

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

May 17, 2022  
Courthouse Commissioner Room  
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair Corey Sik, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Steve Hauswedell, Dean Nielsen, Corey Sik, and Mic VanDeVere. Commissioner Joe Drietz was absent. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the minutes from May 3, 2022, and the agenda for May 17, 2022. All (4) voted in favor.

Michelle Baumhoefner, ACE Executive Director, and Jodi Hexem, Lincoln County ACE Program Manager, presented the ACE of SW Minnesota Annual Report and thanked the Board for their continued support. Baumhoefner reviewed state wide statistics. In 2021 there were 2,232 volunteers that recorded 228,695 hours of service which is equivalent to 110 full-time employees. Lincoln County has 398 volunteers that donated 41,506 hours of service at 54 locations. Hexem signed up an additional 77 volunteers in 2021. Hexem stated that one of the big needs in Lincoln County is the respite care. The bone builders classes are going on in Hendricks, Ivanhoe, Lake Benton and Tyler and is led by volunteers. Information only.

Dallas Cornell, Lincoln County Deputy Sheriff, informed the Board that he has been offered and has accepted a position with DNR. Cornell thanked the Board for the time he worked for Lincoln County. Information only.

Dustin Hauschild, Lincoln County Environmental, informed the Board that their office continues to monitor the Lincoln County lakes. Lake Benton Lake does not currently have enough vegetation to warrant a treatment. Lake Shaokatan is still not eligible for a treatment. Lake Stay chemical levels dipped below the threshold so another treatment was authorized to get the level back where it should be. Hauschild has been working with the DNR on the Lake Vegetation Plan for Lake Shaokatan. The hope is to be more proactive and not wait until the weeds hit the surface. Hauschild has been working with private lakeshore owners on Lake Shaokatan to apply for individual permits to treat the area of the lake by their property. Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that after the storm, the recycle dumpsters were full of garbage and there was inappropriate dumping of furniture in Arco, Lake Benton and Tyler. Some of the people have been identified and a letter and bill has been sent out. Information only.

Hauschild attended the appeal hearing for the rating on our MPCA review. There was good discussion, but it looks like they will hold firm on their decision. Information only.

Hauschild has been receiving a lot of calls on public ditch work. Some of the items include tree cleaning on JD #19, some sink holes on CD #40, and beaver damns on CD #35 and CD #37. With the increase in beaver damns, Hauschild would like to increase the bounty to \$100.00 per beaver. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to increase the beaver bounty to \$100.00 per beaver for the contractors that are hired to do the trapping in the Lincoln County Ditch System. All (4) voted in favor.

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

- Finishing up projects from 2021.
- Wilson has seen some erosion on the widening project so that is being worked on. Some seeding is being finished up on the widening project as well.
- Some patching needs to be completed where a box culvert was put in last year on County Highway 19.
- Continue to prepare for 2022 projects

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Finished crack filling.
- Continue to disk and blade shoulders and gravel roads..
- Snow removal equipment has been removed.
- Have done tree removal after the storm.
- Culverts on County Highway 8 need to be fixed.
- Assisted with the cleanup of the Lake Benton forfeited property.

Wilson continues to work on finalizing and closing out projects from previous years. Information only.

Wilson presented quotes for concrete pipe. They were as follows:

- Forterra \$107,102.40
- Hancock \$85,075.27

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the concrete pipe quote from Hancock in the amount of \$85,075.27. All voted in favor.

Wilson informed the Board that while doing a survey of the Wilno Pit, it was discovered that the neighboring farm has been farming about 1.1 acres of Lincoln County property. Attorney Petersen drew up a lease for the farmer to pay \$220.00 for the 1.1 acres and Wilson brought to the Board for approval. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Sik to approve the land lease between Lincoln County and James Stellmach of 1.1 acres at the Wilno pit in the amount of \$220.00 to be paid to Lincoln County. All (4) voted in favor.

Wilson requested approval of Resolution 19-2022. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve Resolution 19-2022 MnDOT Mutual Partnership Agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

**Resolution  
19-2022**

Whereas, The Minnesota Department of Transportation wishes to cooperate closely with local units of government to coordinate the delivery of transportation services and maximize the efficient delivery of such services at all levels of government; and

Whereas, MnDOT and local governments are authorized by Minnesota Statutes sections 471.59, 174.02, and 161.20, to undertake collaborative efforts for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of state and local roads; and

Whereas: the parties wish to be able to respond quickly and efficiently to such opportunities for collaboration, and have determined that having the ability to write "work orders" against a master contract would provide the greatest speed and flexibility in responding to identified needs.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the County of Lincoln enter into a Master Partnership Contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, a copy of which was before the Board.
2. That the proper County officers are authorized to execute such contract, and any amendments thereto.
3. That the County Engineer is authorized to negotiate work order contracts pursuant to the Master Contract, which work order contracts may provide for payment to or from MnDOT, and that the County Engineer may execute such work order contracts on behalf of the County of Lincoln without further approval by this Board.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corey Sik, 2022, Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Wilson will bring the Annual Highway Finance Report to the meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> for review. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the MnDOT Trunk Highway 68 project is delayed due to material shortages for utility relocation. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that as work on the Buffalo Ridge Wind Project continues, it will get busier. Information only.

Rick Drietz, Lincoln County Maintenance, informed the Board that the cost to cement the Sheriff's Office parking lot will be between \$140,000.00 and \$150,000.00. Along with the quote from Fuller Paving for \$12,350.00 that was presented at the meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Drietz received an additional quote from Bituminous Paving in the amount of \$14,540.00. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to approve the quote from Fuller Paving in the amount of \$12,350.00 for the Jail Parking Lot fix to be paid out of the capital improvement fund. Commissioner Nielsen, Sik and VanDeVere voted in favor. Commissioner Hauswedell voted in opposition. Motion carried by majority vote.

Glen Petersen, Lincoln County Attorney, requested approval of Resolution 20-2022 which conveys part of parcel #13-0182-005 to the HRA for development purposes. Petersen summarized the expenses that have been incurred by the County to date. Vince Robinson, DSI, will confirm that EDA still has an interest in developing this property. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Nielsen to approve Resolution No. 20-2022 to convey part of parcel #13-0182-005 "Development Property" to the Lincoln County HRA contingent on the EDA and the HRA still having an interest in the development plan. All (4) voted in favor.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LINCOLN COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

Date Resolution No. May 17, 2022  
Motion by Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. 20-2022  
Seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioner has previously established a Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) for the purposes identified in Minn. Stat. 469.01;

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioner have determined that the property set forth and described in the survey attached hereto and incorporated by this reference as Exhibit A is not necessary to the continued operations of the County herein referred to as the "Development Property";

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County HRA has requested and the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners have agreed to convey the Development Property to the Lincoln County HRA for the purpose of developing housing within Lincoln County, Minnesota by itself or in cooperation with other political subdivisions located within Lincoln County, including, but not limited to the City of Ivanhoe and the Ivanhoe EDA;

WHEREAS, Lincoln County HRA has the authority to acquire real property for development pursuant to Minn. Stat. 469.01 Subd. 1g and the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners has the authority to convey property to the Lincoln County HRA pursuant to Minn. Stat. 469.041(1).

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County HRA had agreed to reimburse Lincoln County for an equal to the cost paid per acre plus expenses for the purchase of the development property, as set for the attached Exhibit B.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR LINCOLN COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize Chairperson Corey Sik and County Auditor Treasurer Deb Vierhuf the proper county officials, to execute a Warranty Deed conveying the above described property to the Lincoln County HRA conditioned upon the County's assurance of the reimbursement of Lincoln County's expenditures related to the Development Property.
2. That all prior motions and resolutions inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF LINCOLN COUNTY, MINNESOTA ON MAY 17, 2022

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corey Sik, Board Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Vierhuf, County Auditor

Petersen requested approval of the Public Data Request Policy and the Data Subject Request Policy. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to approve the Data Request and the Data Subject Request Policy. All (4) voted in favor.

The County Housing Trust Fund is still being considered. There will be additional discussions at future meetings. Information only.

Chad Meester, Lincoln County Sheriff, informed the Board that Dr. McCluskey will be resigning at the end of June as County Coroner. If Lincoln County is unable to find a local provider to act as the Lincoln County Coroner, there are outside agencies we can contract with for coroner services. Meester had some estimated figures put together. The Board would like the agencies available to present to the Board. Meester will reach out and see if Midwest Medical Examiner and Ramsey County ME can attend the next meeting to give a presentation. Information only.

Meester requested approval to advertise for Deputy Sheriff. Motion by Sik, seconded by VanDeVere to approve advertising for the vacant Deputy Sheriff position. All (4) voted in favor.

Amber Scholten, Lincoln County Emergency Management, requested approve of Resolution 21-2022 which declares Lincoln County in a state of emergency. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve Resolution 21-2022 which declares Lincoln County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from the Severe Weather event of May 11 – 12, 2022. All voted in favor. All (4) voted in favor.

**Resolution No. 21-2022  
Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency**

WHEREAS the Severe Weather impacted the population of Lincoln County and its cities; and

WHEREAS the Severe Weather event has caused a significant amount of public property damage; and

WHEREAS the Lincoln County Department of Emergency Management requests the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to declare Lincoln County in a STATE OF EMERGENCY for the Sever Weather event of 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners declares Lincoln County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from the Severe Weather event of May 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Adopted by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners this 17th day of May. 2022.

Attest:

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Corey Sik, Board Chairman

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Deborah Vierhuf, County Auditor

Scholten requested that the Emergency Management Director be authorized to sign all EMPG related grant documents. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve authorizing the Emergency Management Director to sign all EMPG related grant documents. The Director will inform the Board once the grant is applied for. All (4) voted in favor.

Scholten presented additional items to the Board. They were as follows:

- Scholten is looking at presenting a budget for EMS and Fire Department Trainings for 2023.
- There was some AMER radio tower damage from the storm.
- Scholten is looking into an AMER radio site by the Tyler Water Tower.
- Scholten will be putting on a presentation in Lake Benton on severe weather.
- Scholten has budgeted for a drone and will bring forward more information at the next meeting.

Information only.

The Tyler Ambulance letter funding request was discussed. The request was for a power cot in the amount of \$48,390.00. The Commissioners will consider the request but most of Lincoln County dollars are already spoken for. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – absent  
 Hauswedell – Prime West, Union Negotiations  
 Nielsen – LCEDC, MN Rural Counties, Prime West  
 Sik – None  
 VanDeVere – Prime West, SW Regional Development, PACE

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by VanDeVere seconded by Nielsen to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #18166 - #18234 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$73,463.53, Road & Bridge - \$27,403.46, Ditch - \$165.09 and Agency – 1,560.80. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: Christensen Broadcasting - \$6,000.00, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,614.00, Fuller Paving - \$4,500.00, Hildi Inc. - \$2,800.00, MN Dept. of Corrections - \$18,605.35, MN Pollution Control Agency - \$4,816.01, Morris Electronics Inc. - \$2,005.75, OCF Seeds LLC - \$3,300.00, Rick's Welding Inc. - \$4,800.00, S & K Auto Repair & C-Store Inc. - \$2,523.54, SW Regional Development Comm. - \$3,000.00, TE Underground LLC - \$3,760.00, Vollan Oil - \$4,595.00, WW Tire Service Inc. - \$13,763.96 and 55 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$22,509.27.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, presented the Redwood Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Joint Powers Agreement for approval. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Sik to approve the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area Joint Powers Agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

Vierhuf presented the Revised Counties Providing Technology Joint Powers Agreement for approval. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the Revised Counties Providing Technology Joint Powers Agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell, to adjourn at 11:13 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

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Corey Sik, 2022, Board Chair

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Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer