

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

October 17, 2023
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, 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 Hauswedell to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the Commissioner meeting minutes from October 3, 2023 and the agenda for October 17, 2023. All voted in favor.

Bonnie Christiansen, Extension Regional Director, Gabby Nemitz, 4-H Educator, and Jill Daniels, Extension Secretary, were present for the following update:

- Bonnie Christiansen introduced herself as she is our new Regional Director.
- Christiansen informed the Board that next is year 3 of the Extension MOA.
- This year's farm family was Kelly and Nancy Krog. They were recognized at the Lincoln County Fair and at Farmfest.
- Gabby Nemitz introduced herself as she was recently hired as the 4-H Extension Educator.
- A couple of Nemitz's goals were retaining the after-school program kids. Nemitz would like to get these kids interested in more than just the after-school program. Another goal is to start an Ag Ambassador's program in Lincoln County.
- Jill Daniels gave an update on the Lincoln County Fair. 73 youth participants showcased animal projects, 150 showcased learning projects, and the Cloverbuds exhibited 77 static projects and 45 livestock projects. There were 68 adult volunteers and judges that participated. The Ribbon Auctioned earned \$106,325.00, which was the best Ribbon Auction we have had.

Information only.

Dustin Hauschild, Lincoln County Environmental Administrator, gave the following Solid Waste update:

- Hauschild and Commissioner VanDeVere attended the Lyon Co. Landfill meeting on October 16th. The tipping fee will increase \$3.00 in 2024. There is concern about PFAS getting into the ground water. Products such as scotchguard have PFAS in it.
- With the new rules, there is concern on where construction and demo waste will go.
- Lyon County is looking at applying for the MPCA grant to assist with recycling and waste management audits. If Lincoln County is interested in this, a letter of support is needed.
- The new building is enclosed. The main construction phase is now complete.

Information only.

Hauschild gave a ditch update. The updates were as follows:

- CD 30 Ditch – Diamond Lake Section 11 - cleaning and crossing pipes – There was a larger repair in 1981. The pipes appear to be rusted out. Hauschild stated that all of the crossings may need to be looked at. The landowners will need to be contacted to see if they would like the culverts to be replaced with steal and if all of the crossings are needed. CD 30 also needs to be cleaned. The contractor said it would take 2-3 days, which would be below the \$10,000.00. The Board was in consensus with cleaning the ditch first and then looking at replacing the pipes.
 - CD 37 Ditch Crossing Culvert replacement in Royal Twp. Section 34 North of Ivanhoe – On August 15th it was authorized to replace the culvert. The install of the culvert was estimated at \$6,000.00, but ended up costing \$9,968.84. Since the pipe was longer, extra fill was needed and this accounted for the extra cost. The original estimate for the project was \$29,568.00. The total cost ended up to be \$32,784.22. Hauschild would like a motion to approve the higher cost of the project.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Nielsen to approve the additional cost of CD #37 steel pipe purchase and installation, approved at the August 15, 2023 meeting, in the amount of \$3,216.22. All voted in favor.

Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that the outlet has been installed and the riprap is in place for the Lake Shaokatan Dam Replacement. Final cleanup, seeding, and removal of the old Dam structure still needs to be completed. Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that Commissioner Hauswedell and VanDeVere has viewed the Verdi foreclosed property. (Parcel #15-0195-000) It was decided that the structures on this property will need to be demoed. Hauschild has talked to A&C Excavating and the estimate to demo this property is \$12,000.00 to tear down and haul out. Hauschild had talked to Donnie Scholten, Highway Maintenance

Superintendent, about doing the tear down. Scholten felt this could be worked into their schedule. The Board was in consensus with working with the Highway Department on the demolition. Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that the Lake Benton Lake Association has requested assistance from the County with the inlet cleanup at Norwegian Creek. Hauschild will attend the next meeting on November 18th to assess what their needs are. Hauschild would like to help them with the permitting process and see what other areas we are able to help with. Information only.

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

- Continue to work on getting the 2023 County Culverts and Paving Plans out for bid.
- Working through permitting for County Highway 8 Bridge.
- Will be opening bids for the Township Box Culvert and County Highway 8 Culvert on Monday, November 13th at 11:00 a.m.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Halfway done with roadside Fall mowing.
- Have started installing snow equipment on some of the trucks.
- Finished shouldering on County Highway 13 and currently working on County Highway 19 and 1.
- Winter sand needs to be hauled.
- Snow sloping and safety project on County Road 109 is complete.
- Will be ordering a large number of culverts before the end of the year - to be used next year.

Information only.

Wilson stated that the new fuel key system was approved about a month ago. This key system is used county wide and Wilson is wondering if the cost of this could come out of general revenue. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Hauswedell to approve paying the \$17,211.00 to Minnesota Petroleum that was approved during the September 5, 2023 meeting out of the capital improvement fund. All voted in favor.

Wilson informed the Board that he continues to work on finalizing and closing out projects from 2020, and 2021. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that he is working on the final sign off on the Wind Tower Project. We are waiting for a response on the final request. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the Lincoln County Highway Accountant has submitted her resignation with her last day being November 3, 2023. The position has been advertised internally and externally. Information only.

Wilson presented his budget narrative. The budget shows a 4% increase. This increase is due in part to the health insurance increase. Some of the larger equipment purchases in the budget are as follows:

- Motor Grader replacement in the amount of \$284,040.00 - \$160,000.00 is carried over from the 2023 budget.
- Replace Unit #29 pickup for \$50,000.00
- Replace 1980 pup trailer for \$60,000.00
- Replace 2006 230 DHR Melter for a cost of \$75,000.00
- Replace Unit #53 Backhoe at a cost of \$135,000.00 – money carried over from previous budget.
- \$35,000 previously budgeted for the Lake Benton roof replacement will now go towards new Lake Benton shop.
- Replace 1987 forklift at a cost of \$12,000.00 - money carried over from previous budget.
- Replace 2000 International Truck for a used truck at a cost of \$64,000.00 – money carried over from previous budget.

Some other notable items are the following:

- \$500,000.00 in wind revenue has been set aside for bridge replacement on Co. Hwy 8.
- \$79,000.00 in wheelage tax is expected to be received.
- \$250,000.00 for a new Lake Benton shop.
- \$120,000.00 to crush concrete and asphalt in the County Sook Pit.

Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that Lincoln County has received bridge-bond funding for the County Highway 8 Box Culvert Project. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the City of Tyler is planning to apply for Local Road Improvement Funds and the County will need to be the fiscal sponsor for the project since it involves State Funds. A resolution will be brought forward at a future meeting. Information only.

Wilson has looked into contracts for the CDL class. Wilson's idea would be if they stay for 3 years, the cost is covered by the County. If they stay for less than 3 years, the cost would be prorated to the employee. Wilson will work with Glen on getting an agreement in place. Information only.

Robin Sik, Lincoln County Jail Administrator, requested approval of the Victus Commissary Agreement. Through this agreement, a kiosk is provided to the jail for all prisoner cash. The benefit is that there is no cash handling for the staff. There is no cost to the County for this agreement. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve the Victus Commissary Software, Hardware and Fulfillment 5-year Agreement to be signed by the Sheriff's Office personnel. All voted in favor.

Bob Bushman, Lincoln County Sheriff, requested approval of the JPA Agreement between Lincoln County and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to allow reimbursement of Opioid investigative time. Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to approve the JPA Agreement between Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for the reimbursement of Opioid investigative time from the MN Anti Heroin Task Force Program. All voted in favor.

Amber Scholten, Lincoln County Emergency Management, and Robin Sik, Lincoln County Jail Administrator, presented information on the Next Generation 911(NG911) Transition. The NG911 will now be GIS based which will make it much more accurate. The transition will take 3 to 4 years. The State of MN hired Mission Critical Partners to put together a plan of how this will be implemented. Once the plan is put together, we will find out what our estimated cost will be. A regional plan will be the first step. During the regional process, they will look at all of our types of data and make sure it is compatible. Once this is complete, a state plan will be put together. At that time the transition will begin. There could be some funding for this transition, but we don't know what that will be at this time. Scholten and Sik have been attending various meetings to continue to get the latest information regarding the transition. Information only.

Drietz – RCRC and Area II, CPT Personnel,
 Hauswedell – Building Committee,
 Nielsen – Minnesota Rural Counties, Personnel
 Sik – Personnel
 VanDeVere – Building Committee, ACE, HITM Park Meeting, PrimeWest, SWHHS, Rural MN Energy Board

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #21849- #21908 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$114,726.20, Road and Bridge - \$93,968.69, Ditch - \$2,127.36 and Solid Waste - \$4,140.00. All voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12 Ag Plus Cooperative - \$18,900.53, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,652.00, Government Forms and Supplies - \$2,185.70, Lipinski Garage - \$3,302.25, Lipinski Small Engine & Hardware - \$2,604.96, North Central International Inc.- \$4,174.91, Patrick Haynes Computers - \$4,250.00, Southwest Health and Human Services - \$23,416.15, Sterzinger Construction - \$44,900.03, SW Regional Development Comm - \$4,140.00, Tolk Graveling LLC - \$4,254.02, Tyler Lumber Co. - \$20,428.67, WSB & Associates, Inc. - \$47,128.46, Ziegler Power Systems (CAT) - \$9,188.25 and 46 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$20,436.32.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, requested approval of two additional doors for the badge system. Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by VanDeVere to approve two additional doors (Server door and SWHHS office door) for the new badge system in the amount of \$6,597.36 to be paid to Midwest Alarm. All voted in favor.

Vierhuf requested approval to amend Resolution No. 25-2023. The only change was it had the wrong parcel number noted. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the Amended Resolution No. 25-2023 Approving Sale of County Owned Property. All voted in favor.

COUNTY OF LINCOLN
 STATE OF MINNESOTA
 RESOLUTION 25-2023

Amended

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN, MINNESOTA, APPROVING SALE OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the County Commission authorized the sale of County-owned property, described as:

Property Identification Number: 06-0229-000 010

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - SEE EXHIBIT A ("Parcel" herein)

WHEREAS, the County published a request for bids for the sale of the property to the public; and,

WHEREAS, BB& A Enterprises, LLC by Brian Evans, as Manager submitted the highest bid of \$12,650 for the purchase of the Parcel.

WHEREAS, the County Commission found the sale of this Parcel was in the public interest, and now stands ready to transfer the Parcel to the new owners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF LINCOLN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, that it:

1. Authorizes the Chair person and the County Auditor to execute the attached Purchase Agreement and Quitclaim Deed to transfer ownership of the Parcel.
2. Directs the County Attorney to conduct a Closing to transfer the ownership of the Parcel

ATTEST:

Corey Sik, 2023 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Vierhuf stated that we have received quotes from Bisbee Plumbing and Heating for the HVAC Equipment and the upgrade to the first floor. Eric Mathiowetz, Bisbee Plumbing, was present to review what is included in the quotes and what is excluded from the quotes. Mathiowetz stated that all of the ductwork demo, install, and labor is included in the quote. The penetrations that need to be made for the new ductwork is not provided. This will be provided by a general contractor. The additional work to cover the ductwork will be provided by the general contractor as well. The electrical will be about \$40,000.00 for all three floors and is not included in the submitted bids.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Hauswedell to approve purchasing the HVAC Equipment which includes the furnaces, cased coils, thermostats, and zone dampers as stated on the plan schedule in the amount of \$56,076.00 from Bisbee Plumbing and Heating. All voted in favor.

Motion by VanDeVere, seconded by Drietz to approve the HVAC Upgrade quote for the first floor to be paid to Bisbee Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$102,048.00. All voted in favor.

Once the first floor has been started and going smoothly, we will look at approving the second floor. Information only.

Commissioner Sik mentioned that getting water to horse hill at Hole in the Mountain Park should be looked at. Information only.

Sik also would like to know if the Opioid Funds can be used for EMT Training. This will be looked into. Information only.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen, to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Corey Sik, 2023 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer