported that the treatments have been successful on Lake Benton and yearly maintenance has helped to keep up with the issue. Information only.

Olsen informed the Board that the Lake Stay Sportsman Club is looking into acquiring a permit to treat Lake Stay. Although the Sportsman Club will contribute dollars and possibly the city of Arco and Lake Stay Township, they would like the County to contribute as well and have the County be the fiscal agent. Lake Stay does not have sufficient land owners to set up a lake improvement district. Commissioner VanDeVere feels it is partially the County's responsibility to assist with the county lakes. Commissioner Nielsen would like to see the sportsman club or the township have a more active role in the process. The treatment would need to be done as soon as the ice comes off the lake next spring. Motion by Hauswedell, second by Drietz to move forward with seeking the permitted approval from the DNR to treat the curly leaf pond weed in East Lake Stay and obtain a variance to treat with Sonar. All voted in favor.

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

- Shouldering and striping still needs to be completed on County Highway 1 and 8. A couple rough spots needed some additional work.
- Anticipate starting County Highway 7 Widening and Box Culvert projects on County Hwy 1, 15, and 19 in August.

Information only.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Still completing some patching. Should be complete today.
- Continue to haul gravel for maintenance.
- Have started on culvert repairs and plan to do some replacements.

Information only.

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

Wilson informed the Board that an incorrect date was noted in a motion from February 2, 2021 and requested that the motion be amended. Motion by Sik, seconded by Nielsen to amend the February 2, 2021 Motion to change the year of the mower from 2012 to 2018 - to purchase a New Holland Disc Mower from Maurice Christianson Farm-Machinery in the amount of \$10,500.00 to replace the ~~2012~~ 2018 mower. All voted in favor.

Wilson requested approval to declare some equipment as surplus. Motion by Sik, seconded by Drietz to declare the 2008 F250 pickup, 2001 Chevy pickup, the 2018 disk mower and the old snow blower as surplus. All voted in favor.

Daniel Larson, Executive Director of MN Rural Counties and Luke Johnson, Board Chair for MN Rural Counties were present to give an update on MN Rural Counties. The update contained the following items:

- Currently 35 Counties are members.
- MN Rural Counties advocates for rural county concerns.
- This organization gives you a voice at legislature.
- The annual dues are \$2,100.00.
- If Lincoln County becomes a member, they will have a delegate on that board.

The Board will consider becoming a member when they review the appropriation budget. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – None
 Hauswedell – None
 Nielsen – AMC - Training for new commissioners
 Sik – Plum Creek
 VanDeVere – SW Regional Dev.

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Nielsen to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #16026 - #16096 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$28,060.37, Road & Bridge - \$37,995.35, and Ditch - \$3,067.00. 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: Ag Plus Cooperative - \$15,114.76, Bolton and Menk - \$2,692.00, Christensen Broadcasting - \$6,000.00, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,376.00, Duinink Incorporated - \$7,590.45, Fidlar Companies - \$3,325.55, Kirkvold Oil Co. \$2,775.00, Lyon Co Auditor – Treasurer - \$2,738.53, Northern Con Agg LLP - \$2,142.97 and 62 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$21,367.46.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, requested approval of the SeaChange Professional Service Agreement for the Online Election Judge Training Course. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to approve the SeaChange Professional Service Agreement commencing September 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024 to allow DS Solutions to provide Lincoln County with an Online Election Judge Training Course. All voted in favor.

A letter of support was presented from the Lake Benton Area Foundation which states that they will be contributing \$10,000.00 towards the Legacy Park Project. The Counties contribution will be \$90,000.00 and a letter was drafted for the Board Chairs signature to be sent with the grant application. Information only.

Vierhuf presented the TIF disclosure reports for Hendricks, Lake Benton and Tyler. Information only.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Sik to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Mic VanDeVere, 2021 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer